INTRODUCTION

In-line feeders manufactured before February of 1992 were factory tuned for a specific track weight which is also referred to as the load rating. The standard load ratings were 8, 12, and 16 ounces. Field adjustments were not practical. Changing the track weight required both the track and the In-Line to be returned to the factory for retuning. A method for adjusting (or tuning) the In-Line Feeder in the field was developed which allows the user to tune the unit for different tracks and weights. The full range of adjustment is achieved as the adjusting screw slides up the ¾ inch long slot in the outer spring on the backside of the Model 5100A In-Line.

DESCRIPTION

The Model 5100A (‘A’ for Adjustable) Series of In-Line Feeders convey oriented parts in a linear motion across tracks designed to transport a specific part. ADI's unique self-cancelling design reduces the amount of vibration transmitted to the mounting surface. This type of feeding device can be fastened directly to a machine base and requires no rubber feet for mounting. Reliable track alignment is obtained through the absence of rubber feet.

The theory behind the operation of the In-Line Feeder is that all the forces generated by the action mass (top plate and track) are cancelled by the forces generated by the reaction mass (inner system of springs and weights). In order to have all the forces cancel, the center of gravity of both the action and the reaction masses should be at the same point.

The Model 5100A In-Line is designed so that it is possible to add the weight of a track to the top or action mass and this will, in most cases, bring the centers of gravity very close together. The track should have its gravity very close together. The track should have its center of gravity as close to the midpoint of the top of the In-Line Feeder as possible for optimum results.

IN-LINE MOUNTING & INSTALLATION

The Model 5100A In-Line Feeder should be rigidly attached to the mounting surface using four #10 SHC (or equivalent) screws through the holes in each corner of the base, or with four ¼ -20 screws from the underside of the mounting surface. Never mount an In-Line Feeder on an overhanging plate. Heavy tracks swinging .050 inches in each direction need a solid mounting base. Typical In-Line applications require that they be elevated to bring the track up to the level of the discharge of the vibratory parts feeder. See below.

In-Lines are tuned without rubber feet unless specified at the time of ordering. However, some applications may require rubber feet. If any form of rubber mount will be used, the In-Line may have to be retuned.

LOAD RATING

The Load Rating is the total weight of all components including hardware that will be placed on the top of the In-Line (i.e. the track, shim stock, screws, washers, etc.). The Model 5100A has a minimum practical load rating of 8 ounces and a maximum limit of 48 ounces (3 pounds). Note: The weight of the parts you are feeding do not add to the Load Rating.

The figure you give should not be off more than 5%. A unit tuned for a 16 ounce load rating will exhibit very little part movement when trying to vibrate a 16.8-ounce track. If the track weighs only 15 ½ ounces, add weight to move it closer to the 16 ounce rating.

OPERATION

The Model 5100A In-Line Feeder will operate on 60 Hz standard line current; however, units may be ordered for 50 Hz operation. Units are manufactured for 24 VAC, 120 VAC, and for 240 VAC power sources and must be specified when ordered. The In-Line will operate continuously at the full rated voltage; however, ADI manufactures a Model 6000 Series controller which, when set for AC operation (7200 Vibrations per Minute), will provide an adjustable AC output to control the vibration amplitude of the Model 5100A In-Line Feeder.

TUNING ADJUSTMENT

Refer to the drawing below as you follow these steps to adjust the Model 5100A In-Line:

1. After mounting the track to the In-Line, secure the In-Line to the table.
2. Make sure the Adjustment Screw (P/N 7035) is both tight and centered in the slot of the Long Spring (P/N 5143).
3. Turn the controller on and set the dial for maximum output (the controller must be set for AC operation).
4. For heavy loads, loosen the Adjustment Screw and slide it upward in ¼ inch increments, stopping after each change to tighten the Adjustment Screw. While doing this, observe the part movement in the track.
5. Using the same procedure, slide the Adjustment Screw downward for light loads.
6. When maximum feed rate has been reached, further adjustment will result in a decrease of feed rate. Return the Adjustment Screw to its previous position and carefully tighten it.

NOTE: Do not overtighten the ADJUSTMENT SCREW since excessive torque will damage the LONG SPRING.
--- TRACK DESIGN ---

The maximum length of the track should not exceed 12 inches. The track should be centered over the In-Line with no more than three inches of overhang at either end.

If you use 1/8 inch thick material on gravity tracks, you may want to use 3/16 inch thick material for the sides of the In-Line tracks. **Note:** Any material that lies directly on top of the In-Line (shims, risers, etc.) can be of thinner stock. If you need a thicker riser, use light-weight material.

Covers may be required to assist in maintaining the orientation of parts that are being conveyed via In-Line Feeders. Care should be taken not to restrict part movement. Remember that the track is, in fact, moving up and down under vibration. The clearance between the underside of the cover and the top of a part is critical with regard to the forward movement of the part under vibration. It is also worthy of note to minimize the area that the covers occupy in the event that a bent part would need to be removed from the track.

Where practical, designs using a round rod or thin blade are less restrictive to the forward motion of parts while still assisting with maintaining part orientation.

--- MOUNTING THE TRACK ---

Eight #10-32 mounting holes in the top mounting plate fasten the track. The track should be sufficiently rigid so that any overhanging portion does not flex and defeat the feeding action of the In-Line Feeder. The track should have its center of gravity as close to the midpoint of the top of the In-Line Feeder as possible for optimum results. **Avoid excessive track overhang.**

No more than 1/4 of the track should overhang either end of the In-Line’s top casting.

**Long Tracks** – This drawing illustrates the preferred location of two In-Lines, in series or tandem, that power a long track. **We recommend to split the track wherever possible.**

**Wide Tracks** – Two In-Lines in parallel, or side-by-side, are the solution when the track is short but very wide.

**Auxiliary Spring Assemblies** are another option when dealing with long tracks. This springing method uses only one In-Line Feeder.

--- TROUBLESHOOTING AFTER INSTALLATION ---

Find out what differences exist from how the In-Line Feeder was tested at ADI versus the way the In-Line is set up at your facility.

- Does the unit make any noise ... a slight hum? Check your power source up to the connection to the In-Line’s coil.
- Does the weight of your track and mounting hardware match the load rating stamped on the In-Line’s side plate?

--- REPAIR PARTS ---

Replacement parts are listed in the exploded view shown in Document AF02.01. When placing a parts order, please provide the operating voltage and the serial number of each In-Line Feeder.

--- SOLENOID TO ARMATURE GAP ADJUSTMENT ---

After a feeder’s springing has been adjusted, a higher amplitude of vibration may cause the laminations of the feeder’s solenoid (Part Number 5111) to begin hammering, or striking, on the armature plate (Part Number 5116).

When this occurs, you can hear the noise emitted from the In-Line. **Another common cause of this hammering is a line voltage increase at your plant.**

- Determine the present gap before making the adjustment. Loosen the side plates after measuring the gap. Insert a shim .005 inches greater than the measured gap when adjusting the Model 5100A. Slide the side plates so that the shim is held firmly between the coil and armature. Tighten the screws that hold the side plates and remove the shim.

**The Model 5100A should have a coil gap in the range of .025 to .050 inches.**

If you have a relatively constant line voltage supply, then increasing the size of the solenoid/armature gap will decrease the feeder’s amplitude. Conversely, decreasing the size of the gap will increase the feeder’s amplitude.

--- MODEL 5100A DIMENSIONS ---

<table>
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<tr>
<th>A</th>
<th>B</th>
<th>C</th>
<th>D</th>
<th>E</th>
<th>F</th>
<th>G</th>
<th>H</th>
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<tr>
<td>5 1/2</td>
<td>2 1/2</td>
<td>3 3/8</td>
<td>5 1/4</td>
<td>1 1/2</td>
<td>3/16</td>
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<td>3/8</td>
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**Adjustment Screw (on adjustable unit only)**

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<th>J</th>
<th>K</th>
<th>L</th>
<th>N (Holes)</th>
<th>O</th>
<th>P (Holes)</th>
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<tr>
<td>1/2</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>1/4 - 20 (4 holes)</td>
<td>1/4</td>
<td>#10-32 (8 holes)</td>
<td>5 pounds</td>
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