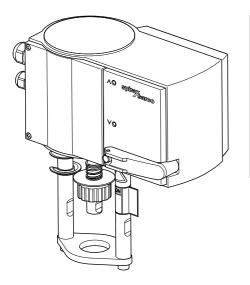


## AEL3 Electric Linear Actuators

Installation and Maintenance Instructions



- 1. Safety information
- 2. General product information
- 3. Installation
- 4. Commissioning
- 5. Maintenance



## 1. Safety information

Safe operation of this product can only be guaranteed if it is properly installed, commissioned, used and maintained by qualified personnel (see Section 1.13) in compliance with the operating instructions. General installation and safety instructions for pipeline and plant construction, as well as the proper use of tools and safety equipment must also be complied with.

See separate Installation and Maintenance Instructions for the control valve.

If the actuator is handled improperly or not used as specified, the resultant may:

- cause danger of the life and limb of the third party,
- damage the actuator and other assets belonging to the owner,
- hinder the performance of the actuator.

#### 1.1 Wiring notes

Every effort has been made during the design of the actuator to ensure the safety of the user, but the following precautions must be followed:

- i) Maintenance personnel must be suitably qualified in working with equipment containing hazardous live voltages.
- ii) Ensure correct installation. Safety may be compromised if the installation of the product is not carried out as specified in this manual.
- iii) Isolate the actuator from the mains supply before opening the unit.
- iv) The actuator is designed as an installation category II product, and is reliant on the building installation for overcurrent protection and primary isolation.
- v) Wiring should be carried out in accordance with IEC 60364 or equivalent.
- vi) Fuses should not be fitted in the protective earth conductor. The integrity of the installation protective earth system must not be compromised by the disconnection or removal of other equipment.
- vii) A disconnecting device (switch or circuit breaker) must be included in the building installation. This must be in close proximity to the equipment and within easy reach of the operator.
  - There must be a 3 mm contact separation in all poles.
  - It must be marked as the disconnecting device for the actuator.
  - It must not interrupt the protective earth conductor.
  - It must not be incorporated into a mains supply cord.
  - The requirements for the disconnecting device are specified in EN 60947-1 and EN 60947-3 or equivalent.
- viii) The disconnecting device must not be located in such a way that the device is made difficult to operate.

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## 1.2 Safety requirements and electromagnetic compatibility

This product is CE / LK marked and complies with: the EU LV Directive 2014/35/EU, and the UK Electrical Equipment (Safety) Regulations 2016, the EU EMC Directive 2014/30/EU, and the UK Electromagnetic Compatibility Regulations 2016

The product may be exposed to interference above the limits of industrial immunity if:

- The product or its wiring is located near to a radio transmitter.
- Excessive electrical noise occurs on the mains supply.
- Cellular telephones and mobile radios may cause interference if used within approximately
  one metre of the product or its wiring. The actual separation necessary will vary according to
  the power of the transmitter.
- Power line protectors (ac) should be installed if mains supply noise is likely.
- Protectors can combine filtering, suppression, surge and spike arrestors. For a copy of the declaration of conformity contact Spirax Sarco.

## 1.3 Intended use

Referring to the Installation and Maintenance Instructions, name-plate and Technical Information Sheet, check that the product is suitable for the intended use / application.

- i) Check material suitability, pressure and temperature and their maximum and minimum values. If the maximum operating limits of the product are lower than those of the system in which it is being fitted, or if malfunction of the product could result in a dangerous over pressure or over temperature occurrence, ensure a safety device is included in the system to prevent such over-limit situations.
- ii) Determine the correct installation situation.
- iii) Spirax Sarco products are not intended to withstand external stresses that may be induced by any system to which they are fitted. It is the responsibility of the installer to consider these stresses and take adequate precautions to minimise them.
- iv) These actuators are not suitable for use as safety devices according to the EU Pressure Equipment Directive / UK Pressure Equipment (Safety) Regulations.

## 1.4 Access

Ensure safe access and if necessary a safe working platform (suitably guarded) before attempting to work on the product. Arrange suitable lifting gear if required.

## 1.5 Lighting

Ensure adequate lighting, particularly where detailed or intricate work is required.



### 1.6 Hazardous environment around the product

Consider: explosion risk areas, lack of oxygen (e.g. tanks, pits), dangerous gases, extremes of temperature, hot surfaces, fire hazard (e.g. during welding), excessive noise, moving machinery. Do not use the actuators in explosive atmosphere according the ATEX directive 2014/34/EU.

## 1.7 The system

Consider the effect on the complete system of the work proposed. Will any proposed action (e.g. closing isolation valves, electrical isolation) put any other part of the system or any personnel at risk?

Dangers might include isolation of vents or protective devices or the rendering ineffective of controls or alarms. Ensure isolation valves are turned on and off in a gradual way to avoid system shocks.

#### 1.8 Pressure systems

Ensure that any pressure is isolated and safely vented to atmospheric pressure. Consider double isolation (double block and bleed) and the locking or labelling of closed valves. Do not assume that the system has depressurised even when the pressure gauge indicates zero.

#### 1.9 Temperature

Allow time for temperature to normalise after isolation to avoid danger of burns.

#### 1.10 Tools and consumables

Before starting work ensure that you have suitable tools and / or consumables available. Use only genuine Spirax Sarco replacement parts.

#### **1.11 Protective clothing**

Consider whether you and/or others in the vicinity require any protective clothing to protect against the hazards of, for example, chemicals, high / low temperature, radiation, noise, falling objects, and dangers to eyes and face.

#### 1.12 Permits to work

All work must be carried out or be supervised by a suitably competent person. Installation and operating personnel should be trained in the correct use of the product according to the Installation and Maintenance Instructions.

Where a formal 'permit to work' system is in force it must be complied with. Where there is no such system, it is recommended that a responsible person should know what work is going on and, where necessary, arrange to have an assistant whose primary responsibility is safety. Post 'warning notices' if necessary.

## 1.13 Handling

Manual handling of large and/or heavy products may present a risk of injury. Lifting, pushing, pulling, carrying or supporting a load by bodily force can cause injury particularly to the back. You are advised to assess the risks taking into account the task, the individual, the load and the working environment and use the appropriate handling method depending on the circumstances of the work being done.



## 1.14 Residual hazards

In normal use the external surface of the product may be very hot. If used at the maximum permitted operating conditions the surface temperature of some products may reach temperatures of  $90^{\circ}$ C ( $194^{\circ}$ F).

Many products are not self-draining. Take due care when dismantling or removing the product from an installation (refer to 'Maintenance instructions').

## 1.15 Freezing

Provision must be made to protect products which are not self-draining against frost damage in environments where they may be exposed to temperatures below freezing point.

#### 1.16 Disposal

Unless otherwise stated in the Installation and Maintenance Instructions, this product is recyclable and no ecological hazard is anticipated with its disposal providing due care is taken.

## 1.17 Returning products

Customers and stockists are reminded that under EC Health, Safety and Environment Law, when returning products to Spirax Sarco they must provide information on any hazards and the precautions to be taken due to contamination residues or mechanical damage which may present a health, safety or environmental risk. This information must be provided in writing including Health and Safety data sheets relating to any substances identified as hazardous or potentially hazardous.



## 2. General product information

## 2.1 Use

AEL3 electric linear actuators are for use with Spira-trol two-port control valves and QL three-port valves. Actuators will normally be supplied fitted to the control valve. When supplied separately, ensure the actuator selected is capable of giving the force necessary to close the two-port or three-port control valve against the expected differential pressure. See the appropriate product specific Technical Information Sheet for full details of the control valve.

The AEL3 actuators are motor operated actuators for on-off, modulating or special control of valves for regulating control, cold, warm or hot water, steam or air and equivalent applications. Typical use is for HVAC applications.

AEL3 actuators are available with 3 supply variants, 24 Vac/dc as standard, 230 Vac or 100-110 Vac, available with additional modules, all being suitable for a VMD (Valve Motor Drive) input power signal or a 4-20 mA or 0-10 Vdc control signal. The actuator has 3 speed options all selected via dip switches in the actuator. Full details of the actuator types, and reference numbers, are given in Table 1 below:

Product	A = Actuator	
Туре	E = Electric	
Movement	L = Linear	
Series	3	
	E = Spring to extend	
Failure mode	R = Spring to retract	
	X = No spring	
Thrust (kN)	2	
Stroke (mm)	20	
	2 s/mm = 0.5mm/s selectable in the actuator via dip switches	
Selectable speed	4 s/mm = 0.25mm/s	
	6 s/mm = 0.16mm/s	
Supply voltage	24 Vac and 24 Vdc 230 Vac or 100-110 Vac by fitting power modules	
Control signal	24 to 230 V VMD, 0 - 10 Vdc and 4 - 20 mA (2-10 Vdc Split-Range unit accessor) for 24 Vac/dc actuators only).	

#### Table 1. AEL3 actuator nomenclature

## 2.2 Operation

Depending on the type of connection (see connection diagram), the actuator can be used as a continuous (0-10 V and/or 4-20 mA), 2-point (OPEN/CLOSE) or 3-point actuator (V.M.D.) (OPEN/STOP/CLOSE). The running time of the actuator can be set with switches S1 and S2 according to the relevant requirements. Switches S3 and S4 are used to configure the characteristic (equal-percentage, linear or quadratic).

## 2.3 Manual operation

The external crank handle enables manual positional setting. When the crank handle is folded out, the motor is switched off. After the crank handle is folded back, the target position is approached again (without initialisation). When the crank handle is folded out, the actuator remains in this position. Handle needs to be rotated slowly to prevent damage to the actuator.

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# 3. Installation

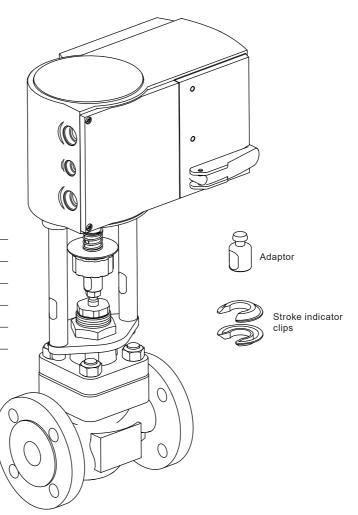
### 3.1 Location

The actuator should be mounted above the valve with sufficient space to remove the terminal cover and general ease of access. When selecting the location, make sure that the actuator is not exposed to an ambient temperature exceeding the range  $-10^{\circ}$ C to  $+55^{\circ}$ C. Humidity <95%. The actuator is rated at IP66.



#### Warning

Prevent access by non technical personnel!



#### Items supplied loose

1 off M16 x 1.5 Gland nut

1 off M20 x 1.5 Gland nut

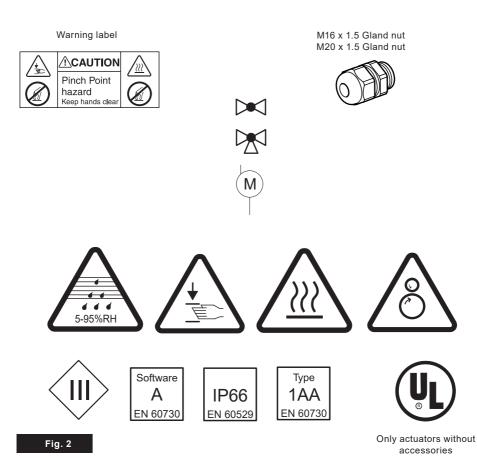
1 off adaptor

1 off warning label

Fig. 1

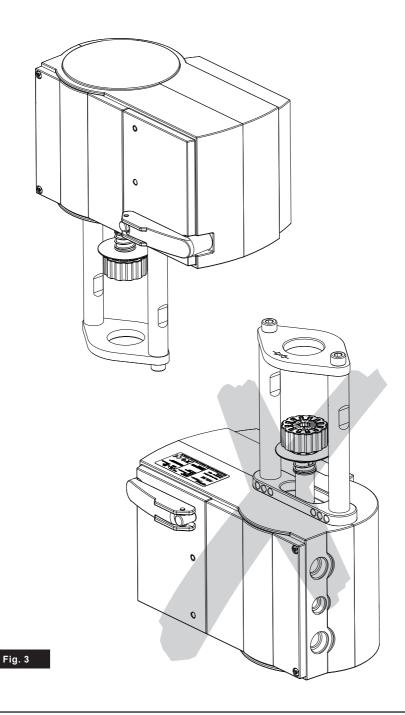
2 off stroke indicator clips





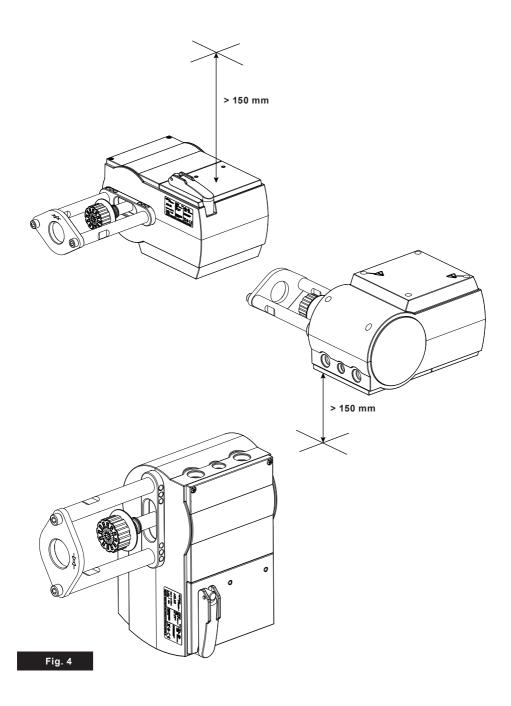
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**AEL3 Electric Linear Actuators** 

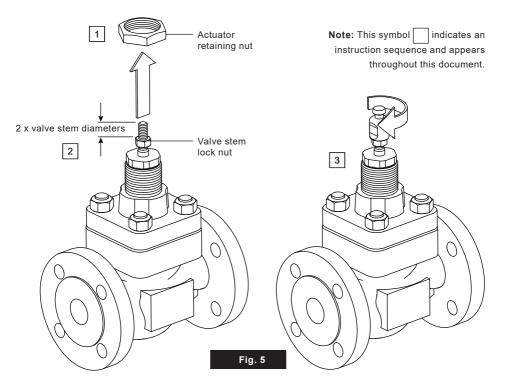


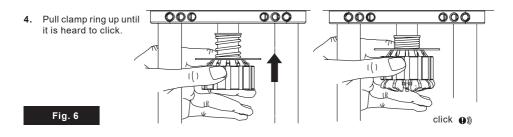


## 3.2 Connecting the actuator to the valve

## 3.2.1 Mounting to 2-port Spira-trol valves

- 1. Remove the actuator retaining nut from the valve.
- 2. Screw the valve stem lock-nut 2 x valve stem diameters onto the valve stem
- 3. Screw the adaptor onto the stem and tighten the lock nut to secure it.

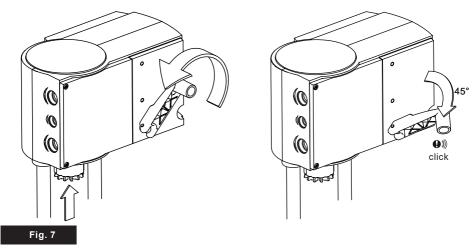




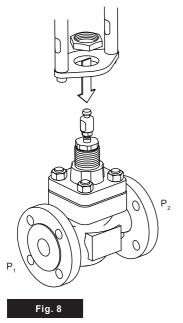
**AEL3 Electric Linear Actuators** 



5. Make sure that the spindle is fully retracted into the actuator and handle is up so that the spring is secured in place.



- 6. Place the mounting flange and actuator over the valve bonnet thread.
- 7. Refit the actuator retaining nut and tighten (50 Nm for M34).





#### Warning

Risk of injury due to limbs being trapped • Avoid contact with the danger areas.

When mounting actuator on valve, while still in pipe line, ensure pressure is zero.  $P_1 = P_2 = 0$  bar

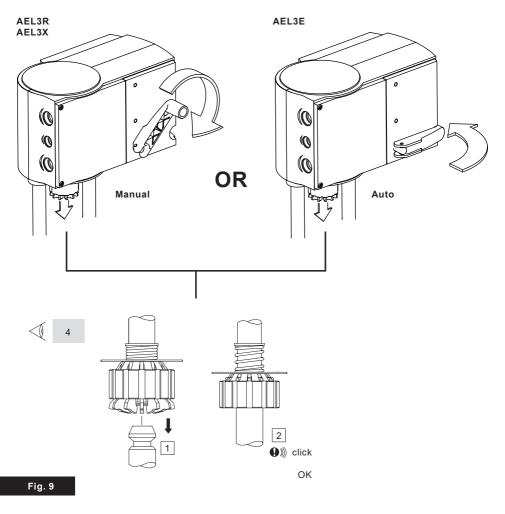
**AEL3 Electric Linear Actuators** 

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8. For AEL3R and AEL3X - use the handle to lower the actuator spindle until the clamp tightens over the adaptor.

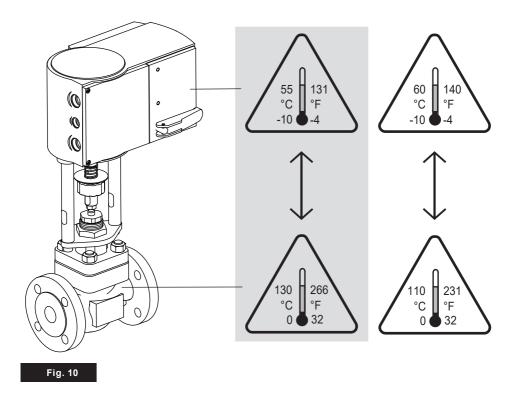
For AEL3E - fold the handle back to the home position in the actuator head and the spindle will lower automatically.

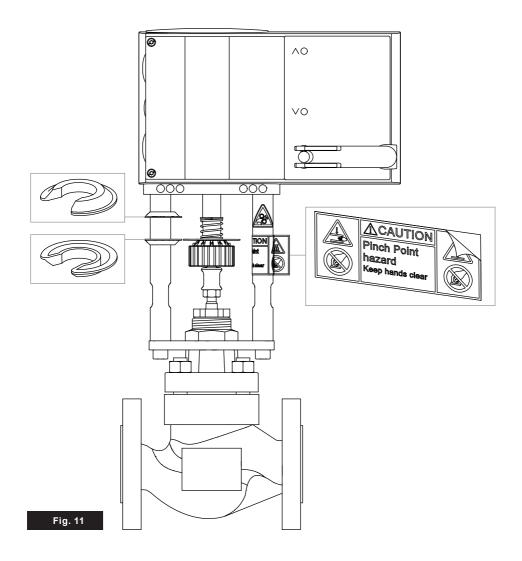


9. Ensure handle is folded back against the actuator.

When mounting an actuator on a valve, never drive the actuator electrically, instead use the handle.



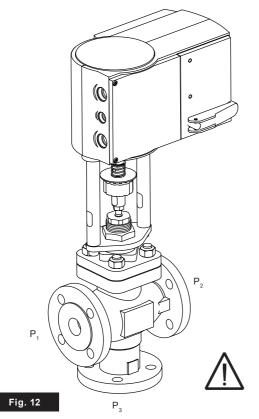






#### 3.2.2 Mounting to QL 3-way valves

- 1. Remove the actuator retaining nut from the valve.
- 2. Screw the valve stem lock-nut 2 x valve stem diameters onto the valve stem.
- 3. Make sure that the spindle is fully retracted into the actuator and handle is up so that the spring is secured in place.
- 4. Screw the coupling onto the stem and tighten the locking nut to secure it.
- 5. Ensure that the centering adaptor is on the bonnet thread (supplied with QL valve).
- 6. Place the mounting flange and actuator over the valve bonnet thread/centering adaptor.
- 7. Refit the actuator retaining nut and tighten (50 Nm for M30).
- 8. Pull clamp ring up until it is heard to click.
- 9. Using the handle lower the actuator stem until the clamp tightens over the adaptor.
- 10. Ensure handle is folded back against the actuator.



#### Warning

When mounting actuator on valve, while still in pipe line, ensure pressure is zero.

 $P_1 = P_2 = P_3 = 0$  bar

**AEL3 Electric Linear Actuators** 

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## 3.3 Electrical connection



#### Warning

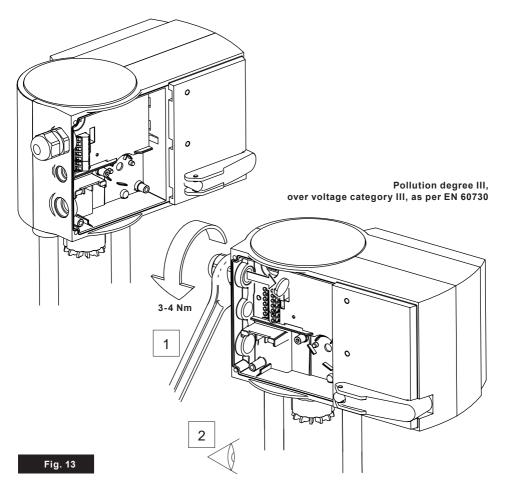
This is a class A equipment. It may cause radio interference in the home, in which case the operator may be requested to carry out appropriate measurement.

#### USA, Canada



#### Warning

This equipment is intended to be supplied by a "Power Source Class 2". Allowed wire size: AWG 14-15. All control signals and outputs are Class 2 AC/DC.



**AEL3 Electric Linear Actuators** 

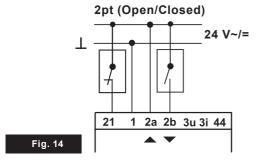


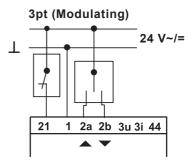
## Important

- 1. Read Section 1 'Safety information', before attempting to wire the supply to the actuator.
- 2. Slow blow fuses should be fitted in all phases, but not in the protective earth conductor.
- 3. The protective earth internal must be connected to the installation protective earth system. The integrity of the installation protective earth system must not be compromised by the disconnection or removal of other equipment.
- 4. For supply connections, use 1.5 mm<sup>2</sup> wire, double insulated as stated in IEC 60364 (or equivalent), if wires are exposed to touch.
- 5. Increase the wire section according to the length of the power line.
- 6. Dimension the safety transformer in the supply line correctly.
- 7. Inrush currents shall not conduct to a too big voltage drop.

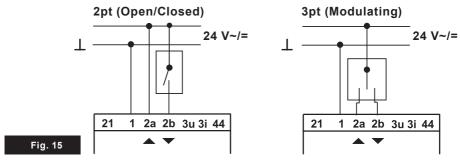
#### 3.3.1 Valve Motor Drive connection for 24V powered actuator

#### AEL3E/AEL3R





#### AEL3X



**AEL3 Electric Linear Actuators** 

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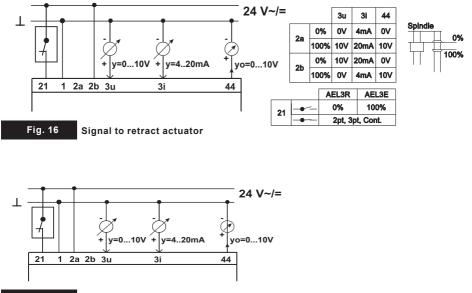
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#### 3.3.2 Signal connection for 24 V powered actuator: 4-20 mA or 0-10 V

Connect the wiring as per the diagram.

Note: actuator action can be reversed via terminals 2a and 2b.

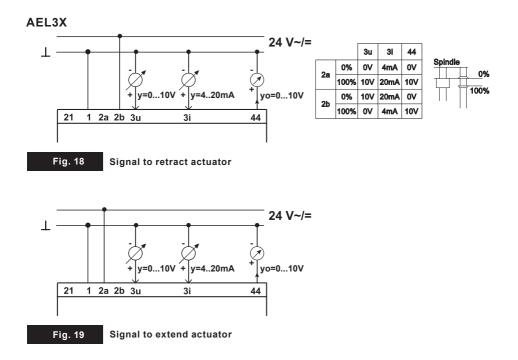
#### AEL3E/AEL3R





Signal to extend actuator

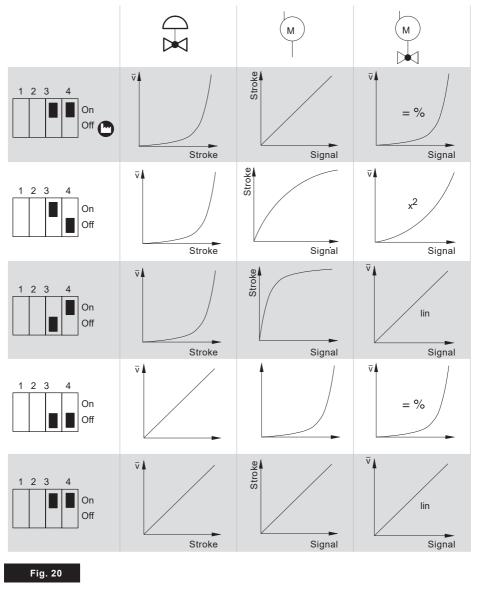




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# **3.3.3 Switch coding** Applies for continuous mode only





	Stroke	1 mm	20 mm
1 2 3 4 On Off		2 s	40 s ± 1
1 2 3 4 On Off	Running time	4 s	80 s ± 4
1 2 3 4 On Off 1 2 3 4 On Off On Off		6 s	120 s ± 4

Fig. 21

## 3.4 Initialisation

#### Automatic

When power is applied to the regulating unit for the first time, the automatic coupling with the valve and an initialisation take place. During this process, both LEDs on the drive flash in red.

- 1. The spindle extends until it reaches the mechanical stop on the regulating unit.
- 2. From this position, the spindle retracts until it reaches the mechanical stop on the regulating unit.
- 3. Initialisation is complete. The regulating unit moves to the position dictated by the control signal.

#### Manual

If required, initialisation can always be triggered manually.

- Fold out and fold back the crank handle twice within 4 seconds (see diagram). Initialisation begins.
- The initialisation can be aborted by folding out the crank handle again.







## 3.5 LED functions

#### AEL3E and AEL3R

LED	Description			
Both LEDs flash red	Initialisation			
Top LED lights up red	Top limit stop or "OPEN" position reached			
Bottom LED lights up red	Bottom limit stop or "CLOSED" position reached			
Top LED flashes green	Actuator is running, moving to "OPEN" position			
Top LED lights up green	Actuator is stopped, last direction of travel "OPEN"			
Bottom LED flashes green	Actuator is running, moving to "CLOSED" position			
Bottom LED lights up green	Actuator is stopped, last direction of travel "CLOSED"			
Both LEDs light up green	Wating time after switching on or after spring return			
No LED lights up	No power supply (terminal 21)			
Both LEDs flash red and green	Actuator is in manual mode			
	•			

AEL3X				
LED	Description			
Both LEDs flash red	Initialisation			
Top LED lights up red	Top limit stop or "OPEN" position reached			
Bottom LED lights up red	Bottom limit stop or "CLOSED" position reached			
Top LED flashes green	Actuator is running, moving to "OPEN" position			
Top LED lights up green	Actuator is stopped, last direction of travel "OPEN"			
Bottom LED flashes green	Actuator is running, moving to "CLOSED" position			
Bottom LED lights up green	Actuator is stopped, last direction of travel "CLOSED"			
No LED lights up	No power supply (terminal 2a or 2b)			
Both LEDs flash red and green	Actuator is in manual mode			

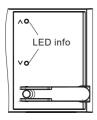


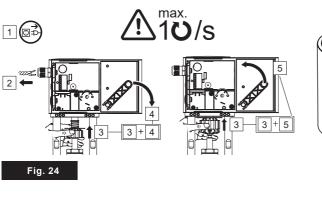
Fig. 23

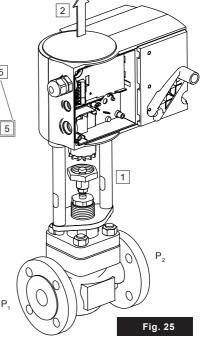
#### Notice

This product should not be put into service until the machinery or system into which the product is due to be fitted, or of which it is intended to be a component, fulfils the relevant regulations and standards. Responsibility lies with the plant engineer or the installer.



## 3.6 Actuator removal







#### Warning

When removing actuator from valve, while still in pipe line, ensure pressure is zero.

 $P_{1} = P_{2} = 0$  bar



#### Danger

Risk of hand injury caused by spring under tension.

- Do not dismantle the spring!

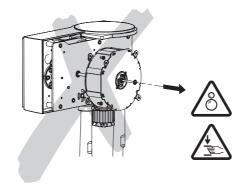


Fig. 26

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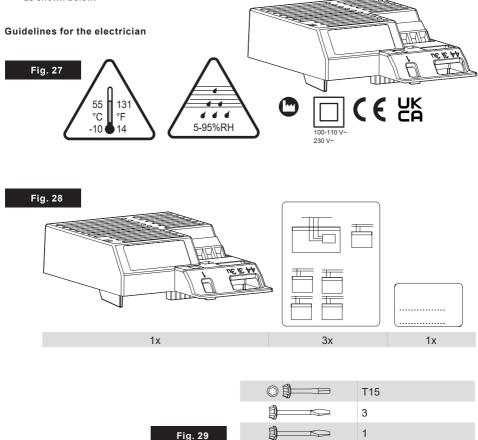
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## 3.7 100-110 V and 230 V power module installation



There are 2 additional options available for power supply: 100-110 V and 230 V. These are available by connecting an auxiliary power module to the standard actuator model. Fresh labels are provided that reflect the change made.

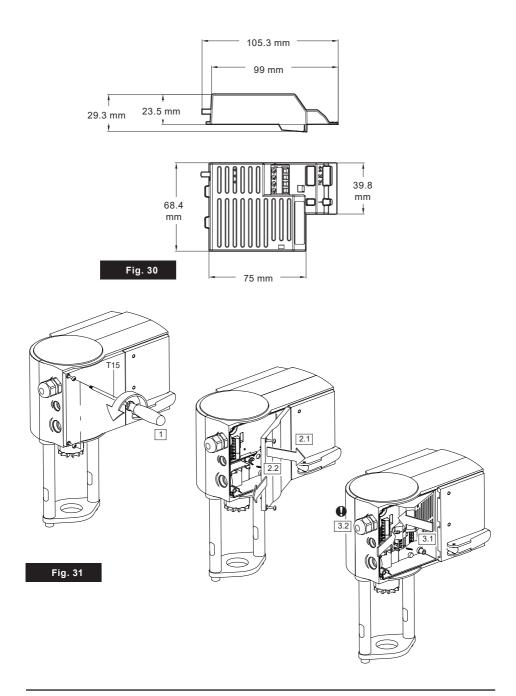
- 1. Open the actuator cover.
- 2. Slot in the appropriate power module in the space provided.
- 3. Replace/cover the original 24V wiring label on the inside of the actuator removable housing cover with fresh power module wiring label.
- 4. Use provided power module marking label and affix it on the existing label located on the underside of the actuator housing, so that it covers the existing portion of the label containing 24V and UL markings, as shown below.



**AEL3 Electric Linear Actuators** 

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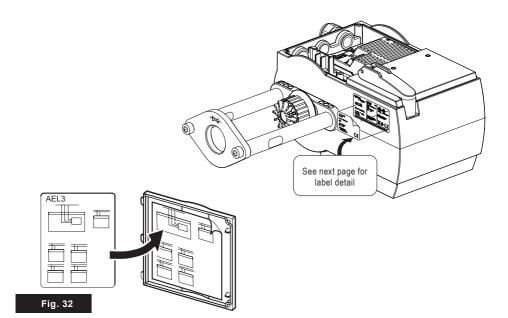
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#### **AEL3 Electric Linear Actuators**

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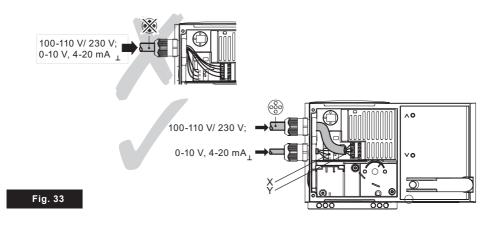
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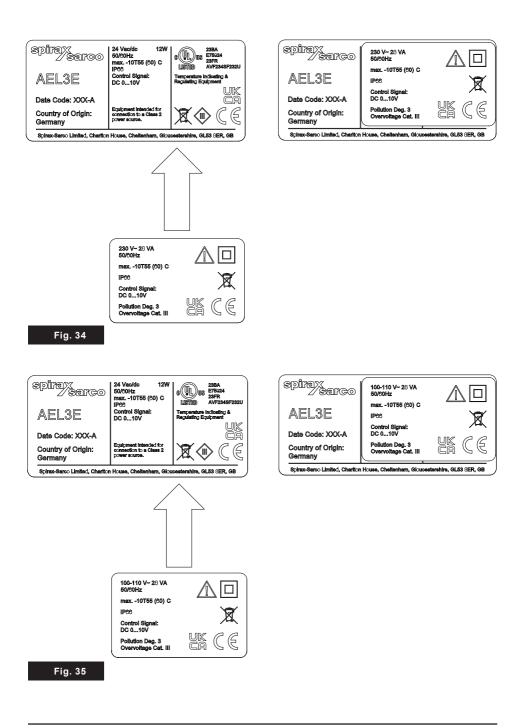
#### Danger of electrocution

- Do not make a connection between terminal blocks X and Y.



**AEL3 Electric Linear Actuators** 

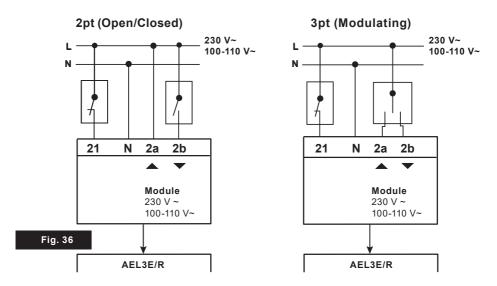




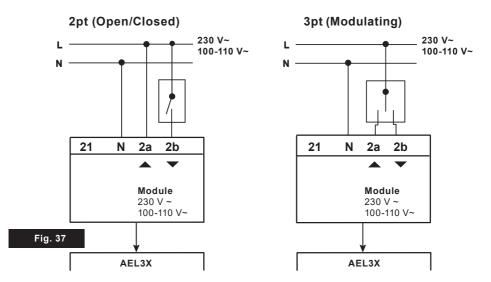
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# 3.7.1 Valve Motor Drive connection for actuators fitted with power module AEL3E/AEL3R



#### AEL3X

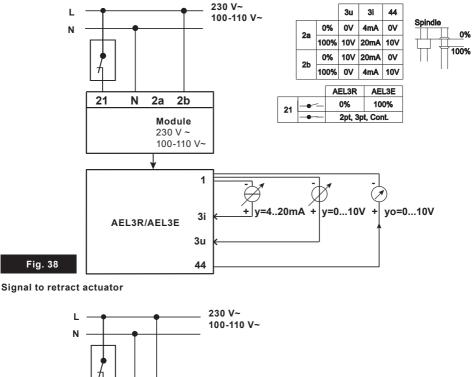


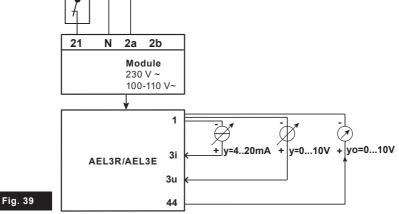


#### 3.7.2 Signal connection for actuators fitted with a power module: 4-20 mA or 0-10 V

Note: Actuator action can be reversed via terminals 2a and 2b.

#### AEL3E/AEL3R



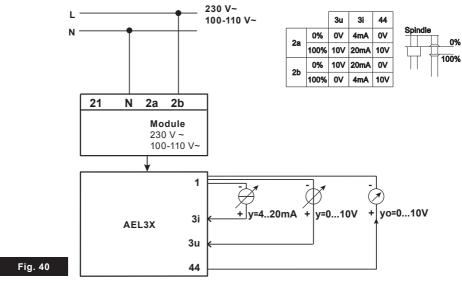


Signal to extend actuator

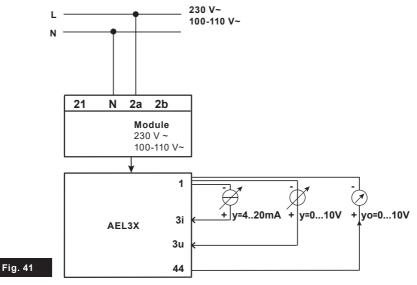
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Signal to retract actuator

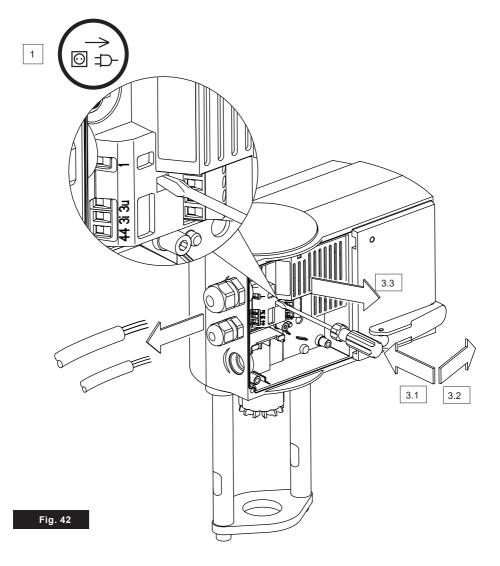


Signal to extend actuator



## 3.8 Removing the power module

- 1. Ensure actuator is disconnected from power supply.
- 2. Remove all wiring from the terminals.
- 3. Insert a flathead screwdriver in the slot as shown in the diagram.
- 4. Depress the screwdriver and push it gently to the right to unlock the latch. Be careful not to break it off.
- 5. While applying gentle pressure on the latch, pry the power module away from the actuator.

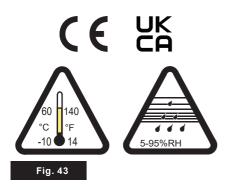


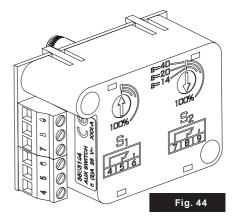
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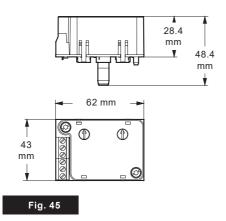
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## 3.9 Installing the auxiliary switches

For use in normal environments







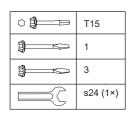
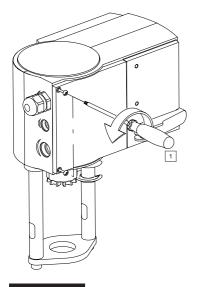


Fig. 46







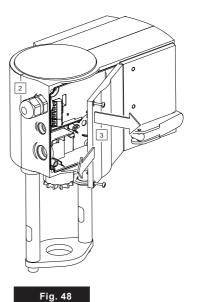
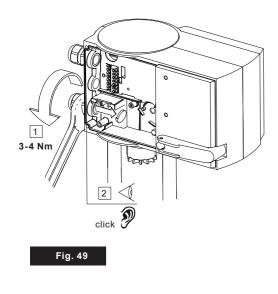
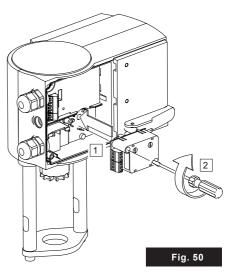
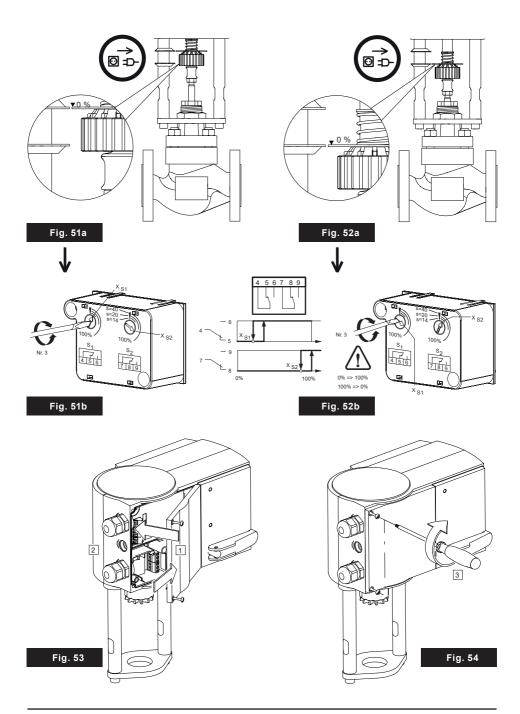


Fig. 47





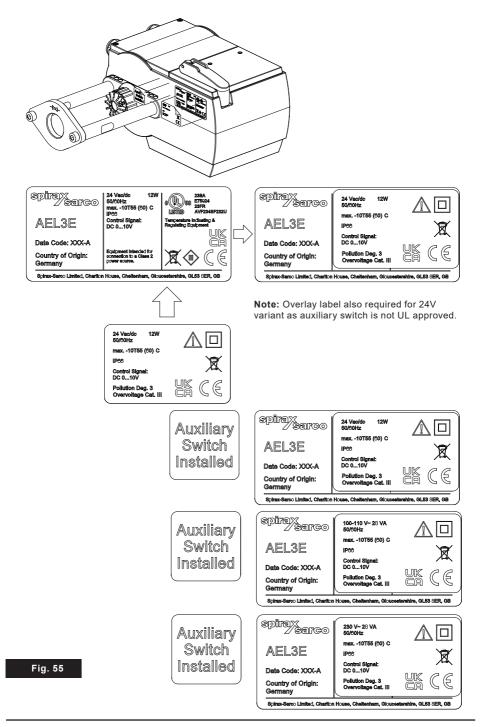


**AEL3 Electric Linear Actuators** 

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**AEL3 Electric Linear Actuators** 

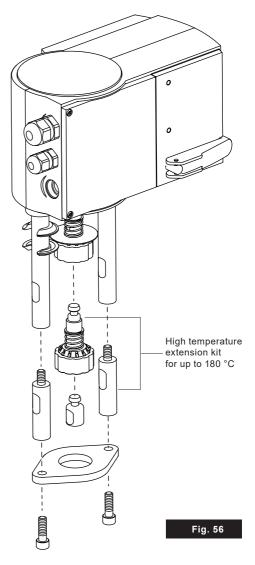
sarco

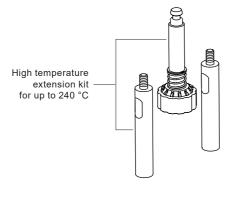
spira

## 3.10 High temperature extension kit

The extension kit is to be used on applications above 130 °C to up to 240 °C. There are two kit options of up to 180 °C and another for up to 240 °C

- 1. Unscrew the actuator mounting plate screws for pillars.
- 2. Screw the extension pillars into actuator pillars and tighten to 12 Nm.
- **3.** Screw the actuator mounting plate screws into pillars and tighten to 25 Nm.
- 4. Mount the coupling extension into the actuator coupling until it snaps closed.



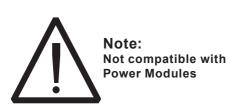


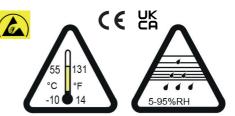
**AEL3 Electric Linear Actuators** 



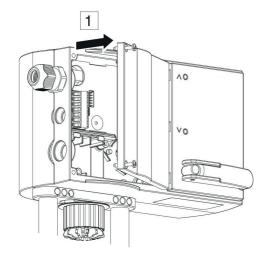
## 3.11 2-10 Vdc Split-Range unit installation

Installing the Split-Range Unit





For use in normal environments



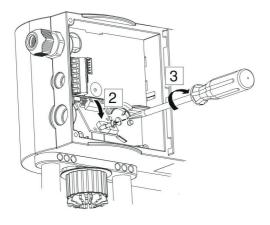
) (1 x) K35 x 20/10

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#### Fig. 57

**AEL3 Electric Linear Actuators** 

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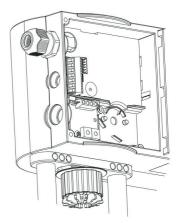
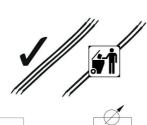
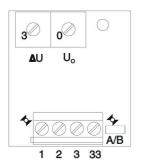
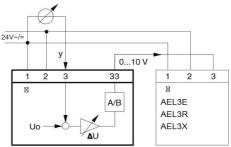


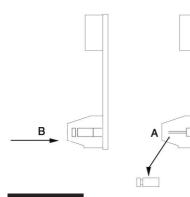
Fig. 58











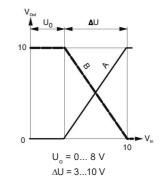
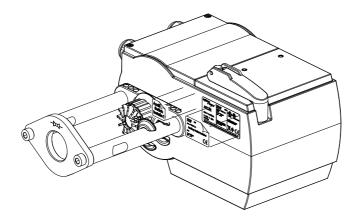
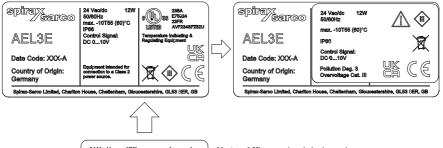


Fig. 59

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**Note:** Affix overlay label as shown, as Split-Range Unit is not UL approved.

If Auxiliary Switch is installed, DO NOT use Split-Range unit overlay label. Protection Class on Auxiliary Switch will apply and take precedence.



**Note:** Auxiliary Switch Installed label shown, may or may not be installed and is shown for Split Range unit label positioning only.

#### Fig. 60



# 4. Commissioning

Actuators supplied already fitted to control valves would be supplied already commissioned. However, should it be necessary to commission an actuator, the following procedure should be adopted.

## 4.1 Preliminary checks - All actuators

- 1. Check that the actuator voltage corresponds to that required.
- 2. Ensure the wiring corresponds to that outlined in Section 3.3, 3.7 or 3.11.
- **3.** Ensure the assembly of the valve and actuator has been carried out according to the instructions in Section 3.2.

# 5. Maintenance



Always make sure that the electrical supply is switched off when carrying out maintenance on the actuator or valve.

There are no maintainable parts within the actuator.



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