

## **Monitoring Method for a Switching Load of Spring Point Machines**

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It is an important issue for the railway equipment maintenance to prevent failures by monitoring their conditions of operation. For electric switching machines, a monitoring method which estimates the switching force indirectly from the operating current and voltage has been developed and put to practical use. However the method cannot be applied to other switch systems such as a spring point machine, which are not operated by electric power. Accordingly, we studied a monitoring method which estimates the switching force or reset force directly by strain of a switch adjuster. Also, we studied a method which estimates the reset time from time response of the reset force. In this report, we present the results of the studies on these methods, and also present the results of a field experiment.