

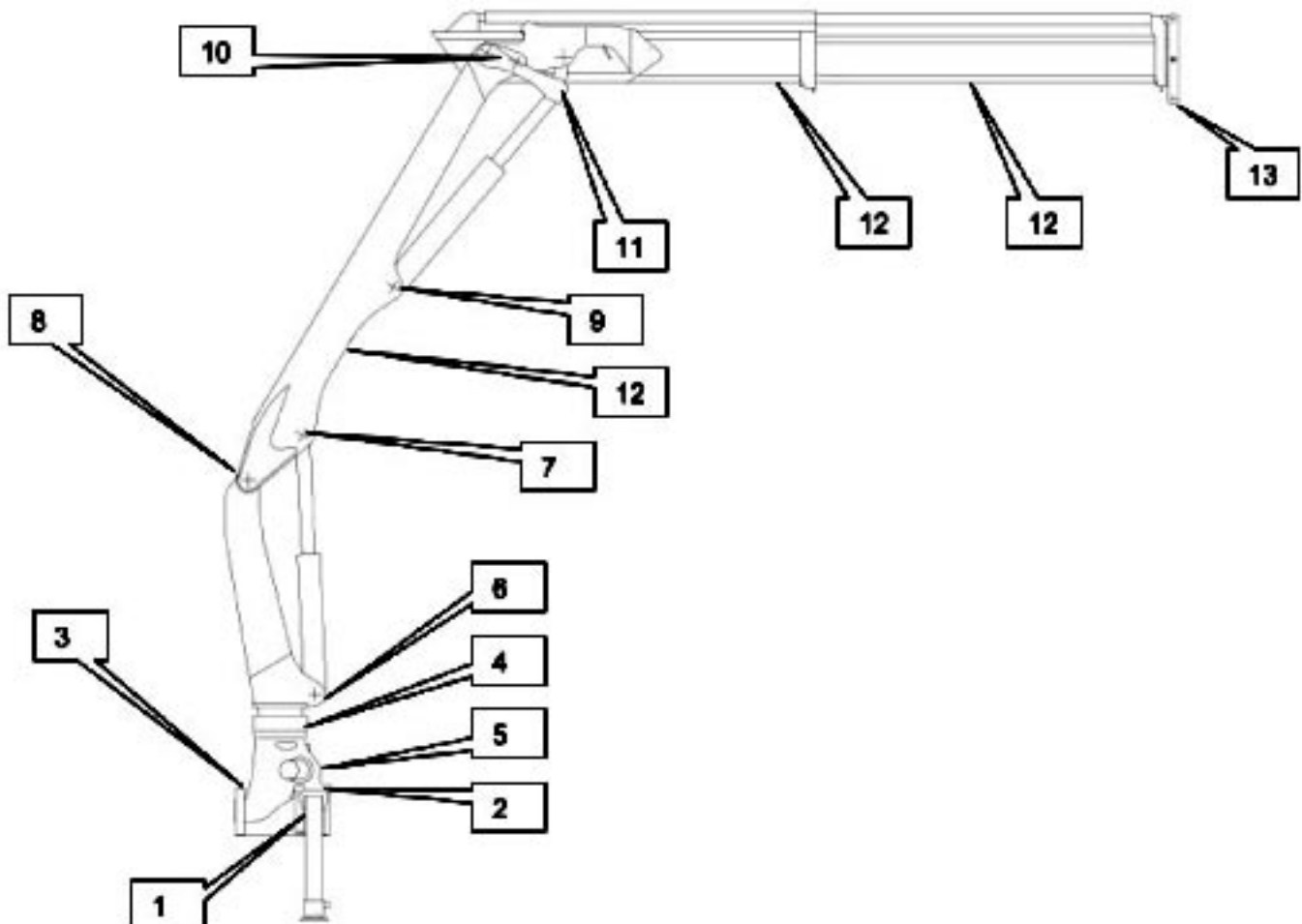
In-service structural inspections

ALLMI Guidance Note 011

All loading cranes are designed in accordance with DIN15018, or more latterly, EN12999 and EN13001. Cranes to these standards are classified into groups according to their calculated service life. ALLMI guidance note 001, "Guidance for Life Expectancy of a Lorry Loader", deals with the methods for determining the calculated service life.

As the cranes are approaching their calculated service life, it is likely that the structure will show signs of deterioration. As well as the daily visual inspection of the crane, as detailed in both the manufacturer's operating instructions and BS7121 part 4, it is recommended that close attention is paid to the more highly stressed areas of the crane. These are areas around pivot points and changes of section. For example:

1. Connection between stabilizers and stabilizer beams
2. Connection between crane base and stabilizer assembly
3. Connection between crane base and pendulum beam
4. Top of base around upper column bearing
5. Rear of base around slew rack guidance
6. Connection between lift ram and column
7. Connection between lift ram and 1st boom/linkage
8. Connection between 1st boom and column
9. Connection between 1st boom and 2nd boom ram
10. Connection between 1st boom and 2nd boom
11. Connection between 2nd boom ram and linkage/2nd boom
12. Closing welds on underside of booms
13. Hook / grab suspension points



The majority of these areas are adjacent to greasing points so a close inspection can be made whilst the structure is being lubricated.

If any indications of cracking or excessive wear in pins, bearings or the structural components are evident, then a thorough examination by a competent person must be carried out before the crane is put to further use. The competent person will decide what corrective action needs to be taken.

The competent person has a legal duty to inform the enforcing authority if such corrective action is not taken.

Please ensure that your maintenance staff/contractors and the competent person carrying out thorough examinations on your behalf are made aware of this guidance note.

Reference information:

BS EN 12999: Cranes – Loader Cranes

LOLER: Lifting Operations and Lifting Equipment Regulations

PUWER: Provision and Use of Work Equipment Regulations

ALLMI: Code of Practice for Installation Application and Operation

BS 7121: Safe use of cranes, Parts 2 and 4.

Disclaimer

This note is for guidance only, it should be studied and the information applied with the assistance of expert advice as necessary. Every effort has been made to ensure the accuracy of the information provided, but no legal liability can be accepted by ALLMI for any errors or omissions, nor for any consequences thereof.