robust wireless communication technology from the load cell as well; and/or using the same load pin housing design as in use today, by allowing additional electronics to be fitted in the existing cavity of the load cell or installed or installed immediately outside and adjacent to the load cell.

[0016] According to a first aspect, a method for controlling a draw-works system may include measuring, with a load pin, a load on a hook of a draw-works system; converting, with the load pin, the measured load to a digital value representative of the measured load, wherein the digital value represents the value of the measured load in engineering units; transferring, from the load pin, the digital value representative of the measured load to a control system located at a derrick; and/or adjusting, with the control system, operation of the draw-works system based, at least in part, on the received digital value representative of the measured load.

[0016a] According to a second aspect, there is provided a load pin, comprising: a strain sensor for measuring a load on a hook of a draw-works system; and electronic circuitry coupled to the strain sensor and configured to perform steps comprising: converting the measured load to a digital value representative of the measured load, wherein the digital value represents the value of the measured load in engineering units; and transferring, from the load pin, the digital value representative of the measured load to a control system located at a derrick.

[0016b] According to a third aspect, there is provided a computer program product, comprising: a non-tangible computer readable medium comprising code to perform steps comprising: receiving data regarding a load on a hook of a draw-works system; converting the measured load to a digital value representative of the measured load, wherein the digital value represents the value of the measured load in engineering units; and transferring the digital value representative of the measured load to a control system located at a derrick.

[0017] The foregoing has outlined rather broadly certain features and technical advantages of embodiments of the present invention in order that the detailed description that follows may be better understood. Additional features and advantages will be described

hereinafter that form the subject of the claims of the invention. It should be appreciated by those having ordinary skill in the art that the conception and specific embodiment disclosed may be readily utilized as a basis for modifying or designing other structures for carrying out the same or similar purposes. It should also be realized by those having ordinary skill in the art that such equivalent constructions do not depart from the spirit and scope of the invention as set forth in the appended claims. Additional features will be better understood from the following description when considered in connection with the accompanying figures. It is to be expressly understood, however, that each of the figures is provided for the purpose of illustration and description only and is not intended to limit the present invention.