CLAIMS

1. An apparatus comprising:
a hoisting system having a hoisting line;
a sleeve positioned on the hoisting line; and
an anti-two-block sensing device installed about the hoisting line so as to allow the hoisting line to move through the anti-two-block sensing device, the anti-two-block sensing device including a detector positioned to detect a sleeve component when the sleeve is present within the anti-two-block sensing device,
wherein the sleeve component includes a metallic material and the detector includes a proximity switch positioned to detect presence of the metallic material within the anti-two-block sensing device.

2. The apparatus of claim 1, wherein the detector includes an inductive proximity switch.

3. The apparatus of claim 1, wherein the sleeve is wrapped around the hoisting line.

4. The apparatus of claim 1, wherein the sleeve includes inner and outer insulation layers and the sleeve component to be detected by the detector of the anti-two-block sensing device is positioned between the inner and outer insulation layers.

5. The apparatus of claim 1, wherein the anti-two-block device includes a chandelier suspended from a crane of the hoisting system and a cap that includes the detector and is mounted on the chandelier.

6. The apparatus of claim 5, comprising a trigger device suspended from the chandelier, wherein the trigger device is positioned to be contacted by an actuator coupled to the hoisting line.

7. The apparatus of claim 6, wherein the detector of the anti-two-block sensing device is positioned to detect movement of the trigger device with respect to the chandelier.

8. An apparatus comprising:
a hoisting system having a hoisting line;
a sleeve positioned on the hoisting line; and
an anti-two-block sensing device installed about the hoisting line so as to allow the hoisting line to move through the anti-two-block sensing device, the anti-two-block sensing device including a detector positioned to detect a sleeve component when the sleeve is present within the anti-two-block sensing device, wherein the sleeve component includes a radio-frequency identification tag and the detector includes a radio-frequency identification reader positioned to detect the radio-frequency identification tag.

9. The apparatus of claim 8, comprising a hoisting line controller configured to change a speed of the hoisting line in response to detection of the sleeve component by the detector of the anti-two-block sensing device.

10. The apparatus of claim 9, wherein the hoisting line controller is configured to slow the speed of the hoisting line in response to detection of the sleeve component by the detector and to stop the hoisting line in response to detection of an additional sleeve component by the detector.

11. A method of operating a hoisting system comprising:
drawing a hoisting line of a hoisting system past an anti-two-block sensing device, the anti-two-block sensing device including a detector and the hoisting line including a target to be sensed by the detector;
detecting the target of the hoisting line with the detector of the anti-two-block sensing device, wherein the target includes a metallic target inside a sleeve positioned about the hoisting line, the detector of the anti-two-block sensing device includes a proximity sensor, and

detecting the target of the hoisting line with the detector includes detecting the metallic target with the proximity sensor; and

altering hoisting speed of the hoisting line in response to the detection of the target of the hoisting line by the detector.

12. A method of operating a hoisting system comprising:

drawing a hoisting line of a hoisting system past an anti-two-block sensing device, the anti-two-block sensing device including a detector and the hoisting line including a target to be sensed by the detector;

detecting the target of the hoisting line with the detector of the anti-two-block sensing device, wherein the target includes a radio-frequency identification tag positioned along the hoisting line, the detector of the anti-two-block sensing device includes a radio-frequency identification reader, and detecting the target of the hoisting line with the detector includes detecting the radio-frequency identification tag with the radio-frequency identification reader; and

altering hoisting speed of the hoisting line in response to the detection of the target of the hoisting line by the detector.

13. The method of claim 12, wherein altering hoisting speed of the hoisting line includes reducing the hoisting speed of the hoisting line without stopping the hoisting line in response to detecting the radio-frequency identification tag with the radio-frequency identification reader.

14. The method of claim 13, comprising: detecting, with the radio-frequency identification reader, an additional radio-frequency identification tag positioned along the hoisting line; and stopping the hoisting line in response to detection of the additional radio-frequency identification tag by the radio-frequency identification reader.

15. The method of claim 14, wherein the anti-two-block sensing device includes an aperture through which the hoisting line is received, the hoisting line includes a sleeve having the radio-

frequency identification tag and the additional radio-frequency identification tag, and detecting the radio-frequency identification tag and the additional radio-frequency identification tag occurs with the sleeve received in the aperture of the anti-two-block sensing device.

16. The method of claim 15, comprising detecting a further radio-frequency identification tag positioned along the hoisting line, wherein the radio-frequency identification tag, the additional radio-frequency identification tag, and the further radio-frequency identification tag are positioned at different longitudinal locations along the hoisting line.

17. The method of claim 12, wherein altering hoisting speed of the hoisting line in response to the detection of the target of the hoisting line by the detector includes reducing the hoisting speed from a higher magnitude to a lower, non-zero magnitude in response to the detection of the target.

18. The method of claim 17, comprising, after reducing the hoisting speed from a higher magnitude to a lower, non-zero magnitude in response to the detection of the target: detecting physical contact between the anti-two-block sensing device and an actuator on the hoisting line; and stopping the hoisting line in response to the detection of the physical contact between the anti-two-block sensing device and the actuator on the hoisting line.