

News Release



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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
NEW PRODUCT ANNOUNCEMENT****UNITED ELECTRIC CONTROLS UNVEILS
REVOLUTIONARY 2-WIRE
ELECTRONIC PRESSURE SWITCH**

The rugged ONE Series 2-Wire electronic pressure switch provides solid-state reliability and diagnostics on a single 2-wire discrete digital input channel of a PLC or DCS, at a list price of \$375.

September 10, 2001 - Watertown, MA - United Electric Controls today unveiled its revolutionary new electronic pressure switch aimed at alarm & shutdown applications.

"The ONE Series 2-Wire is the first electronic switch providing a process display, diagnostic information and a switch output, on a single twisted pair of wires, connecting to a discrete digital input channel of a PLC or DCS. It combines the simple functions of a switch and gauge and the reliability features of a transmitter, at less than half the cost of the transmitter. For alarm & shutdown applications, the ONE Series 2-Wire is the perfect alternative to transmitters or the drop-in upgrade for many mechanical switch applications," said Ken Kirkwood, director of marketing, United Electric Controls.

The ONE Series 2-Wire: The evolution of a revolution

According to Kirkwood, "In the past, there were two basic choices for alarm and shutdown applications - an electromechanical switch, or a transmitter." In 1998, United Electric introduced a third choice - the One Series, a family of rugged electronic switches that filled the technology gap between switch and transmitter. It successfully met the process customer's needs for lower costs and improved reliability. With its patented I Am Working (IAW®) diagnostics, the ONE Series quickly became the cost-effective answer for many applications that require the combination of a "local switch" function and "health" information.

However, until now, the need for both device power and switching output meant more than two wires. The new One Series 2-Wire has changed all that. "The ONE Series 2-Wire obtains its operating power, and also provides on-off switching, using the discrete input of a control system on a single pair of wires," Kirkwood said. "This is what makes the ONE Series 2-Wire truly revolutionary, both as an alternative to transmitters in new applications, and as an upgrade for existing mechanical switches."

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United Electric Unveils Revolutionary New Electronic Pressure Switch

Page Two

The versatility of the ONE Series 2-Wire makes it the ideal solution for alarm and shutdown applications previously handled by transmitters. "Transmitters became an alternative because of their 'live zero' signal - the comfort of positive feedback. But most users recognize that a transmitter's 0.1% accuracy is not needed for their alarm applications. It's overkill. They have other disadvantages, too - they are typically slow to react to process changes and they are expensive to buy, to install and to program," Kirkwood said. An additional issue in many plants these days is the scarcity of analog channels, and an abundance of discrete inputs - a situation the ONE Series 2-Wire addresses perfectly.

UE's unique, remotely-read IAW[®] diagnostics offer peace-of-mind similar to a transmitter's 4-20 signal. "And the ONE Series 2-Wire typically responds to process variations much faster," Kirkwood said. "And since it uses less-expensive discrete input channels, installed costs are reduced, both in equipment and in programming time."

In addition, the One Series 2-Wire design also allows users to upgrade existing mechanical switches with no wiring changes. "For PLC and DCS circuits, the ONE Series 2-Wire offers an electronic switch alternative without any wiring changes. Upgrading couldn't be easier!" Kirkwood said.

The ONE Series 2-Wire has a list price of \$375. "Customers looking for electronic reliability, and forced to pay the transmitter's premium, now have a cost-effective choice. The ONE Series 2-Wire successfully combines the simplicity and low-cost features of a switch and gauge with the reliability of a transmitter, at less than half the price," Kirkwood said. "And it can be dropped into existing infrastructures without the expense of plant shutdowns for rewiring."

Established in 1931, United Electric Controls maintains corporate headquarters in Watertown, Massachusetts, USA, and direct offices throughout the United States, Canada, Mexico, Latin America, Europe, Australia, India and Malaysia. UE also maintains worldwide distribution.

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