

case study



Switching it up: New Honeywell MICRO SWITCH™ Basic Switch saves time and money for manufacturer.

With raw material prices steadily increasing, many manufacturers are trying to find ways to streamline assembly processes and eliminate unnecessary or expensive product components to reduce cost and time-to-market.

Honeywell



Designing Manufacturing Efficiencies

For Honeywell Environmental Combustion and Controls (ECC) — manufacturer of the iconic Honeywell Round Thermostat — one “answer” to this ongoing efficiency challenge has resulted in significant annual savings of more than \$290,000, among other benefits. Here's how.

ECC recently turned to Honeywell Sensing & Control's (S&C) Value Engineered Solutions experts to help improve costly and complex assembly processes for one of its temperature zoning systems. Specifically, the system used a Honeywell MICRO SWITCH™ V-Basic Premium V5 Series as part of its valve controller. However, the valve assembly process required insulating and soldering a lead wire on the switch, which increased total costs and slowed time-to-market. ECC needed the

functionality and reliability of the V5, but in a form factor that eliminated these steps in the manufacturing process.

“If we can find manufacturing efficiencies without affecting the quality of the end product, it's extremely beneficial to us,” said Richard Tsou, project manager, Honeywell ECC. “We saw an opportunity with the zone valve assembly to improve several processes, and we looked to S&C to help.”

S&C's Value Engineered Solutions team collaborated with ECC design engineers to develop the MICRO SWITCH™ V15 with push-in terminals. The new V15 was designed to improve ECC productivity with an innovative terminal design that eliminates the need for quick connect terminals. The elimination of quick connect terminals allows users to simply strip the insulation from the wire and push it directly into the sockets to make the necessary electrical connections.

The new V15 switch also eliminates the use of tools and saves labor costs related to wiring. And, the new switch includes the same mounting hole pattern as all other Honeywell V Series switches, making it easier to use in place of other switches for many applications.

Since incorporating the new V15 switch into its valve assembly, ECC is saving more than \$290,000 annually through more efficient manufacturing processes. The switch also has eliminated four assembly benches, freeing up floor space, lowering electrical energy consumption, and reducing WIP inventory.

“The MICRO SWITCH™ V15 with push-in terminals switch is an ideal solution to our process inefficiencies,” Tsou said. “The new configuration helps speed production, eliminate opportunities for error, and save money — while still enabling us to deliver high quality end products.”

For more information about
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