

NEWS RELEASE

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Hermetic Switch Announces a 15% Price Reduction On Its High Voltage Line of Vacuum Reed Switches

Manufacturing Process Improvements Help Hermetic Meet Market Need

10 December 2003, Chickasha, OK (USA) – Hermetic Switch, Inc. announces a 15% reduction in the price of its high voltage line of vacuum reed switches, effective immediately. Improved manufacturing processes that result in greater throughput – with no compromise in the high level of quality and performance – enable Hermetic Switch to pass the savings on to its customers. By doing so Hermetic Switch is addressing the market need for lower cost components and opening up more applications and market segments for this high performance product line. The price reduction applies to Hermetic’s vacuum reed switch models HSR-V7K, HSR-V10K and HSR-V15K. The new prices range from \$3.20 to \$4.75 each for order quantities of 1000 units, depending on model and sensitivity.



These vacuum reed switches are specially designed to withstand the rigors of high voltage environments, whether they are used directly as a switch or first incorporated into a high voltage relay device. These switches and downstream relay products serve to protect other components in an assembly from high voltage which otherwise would damage the assembly and impact performance.

Applications include medical and electromedical equipment (such as defibrillators), high voltage test equipment, hi-pot (high potential) test instruments, cable test equipment, and a wide array of aerospace and military applications. Other applications include use in electric vehicles and rapid transit, scientific test equipment, oil well downhole applications, battery back-up systems, silicon wafer processing

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equipment, industrial process controls and power transformer/power cable applications.

Improvements in Hermetic Switch's well-established Form A vacuum switch manufacturing process are the result of a new company directive that challenges employees to find ways to increase throughput and reduce costs on this product line. A recent breakthrough has resulted in a process improvement, now in place, that allows the cost savings to be passed on to new and existing customers. The vacuum environment of the switching device translates into desirable characteristics in application, including high dielectric strength, high isolation voltage, low contact resistance and long operating life. Unique to Hermetic Switch is an additional product feature - the lowest leakage current of all vacuum switches in the industry.

Hermetic Switch's HSR-V7K, HSR-V10K and HSR-V15K models of vacuum reed switches were specifically designed for applications requiring a minimum breakdown of, respectively, 7K, 10K or 15K Volts DC. Although the standard leakage current for these switches is 2 μ A – the lowest in the industry – other leakage currents are available. These are large Form A (SPST) switches that feature tungsten contacts sealed in a vacuum enabling them to switch high voltage or high inductive current loads.

For custom mounting, lead forming, lead cutting options or other information please contact Hermetic Switch at (405) 224-4046 or your local sales representative.

These vacuum switches complement Hermetic Switch's extensive product lines. Hermetic's *reed switch* line includes micro-miniature, miniature, high-reliability, implantable, heavy-duty, high-power, high-voltage and radio frequency switches. The company's *proximity sensor* product line includes tubular, surface mount, industrial, alarm, low profile and high power designs. Hermetic Switch offers sensors with custom housings, connectors, wires/harnesses and other customer-specified features. The company also provides permanent magnets and standard test coils to the market.

Hermetic Switch (est.1968) is a privately held, ISO-9001:2000 certified company that designs, develops and manufactures reed switches, proximity sensors and other switch technologies that respond to customer needs. The company provides switching and sensing solutions to many industries including medical, aerospace, telecommunications, military, fluid processing, computer/electronic, construction, security, agricultural and lawn/garden/turf. Specific applications where Hermetic products are used include pacemakers, defibrillators, Vagus nerve stimulators, hearing aids, space station/space shuttle functions, commercial and military jet engines, wireless devices, valve-position monitoring devices, test, measurement and diagnostic equipment (TMDE), burglar alarms, commercial lawn mowers and countless others. Customers include numerous Fortune 500 companies like General Electric, Tyco, Textron, Boeing, Northrop Grumman, Honeywell and Siemens as well as other key players in the global marketplace. For more information call 405-224-4046 or go to www.hermeticswitch.com.