



IDD AEROSPACE

Press

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IDD AEROSPACE ANNOUNCES AVAILABILITY OF LOW-COST FLEX PUSHBUTTON MODULES FOR AVIONICS CONTROL PANELS

Farnborough Airshow, UK (July 21st, 2004) - IDD Aerospace, a division of the Zodiac Group, announced today the availability of their new Flex Pushbutton Modules for incorporation into avionics control panel assemblies and other human machine interfaces. The new technology is a smaller form-factor, low-cost alternative to traditional three-quarter inch pushbuttons used throughout the industry.

The technology was first introduced on an integrated control panel for the Boeing 737. "IDD understood that cost and size was a major requirement for the Honeywell/Boeing 737 mode control panel project." said Steven Hintzke, President and CEO of IDD Aerospace. "We specialize in meeting these types of design challenges and providing customer solutions. The result was the IDD Flex Pushbutton Module which is half the cost and half the size of the industry alternative."

The compact Flex Pushbutton mechanism allows more controls to be incorporated into the same control panel area which in turn allows more functionality to be added within the same space. The Flex Pushbuttons have the crisp tactile feedback that IDD is renowned for, and the modules use LED technology for high-reliability and sunlight readability. The Flex Pushbutton Modules are Boeing Certified and also approved for Airbus ABD0023.

Airbus' new A380 Aircraft will benefit from the Flex Pushbuttons in three different control panel applications. Honeywell has included the technology on the new A380 Aircraft Environment Surveillance System (AESS) control panel. ECE is using the Flex Pushbuttons in the A380 ECP Keyboard, and Astro-Med, Inc. has incorporated the modules into the interface for their new A380 printer.

"The Flex Pushbutton Module from IDD is a great solution for our new A380 printer." said Mike Natalizia, Astro-Med's Manager of Product Development. "The smaller form-factor and lower cost combined with the module's compliance to Airbus' stringent lighting standards makes the IDD Flex Pushbuttons the hands-down choice."

IDD Aerospace has long been considered the industry expert in the production of Human Machine Interface solutions including Illuminated Panels for flight deck controls. Over the past several years the company has greatly expanded its service offering by assisting companies such as Honeywell, Rockwell-Collins, Lockheed Martin, Smiths and ECE with the total development of keyboard assemblies and complete integrated control panels including innovative pushbutton design, software development and custom circuit boards.

"More and more companies are coming to us and saying 'Hey, design and build this for us.'" said Hintzke. "They know that we can do it faster and less-expensive, and they trust us to take the ball and run with it."

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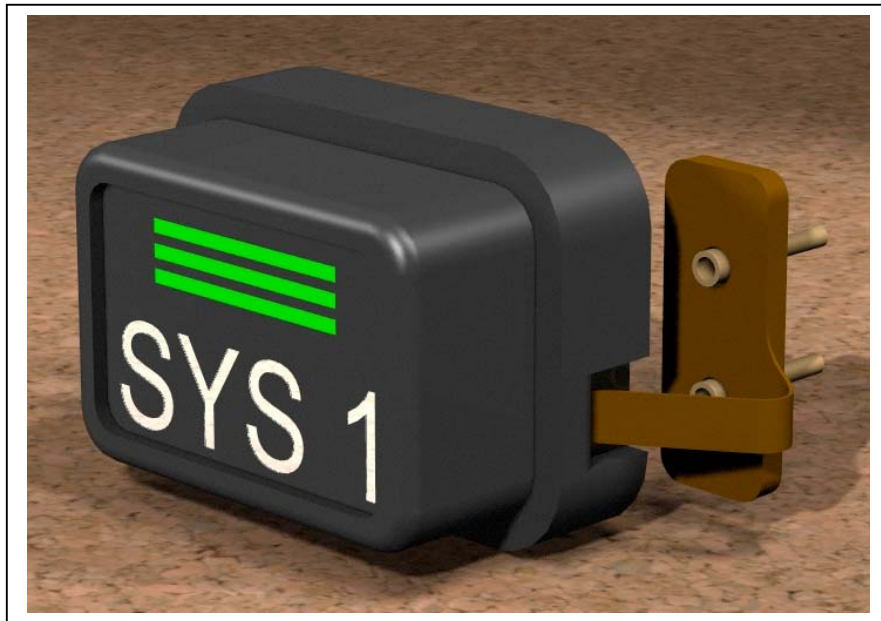
About IDD Aerospace

IDD Aerospace is in the Aircraft Systems Division of the Zodiac Group. The company is located in Redmond, WA and is a leading provider of illuminated light panels, control panels assemblies and keyboards for aircraft flight decks to customers worldwide. More information on IDD Aerospace can be found at www.iddaerospacecorp.com.

About Astro-Med Inc.

Astro-Med, Inc. is a leading manufacturer of color label printing systems, Life Sciences Instrumentation, and specialty data acquisition systems for cross-industrial, inter-global applications. Founded in 1969 with a core technology in data recording, Astro-Med has grown by focusing its product development on emerging applications with a view to future market positioning. More information on Astro-Med can be found at www.astro-med.com.

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IDD Aerospace's new Flex Pushbutton which is half the size and half the cost of industry alternatives is shown here. [Contact IDD for digital image]