

Press Release

From the sensor technology to the joystick – a perfect matching Joystick-modular system to satisfy customer requirements

Korb, Germany, 2010-11-03

Metallux AG in Korb, Germany, a manufacturer of high quality electronic components and sensors, produces since 2006 high precision and reliable joysticks. An extensive modular (add on) system can react to the most different requirements from our customers. As an example Metallux manufactures joysticks for safety-remote control systems used in industrial applications.

Mechanics and sensor systems are developed and manufactured in house, leading to an optimal tuning of all components. The results are joysticks of high quality and reliability. The Metallux modular system is continually being expanded. A wide range of options enable the use in various branches and systems; very often custom specific solutions are required, be it mechanical or in the sensor system. Various platforms like type of assembly and sensor systems are available. One can for example combine digital variations with mechanical steps on one axle with analogue functions on the other joystick axle. Further possibilities are joystick variants with z-axes, cross gate, dead-man switch and USB-port.

The Metallux joysticks distinguish themselves through their precision and robustness. Their compact design permits a considerable weight reduction; an important factor in any industrial application. Design and construction engineers therefore have more design possibilities available to them.

A further advantage is the usage of materials which are chosen because of their compatibility. These are selected taken tribological characteristics into account. This results in grease and oil free operation of just about all Metallux joysticks. It also explains the high life durability of at least 5 million cycles.

In addition our joysticks are available in two sensor technologies. Majority of joysticks are based on conductive plastic or MetaPot sensor system technology. Conductive plastic technology has over the decades proved itself as reliable and very precise. The MetaPot technology, also produced by Metallux has proved itself extremely well. Further technologies like Hall are also utilised.

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Joystick – actual applications

Metallux AG can refer to a huge customer base out of the most diverse branches. One of our special strength is the ability to achieve solutions by working closely together with our end-customer.

A typical example is the use in safety remote control systems for industrial use. Cranes, hoisting platforms, stone crushing machines, extra heavy duty transporters and many more are reliably operated by Metallux-joysticks. Numerous applications are also found in the medical field.

One of the most renowned engine manufacturers in the boat and yacht industry is using our joystick as a "parking assistance". The Metallux joystick due to its outstanding haptic and tactile feedback was convincing. This delicate and sensitive maneuvering by a Metallux joystick was celebrated as world news in 2006. The boat can be moved parallel towards all directions and additionally, with the help of our joysticks 3rd axle (z-axis) turn around its own axis. Extraordinary demands are required for applications on boats. Extreme vibrations and vertical shocks must be endured. Every installation is different and is difficult to calculate. Through intensive and consistent co-operation with the customer did we develop the appropriate product. This perfect and comfortable to use joystick is utilizing the MetaPot membrane sensor technology.

Hermetically sealed sensors without any additional protection are operating in this joystick under saltwater condition. Protection is only provided for direct splash-water. The complicated procedure of encapsulation of the service panel is not necessary.

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Metallux, being the designer as well as the manufacturer is well suited to serve customers with low or high volume requirements.

Our joysticks are often used to operate on high value machinery and equipment as well as in passenger transport. Therefore quality will always have a high priority. Metallux AG was one of the first companies in Germany to be certified to ISO TS 1649.

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About Metallux:

Metallux AG is a high performance manufacturer of electronic components produced in thick film technology. The German company boasts a vast variety of services and offers next to their standard program of pressure-linear and rotative as well as foil sensors, high voltage and brake resistors, also customspecific solutions including customising potentiometers and joysticks. A strong customer orientation coupled with ideas and solutions makes for satisfied customers. Innovative products, a multitude of granted patents, long standing experience- numerous customers in the automotive industry, electrostatic-, medical- and industrial- electronic industries depend already for 24 years on the pioneering company Metallux.

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