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Supervised latching solenoid actuator for gaseous fire-suppression systems

TLX Technologies custom designs electromagnetic products for clients' unique fire-protection applications. Their cutting-edge designs include latching, on-off, high-speed, high-temperature, and proportional solenoids, as well as solenoid valves.

The supervised latching solenoid actuator is TLX Technologies' most popular fire-protection actuator and is one of the primary releasing devices used on gaseous extinguishing systems. This actuator is usually attached to the suppressant's discharge valve and electrically connected to the Fire Alarm Control Panel (FACP). When the actuator receives the suppressant release signal, it causes the discharge valve(s) to open and dispense the extinguishing agent.

The supervised latching solenoid actuator is designed with an internal supervisory feature that eliminates the need for an additional component or electrical connection. Without a supervisory signal, no alarm would be triggered if the electrical connection between the system control panel and the actuator was removed or left disconnected after routine system maintenance.

This lack of operability checks leaves the responsibility of proper re-installment after maintenance solely on the technician. Multiple cases have been reported of electric actuators being improperly installed by a technician and, in some instances, left physically unattached altogether. This improper installment means the system is unable to function, leaving the building unprotected from fires.

In addition, due to an often obstructed view between the mating surfaces of the components, any damage or nonconforming parts impeding the actuator could go undetected. Releasing devices also have lengthy intervals between periodic maintenance, allowing any dangerous issues to remain undetected. If the extinguishing system control panel cannot detect the position of the actuator or any changes to it, the building is again left unprotected from fires. This potential danger is what makes internal supervision so important.

Other features of this actuator include ultra-fast responses, rotation for easy installation, custom configuration, and the ability to be reset for future use. The actuator is offered in multiple sizes to accommodate different system operating pressures.

A pneumatic actuator is also available to provide a complete solution for fire suppression systems.

This actuator is a UL-recognized component and complies with NFPA 2001: Sec. 4.3.4.1.

For more information, go to www.tlxtech.com

AMKUS releases new tool line-up

AMKUS Rescue Systems has introduced a line of high-performance, battery-powered and twin-lined rescue tools. The cutters, spreaders and combi-tools are constructed from solid aluminum and are ready for service in the severe duties challenging first responders.

The new battery-powered ION tool's onboard pump system delivers amazingly fast performance under both loaded and unloaded conditions. The tools are compact to access tight spaces and require less room on apparatus. In addition, they utilise the DEWALT FLEXVOLT platform, so the affordable batteries can be shared with other fire-rescue tools like saws, lights, and drills. A full line of FLEXVOLT fire-rescue kits can be found at AMKUS.com or ShopAmkus.com.

Like the ION tools, the new AMKUS LINE tools bring superior operator safety and performance to a family of tools long recognized as versatile and reliable. The all-metal bodies include ergonomic operator controls and the ability to reposition the tool at any time with minimal effort.

According to Kyle Smith, AMKUS President, 'What really sets these tools apart, both ION and LINE, is their ability to deliver reliable performance in real world extrication scenarios. They're powerful, quick, and versatile.'

For more information, go to www.amkus.com