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Tech Tips



The Advantages of Wireless

In today's market one of the fastest growing areas in electronics. Many people do not realize the benefits of wireless. In this article, I am focusing on RF (Radio Frequency) transmitters and receivers. Many times it is more cost efficient to go wireless, especially in existing construction. When you balance the inexpensive cost of RF products against just the labor savings, RF usually wins. This does not include all the added benefits wireless offers.

A common example is installing a strike, keypad and a button under a desk. The strike and keypad would be installed in the usual manor. Typically you use a 24VDC power supply to run both the strike and the keypad and everything is usually within 50 feet of the door. In the past you would run a set of wires to the desk and install a doorbell type button.

If you are very lucky the wire run for the desk is an easy run. Many times this is not the case. It is not uncommon for the desk to be in a location that the wire run is a challenge and time consuming. Here is where wireless benefits shine. All you need to do is buy a Camden CMRX7TD receiver. This receiver uses the auto-learn technology eliminating dipswitches. You can use the same power supply you have in place, because this receiver runs on 24VDC/AC and is commonly mounted on the front door of the power supply. The other piece you need is a transmitter. I recommend the Camden CMTX1 transmitter. This transmitter is the size of a small garage door opener and is generally mounted under the desk with double stick Velcro. The transmitter has about 150 ft range in a typical office application.

The CMRX7TD has an approximate dealer cost of \$60.00 as of 2/1/2009 and the CMTX1 has an approximate dealer cost of \$20.00 as of 2/1/2009, for a total of \$80.00. This is often less than the labor cost by its for the hard wired button. There are many hidden benefits in wireless, which you can promote to the end user. You can easily move the existing transmitter to another desk. The receiver will accept up to 10 transmitters allowing additional buttons to be added later. The additional transmitters are not limited to the garage door style. Many people buy a FOB that attaches to their key chain and let them selves in. Security is not a big concern since there are over 1,000,000 available transmitter codes. The receiver has a built-in 30 second timer allowing you to set the length of time the strike will be open eliminating the person allowing entry having to hold the button until the door is opened.

In this basic installation you are not limited to a strike, you can do the same thing to a magnetic lock, electrified lock or almost any electronic locking devices. The same basic principal is used when installing a handicap opener. We offer the CMRFP404, which is a complete wireless kit that works with almost every handicap opener on the market.