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For more information, contact:

Yoshiyuki Satou (NKK Switches)..... 81 44 813 8008

NKK SWITCHES ANNOUNCES RGB LED ILLUMINATED PUSHBUTTONS

KP Series features unlimited vibrant color combinations



Kawasaki, JAPAN. (Sept. 7, 2012) – NKK Switches, the world’s leading designer and manufacturer of innovative electromechanical switches, today announced the availability of the KP Series of illuminated miniature pushbutton switches. This series provides design engineers with an array of options that enhance and complete front panels needing an innovative and modern look and feel.

The KP Series devices are available with built-in RGB LED illumination. This option allows engineers to utilize the full color spectrum to create unlimited color combinations. An additional illumination option is Super Bright red/green built-in LEDs which can be combined to produce amber. In both configurations, the switches’ unique design ensures that illumination is evenly diffused throughout.

The series’ square caps have a clear lens with a white diffuser and are offered in flat, sculptured or home key styles, and in three common sizes of 17.4mm, 15mm and 12mm further enabling design flexibility. A rectangular switch cap shape can also be specified. To facilitate adding legends, caps are constructed to accommodate laser etching and film inserts. Custom legends and additional value added assemblies are available upon request from NKK Switches.

KP Series pushbuttons can also be specified with tactile or non tactile with silent actuation or with tactile and audible feedback. In all arrangements, a unique actuation guide gives positive indication of circuit transfer.

Engineers can also choose between two stroke travel and actuation force combinations. The shorter stroke option has a total travel of 3.5mm, with a pretravel of 2.3mm,

overtravel of 1.2mm and an actuation force of 1.6N. The longer stroke option has a total travel of 4.5mm, with a pretravel of 3.1mm, an overtravel of 1.4mm and an actuation force of 1.9N.

The KP Series' compact design is just 23.0mm in height from the PC board to the top of the cap. This is the same height as the IS Series programmable SmartSwitch™. These devices also feature specially designed snap in standoffs for simple and secure PC board mounting and alignment.

Rated at 100mA maximum @ 12V DC, the KP pushbuttons have twin contacts with gold plating to assure high reliability. Epoxy sealed terminals, which feature standard PC board spacing of 2.54mm, lock out flux, dust and other contaminants. All of this results in a lifetime of 5 million operations minimum; which is the longest expected lifetime of any comparable product.

Applications for KP Series illuminated pushbuttons include instruments, control panels and custom keyboards in the medical, test, industrial, aerospace, military, security, and broadcast industries.

A leading designer and producer of electromechanical switches, NKK Switches offers one of the industry's most extensive selections of illuminated, process sealed, miniature, specialty, surface mount and programmable switches. NKK manufactures more than 3.5 million toggle, rocker, pushbutton, slide, rotary, DIP rotary, keypad and keylock switches, each of which can be used as the foundation of a customized design. All switches are designed and manufactured to provide the quality and dependability that has made NKK the benchmark for reliability for over half a century.

NKK continues to lead the industry in responding to the needs of the marketplace with innovation, high reliability, customization and a commitment to excellence. The company provides a full suite of customization solutions that include: design, programming, printing and support. Downloadable 3D CAD models of the company's switches are available, allowing design engineers to quickly integrate complex models into their designs at no charge. NKK maintains a complete network of qualified representatives and distributors through the United States, Canada, Central and South America, Europe and Asia.

Engineers who design the human-machine interface for their products rely on the broad product line, specialized design expertise and customer support of NKK Switches. For more information, contact NKK Switches, 715-1, Unane, Takatsu-ku, Kawasaki, 213-8553, Japan. Phone: 81 44 813 8008. Fax: 81 44 813 8038. Visit the NKK Web site at www.nkk.com.

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