

Reed Switch Mechanical Requirements



Reed Switch Application Notes

APPLICATION NOTES: Reed Switch Mechanical Requirements

Several mechanical requirement factors should be taken into consideration when choosing or working with a reed switch.

Physical Strength Glass-to-Lead Diameter

HSI Sensing has found that a reed switch is strongest when the glass diameter and switch lead diameter have a ratio of at least 5-to-1. Glass-to-lead diameter ratio should be taken into consideration when choosing a switch or when modifying reed switches. Contact HSI Sensing for assistance in selecting the best reed switch for your application.

Reed Switch Gap Location

Reed switches have two types of gap locations:

Center Gap

- More resistant to shock and vibration than an offset gap
- Typically wider in differential between Pull-in and Drop-out

Offset Gap

- More susceptible to shock and vibration than a center gap
- Typically used in end on sensor application (e.g. tubular proximity sensors)
- Typically has a shorter glass length
- Typically closer in differential between Pull-in and Drop-out

Blade Orientation

The orientation of a reed switch's internal components is designed to minimize the effects of shock and/or vibration in a particular direction. Contact HSI Sensing for more information on recommended blade orientation.