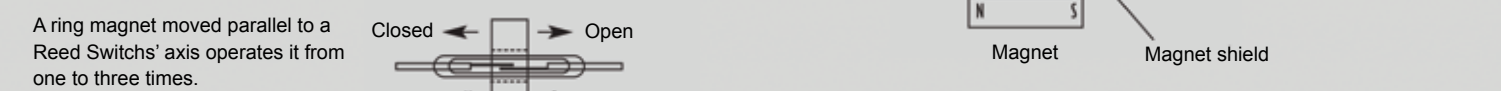
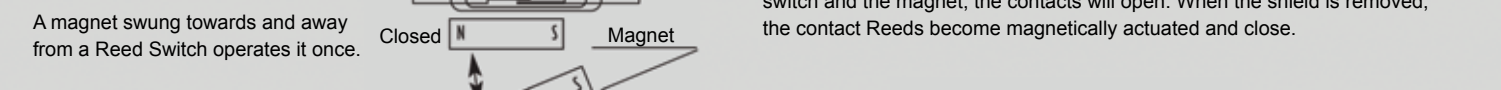
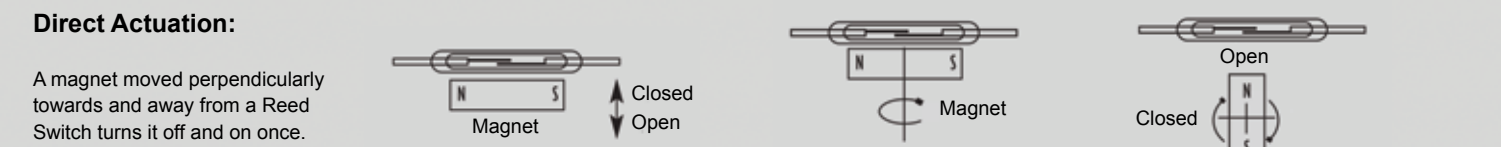
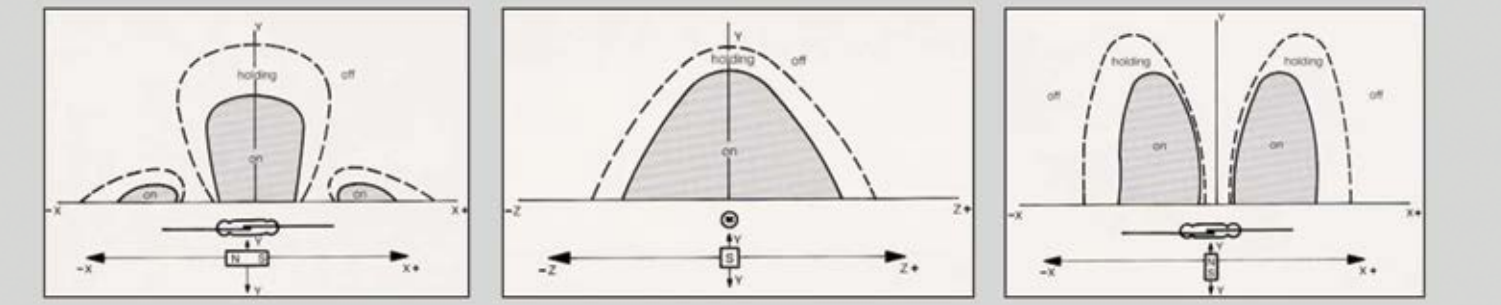
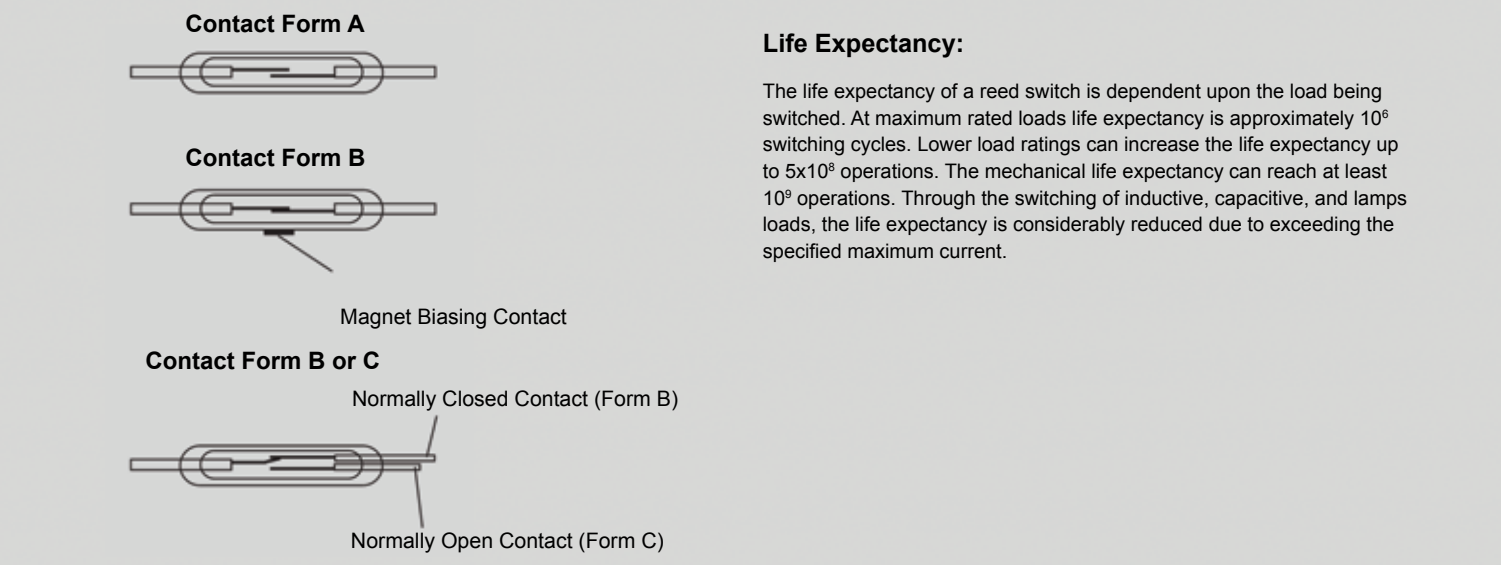




Actuation of Reed Switches with a Permanent Magnet
(Examples of switching with the use of a moving magnet.)



In General:
For all Reed Switches the standard pull-in sensitivity is given in the table. Other pull-in sensitivities are available on request.



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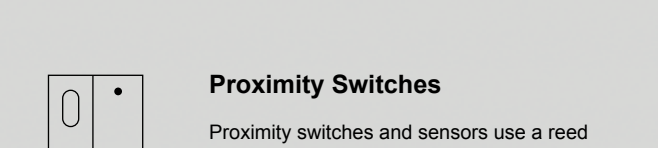
The Comus International product groups:

Gunther / Comus Reed Switches

A reed switch consists of two or three ferromagnetic and specially shaped contact blades (reeds). They are positioned in a hermetically sealed glass tube in a protective atmosphere. The plated contact surfaces are isolated from the outside environment, which protects the contacts from contamination. Reed switches are available as form A (normally open) and form C (changeover) in standard lengths, customer specific modifications or SMD versions.

Indirect Actuation: Shielding

With the stationary arrangement of a Reed Switch and magnet, the contact Reeds are closed. Should the magnetic field be diverted away from the Reed Switch by a shield of ferromagnetic material placed between the switch and the magnet, the contacts will open. When the shield is removed, the contact Reeds become magnetically actuated and close.



Pull-in Sensitivity:

The given pull-in sensitivity of the Reed Switch has a test equipment tolerance of ± 2 AT.

Life Expectancy:

The life expectancy of a reed switch is dependent upon the load being switched. At maximum rated loads life expectancy is approximately 10⁶ switching cycles. Lower load ratings can increase the life expectancy up to 5x10⁷ operations. The mechanical life expectancy can reach at least 10⁷ operations. Through the switching of inductive, capacitive, and lamps loads, the life expectancy is considerably reduced due to exceeding the specified maximum current.

Solid State Relays

A SSR is a semiconductor device that can be used in place of a mechanical relay to switch electricity to a load in many applications. Solid state relays are purely electronic. SSRs typically feature electrical isolation to several thousand volts between the control and load sides. Because of this isolation, the load side of the relay is actually powered by the switched line; both line voltage and a load (not to mention a control signal) must be present for the relay to operate.

Smart Sensors

When customers need a bit more than the standard product offering from Comus we turn to our Smart Sensor line as a possible solution. A Smart sensor utilizes multiple sensing technologies and processing techniques in a package uniquely tailored for various environments giving our customers a turnkey package solution that will transmit more information than using independent sensors. These packages typically comprise of one or more existing Comus sensing technology types. Smart Sensors can be designed to detect angle, shock, magnetic field or ferrous metal, acceleration and g-force.

Float Switches

These switches are used to monitor liquid levels by opening or closing when a desired action point is reached. A variety of types are available using mercury and non-mercury tilt switches and, also, permanent magnets and reed switches.

Tilt & Tip-Over Switches

Tilt switches are used to sense movement (tilt) of a device above and below a horizontal axis. The angle through which the switch must move for proper operation (the differential angle) is measured from the point of just make to just break; it is specified as a maximum in our datasheets. Tip-over switches sense tilt over 360° of a vertical axis. A tip-over switch uses operating angle to describe the angle from vertical to the point of contact operation, subject to a tolerance, i.e. 45° ± 10° (35° to 55°). Both normally closed (tilt to open) and normally open (tilt to close) switches are available as are omnidirectional and one plane only versions.

Alarm & Security Switches

Alarm and security switches are cost effective with high quality and are especially made for security purposes. They come with an extensive product range that includes; recessed cylindrical contact switches, robust aluminum switches, adjustable plunger switches and tamper proof draw switches. Both switches and magnets are available separately.

The Comus International group of companies consists of:

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We also have a large network of worldwide agents. These can be seen on any of our website.



REED SWITCHES
From the Comus Group of Companies

OUR MISSION STATEMENT

At Comus we take pride in being renowned in the industry as a leader in providing the very best in service to our clients. Our lasting commitment is to meet the ever changing necessities of our customers and the markets they serve; to continually improve our processes and our products. To pioneer developments and sensors that use less power while never sacrificing quality or function. To expand our product knowledge and diversification so that we may continue our mission of "Sensing the world's needs."
- President & CEO Robert P Romano

ABOUT COMUS

Comus International was founded in June 1978 by our President and CEO, Robert P. Romano. Comus International started out as a manufacturer of glass mercury tilt-switches for residential and commercial thermostats. Immediate success and rapid growth led to new product development and soon the metal mercury switch and, ultimately, the patented non-mercury switch were designed and offered to the market which led to further success. Today, Comus International is a leading manufacturer of tilt and tip-over switches, motion/vibration sensors, reed switches, reed relays, solid state relays, proximity sensors, float switches and a wide variety of custom turnkey sensors. Success of our product growth and offering has been built with an excellent reputation for quality and service.

Comus has evolved into a world leader in the design, development and manufacture of a wide variety of sensors and sensor-related products. Applications are found in such diverse market segments as medical, automotive, white goods, alarm and security, and military/aerospace.

Our success through the past several decades is a combination of continual organic and acquisition growth, leading to the formation of the Comus Group of companies. Divisions include the following:

- Comus Europe and Active Switch and Sensor in Essex – England.
- Comus International BVBA in Belgium.
- Comus Technology B.V. in The Netherlands.
- STG India and Comus India.
- Computer Components Inc. in the United States.

The Comus Group of Companies is now one of the largest manufacturers in the sensor industry.

DESCRIPTION

Reed Switches consist of two or three ferromagnetic blades (or reeds) hermetically sealed inside a glass envelope. The construction ensures protection from the external environment. Three types are available: Form A (normally open), Form B (normally closed), and Form C (changeover). Form B reed switches are obtained by two methods: By using normally closed blade of a Form C switch, or, by using a Form A switch, and biasing the contacts closed using a small block magnet. The switch is then able to re-open by the use of another stronger external magnet of opposite polarity. Sensitivity of a reed switch is measured in ampere turns (A.T.) and it should be noted that lower switch (A.T.) ratings are more sensitive as they require less magnetic field strength to operate them. Various voltage and current switching levels are available and contact plating materials can be varied to accommodate specific types of load.

OPERATION

Reed Switches are operated by a magnetic field, via a magnet or a current carrying coil. When the field is removed the switch reverts to its previous state. Operation by a magnet can be achieved in a large variety of ways, either moving the magnet toward and away from the reed either perpendicularly, or parallel to the glass. Reed Switches are used in a variety of Comus Group products including Proximity Switches, Float Switches and Reed Relays. They are now available in housed packages affording protection from damage and Surface Mount styles.

CONTACT PROTECTION

Inductive Loads
A reverse voltage is generated by stored energy in an inductive load when the reed contacts open. This voltage can reach very high levels and is capable of damaging the contacts. An RC network may be used as shown below to give protection.

Capacitive Loads

Unlike inductive loads, capacitive and lamp loads are prone to high inrush currents which can lead to faulty operation and even contact welding. When switching charged capacitors (including cable capacitance) a sudden unloading can occur; the intensity of which is determined by the capacity and length of the connecting leads to the switch. This inrush peak can be reduced by a series of resistors. The value is dependent on the particular application but should be as high as possible to ensure that the inrush current is within the allowable limits.

Lamp Loads

With lamp load applications it is important to note that cold lamp filaments have a resistance 10 times smaller than already glowing filaments. This means that when being turned on, the lamp filament experiences a current flow 10 times greater than when already glowing. This high inrush current can be reduced to an acceptable level through the use of a series of current-limiting resistors. Another possibility is the parallel switching of the resistor across the switch. This allows just enough current to flow to the filament to keep it warm, yet not enough to make it glow.

Cutting and Bending:

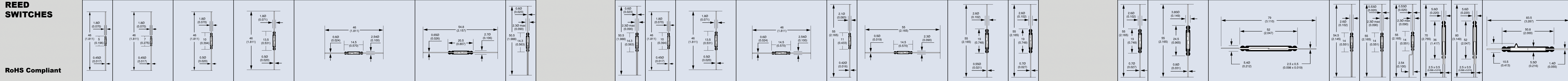
As the Reed Switch blades are part of the magnetic circuit of a Reed Switch shortening the leads results in increased pull-in and drop-out values.

The above diagram illustrates a resistor/capacitor network for protecting a Reed Switch against high inrush currents. R₁ and/or R₂ are used depending upon circuit conditions.

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REED SWITCHES

RoHS Compliant



Series RI-80 to RI-90																Series GC2522 to GC6517																		
Series	mm (in)															Series	mm (in)																	
Glass Length	5.0 (0.196) to 14.3 (0.563)															14.3 (0.563) to 50.8 (2.000)																		
Contact Form	A to C															C to A																		
Contact Material	Sputtered Ru to Ru															Ru to W																		
Switching Power	5 WVA to 70 WVA															10 WVA to 10000 WVA																		
Switching Voltage	175 VDC/AC to 175 VDC/AC															175 VDC/AC to 1500 VDC/AC																		
Switching Current	0.35 A to 1.0 A															0.2 A to 3.0 A																		
Carry Current	0.5 A to 1.75 A															0.5 A to 3.0 A																		
Breakdown Voltage	230 VDC to 1000 VDC															200 VDC to 3000 VDC																		
Contact Resistance	160 mOhms to 140 mOhms															140 mOhms to 100 mOhms																		
Insulation Resistance	10 ¹² Ohms to 10 ⁹ Ohms															10 ¹¹ Ohms to 10 ¹² Ohms																		
Pull-in Sensitivity	5 - 15 AT to 15 - 30 AT															15 - 30 AT to 120 - 200 AT																		
Drop-out Sensitivity	2 - 13 AT to 5 Min.															5 Min. to 20 Min.																		
Operate Time	0.35 ms to 1.0 ms															1.0 ms to 3.5 ms																		
Bounce Time	0.1 ms to 1.5 ms															1.5 ms to 0.6 ms																		
Release Time	0.02 ms to 1.0 ms															0.1 ms to 1.5 ms																		
Resonant Frequency	21300 Hz to TBD															TBD to 2400 Hz																		
Operating Frequency	170 Hz to 100 Hz															100 Hz to 300 Hz																		
Vibration (10-1000 Hz)	10 g to -															35 g to 20 g																		
Shock (11 ms)	150 g to -															50 g to 50 g																		
Capacitance	0.45 pF to 0.8 pF															0.5 pF to 1.0 pF																		
Operating Temp. Range	-55 +125 °C to -55 +125 °C															-40 +125 °C to -55 +125 °C																		
Test Coil	PSC															1700 to 1500																		
Options / Features	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ideal for ATE Switching Superior Life Expectancy Custom Cut & Bend Ideal for ATE Switching SMD Version Available Custom Cut & Bend High Power Switching SMD Version Available Custom Cut & Bend Ideal for ATE Switching SMD Version Available Custom Cut & Bend Custom Cut & Bend Ideal for AC Line Voltage Custom Cut & Bend High Power Applications Custom Cut & Bend Close Differential Custom Cut & Bend High Voltage Applications Changeover Switch Custom Cut & Bend Ideal for ATE Switching Changeover Switch SMD Version Available Custom Cut & Bend General Purpose Close Differential Custom Cut & Bend General Purpose SMD Version Available Custom Cut & Bend General Purpose Close Differential Custom Cut & Bend General Purpose SMD Version Available Custom Cut & Bend Lowest Pull-in Sensitivity High Switching Speed High Breakdown Voltage Custom Cut & Bend Stable Low Contact Resistance Custom Cut & Bend High Voltage Switching High Breakdown Voltage Custom Cut & Bend High Breakdown Voltage High Switching Voltage Custom Cut & Bend High Switching Current High Breakdown Voltage Custom Cut & Bend Economical Changeover Switch Custom Cut & Bend High Power Changeover Switch Custom Cut & Bend High Breakdown Voltage Custom Cut & Bend Custom Cut & Bend High Switching Current High Breakdown Voltage Vacuum Technology 																																	