Sensors and Interface Cards

HERON

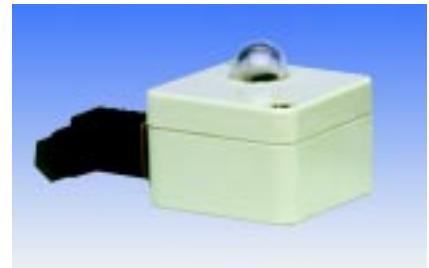*Enhancing the power of your MCI controller*

Rain Sensor

- Essential accessory for outdoor irrigation.
- The rain sensor allows irrigation times to be automatically reduced depending on the rainfall over the last few days.
- The total rainfall over a one, two, three or four day period can be measured.
- Two thresholds can be specified to trigger a reduction in irrigation schedules.
- You can select which irrigation programs are effected by the rain sensor.

Light Sensor

- Ideal for misting applications
- The Light Sensor allows you to control your irrigation depending on the integrated light energy or instantaneous light power
- Up to 4 light energy thresholds can be set on the controller to operate different beds at different frequencies.
- The controller displays light power and accumulated light energy.

Humidity and Temperature Sensor

The Heron Humidity sensor allows the irrigation to be controlled on Relative Humidity. The sensor will read from to 5% to 100% Relative Humidity.

The Heron Temperature sensor allows the irrigation to be controlled based on temperature. The sensor will read from 0 to 50 degrees C.

Both sensors allow the irrigation to be either **initiated** or **suspended** depending upon whether the sensor level is above or below the trip point.

Connecting Sensors to Your MCI controller

The rain sensor connects directly to the existing remote start input on your MCI controller. The Light Sensor, Humidity Sensor and Temperature Sensor connect to the Single Analogue Interface card or to the Multi Function Interface card. Power for the sensor is provided from the card.

Multi-Function Interface Card

The Heron Multi-Function interface card enables you to simply and neatly connect multiple sensors, switches, etc. to your MCI Irrigation controller. The card plugs into the 10 pin socket on your MCI controller.

The card provides:-

Two Analogue Inputs

The analogue inputs allow Heron sensors or other analogue sensors to be connected to your MCI controller. The inputs accept a 0-5 V analogue level. Irrigation can either be **initiated** or **suspended** depending upon whether the analogue level is above or below the trip point.

One Flow Sensor Input

The flow sensor input allows either **pulse** or **paddle wheel** type flow meters to be connected to your MCI controller. Flow meters connect directly with no additional electronics. With a flow meter connected you can validate the flow on each irrigation valve. If the flow goes out of range the controller will alarm. You can also log the flow and volume of water used to a PC running Heron Ground Control software.

One Dosing Controller Connection

The dosing controller connection allows a Heron MPD dosing controller to be connected to your MCI controller. With a dosing controller connected different dosing recipes can be activated with differing irrigation programs.

Six Switched Inputs

The switched inputs provide four Program Starts, one Remote Stop and one Remote Manual Advance. The inputs accept a simple open/close switched contact.

One Alarm Output

The alarm output will activate when the controller has a fault or an alarm condition. The alarm output will drive a Heron Sensitive Relay (Order code REL1K).

Three Additional Outputs

The three additional outputs are activated by programs 2, 3 and 4 respectively. For example, these outputs can be used to control mechanical fertilizer injectors. The outputs will drive a Heron Sensitive Relay (order code REL1K).

Ordering: The Alarm Output and Six Switched input are standard with basic card, order code MFINT-D. Then simply add other options as required. For example, if you need a Flow Sensor interface order MFINT-D with MF-Flow option.

Single Analogue Interface Card

Where just one analogue sensor is to be connected the Single Analogue interface can be used. This card plugs into the 10 pin socket on your MCI Irrigation Controller.

Remote Start Expansion Card

Where extra switched inputs are required the remote start expansion card can be used. The card has six inputs that accept a open/close switch contact. The six inputs give four Program starts, one Remote Stop and one Manual Advance. This card plugs into the 10 pin socket on your MCI Irrigation Controller.

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