# **Application Alley**

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## **Telecomm - Reed Relays**

### Portable Radio Communication Equipment Use Reed Relays



Custom Engineered Solutions for Tomorrow

#### Introduction

Portable military radios typically operate between 3 MHz and 30 MHz. These frequencies are relatively low by today's standards when compared to the telephone bands in the 1 GHz to 4 GHz range. However, even as low as 30 MHz the signals will 'ride' on the outside of their conductor (skin effect). When switching between transmit and receive, reed relays have become the design-in choice, because they are hermetically sealed and packaged in a rugged epoxy, making them a good choice for the outdoor environment. Standex-Meder uses copper plated reed switches to minimize skin effect.

#### Dimensions (mm)

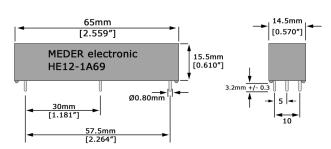


Figure 1. HE physical layout

#### AnyPortable Military Radios Use Reed Relays For Transmitting and Receiving

When it comes to portable radio communication equipment, all the components making up the radio, must be able to withstand the rigors of the outside environment. Whether this means dirty dusty, moist environments, or cold/hot rainy/ snowy conditions under a wide temperature range. The reed relay being hermetically sealed and then encapsulated in a rugged over-molded epoxy, meets the above conditions in a reliable manner when transmitting or receiving radio frequencies between 3 MHz to 30 MHz.

#### **Features**

High reliability

- Ideal RF characteristics
- Ideal for carrying fast digital pulses with skew rates less than 20 picoseconds.
- Ability to carry RF signals from DC up to 20 GHz (SRF)
- Switch to shield capacitance < 0.5 picofarads
- Dielectric strength across the contacts 200 volts
- Dielectric strength switch to coil 1000 Volts min.
- Contacts dynamically tested

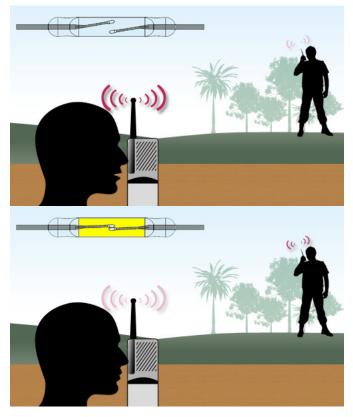


Figure 2. Reed Switch transmits RF signal in RF Receivers

#### **Applications**

- Ideal for switching high frequency matrices in medical applications
- Any applications where frequencies and/or fast digital pulses up to 20 GHz are involved.



Frequencies one MHz and above will travel on the outer wall of their conductor. Since the basic operation of reed switches requires the use of nickel/iron leads that have a high  $\mu$  value, they will greatly impede the RF traveling on its outer surface. To get around this, Standex-Meder uses a copper plated reed switch. To meet the high current conditions of 6 amps or more when in the transmit mode, the highly conductive layer of copper solves the problem. Not only does it give a low stable contact resistance, but it prevents any internal heat build-up and allows for continuous transmission with a 100% duty cycle.

Specifications (@ 20°C) HE Series						
	Min	Тур	Max	Units		
Coil characteristics						
Coil resistance	45	50	55	Ω		
Coil voltage		5.0		V		
Pull-In			3.5	V		
Drop-Out	0.85			V		
Switch characteristics						
Contact rating			100	Watts		
Switching voltage			7500	V		
Switching current			3.0	Amps		
Carry current			6.0	Amps		
Carry current max. for 5ms			10.0	Amps		
Static contact resistance			150	mΩ		
Dynamic contact resistance			200	mΩ		
Dielectric from voltage across the contacts	10,000			V		
Dielectric voltage between contacts and coil	10,000			V		
Operate time			3.0	msec		
Release time			1.5	msec		
Operate temp	-20		70	O°		
Storage temp	-30		100	O° (		
*Coil parameters will vary by 0.2% /oC						

Standex-Meder's HE Series was designed for this very requirement. This series can carry these power requirements for years of satisfactory usage for the life time of the radio communication equipment. To meet the high voltage standoff of 10,000 volts the reed switch is hermetically sealed in a vacuum. The HE along with its sister HM series together offer many options concerning packaging, pins outs, use of high insulation resistance wire, and multiple switches in the same package. Also, these series offer the relays in a normally closed contact configuration as well. The patented HF series uses an encapsulated electrostatic and magnetic shield making it an ideal choice for these RF applications.

The reed relay is an excellent choice because it can operate reliably over a wide temperature range, and represents an economical way to carry out billions of switching operations.

ŀ	ligh Vo	ltage / C	urrent R	eed Relay Series	
	Dimer	nstions	in the s	Wester Co.	
Series		mm	inches	Illustration	
HE	W	14.5	0.570		
	L	15.5	0.610	and the second	
	Н	65.0	2.559		
HF	W	19.0	0.748	A Y	
	L	20.0	0.787		
	Н	53.7	2.114		
HM	W	19.0	0.748	a <sup>18</sup> -	
	L	19.8	0.780	and state	
	Н	68.00	2.677		

Find out more about our ability to propel your business with our products by visiting www.standexmeder.com or by giving us a hello@standexelectronics.com today! One of our brilliant engineers or solution selling sales leaders will listen to you immediately.



#### **About Standex-Meder Electronics**

Standex-Meder Electronics is a worldwide market leader in the design, development and manufacture of standard and custom electro-magnetic components, including magnetics products and reed switch-based solutions.

Our magnetic offerings include planar, Rogowski, current, and low- and high-frequency transformers and inductors. Our reed switch-based solutions include Meder, Standex and OKI brand reed switches, as well as a complete portfolio of reed relays, and a comprehensive array of fluid level, proximity, motion, water flow, HVAC condensate, hydraulic pressure differential, capacitive, conductive and inductive sensors.

We offer engineered product solutions for a broad spectrum of product applications in the automotive, medical, test and measurement, military and aerospace, as well as appliance and general industrial markets.

Standex-Meder Electronics has a commitment to absolute customer satisfaction and customer-driven innovation, with a global organization that offers sales support, engineering capabilities, and technical resources worldwide.

Headquartered in Cincinnati, Ohio, USA, Standex-Meder Electronics has eight manufacturing facilities in six countries, located in the United States, Germany, China, Mexico, the United Kingdom, and Canada.

For more information on Standex-Meder Electronics, please visitus on the web at www.standexmeder.com.

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