

PRESS RELEASE

Command and signalling devices with hygiene and clean-room certifications

Designed for hygiene sensitive areas of application: The N - program

Visit Schmersal from 4 to 10 May 2017 at interpack in Dusseldorf, **Germany, Hall 18, Stand D09.**

Wuppertal / Düsseldorf, 4 Mai 2017. Schmersal presents the latest safety technology for the food industry at interpack 2017. This includes the new hygienic NK cross switches which have a unique non-contact switching system. This new generation of cross switches is characterized by simple fitting using a central nut fixing. The electrical connection is via a standard M12 connection which guarantees simple, error-free installation. This new development has a variety of uses: because of their hygiene-compliant design, the NK cross switches are perfect for the food processing industry. The cross switches for the food industry use blue sealing material so that they can be identified as foreign bodies by optical systems in the event of a device error.

The command and control devices of the N - program from Schmersal were tested for their suitability for hygienic applications by the Testing and Certifying Body for Food and Packaging of the DGUV (German Statutory Accident Insurance) and passed with flying colours. This is now documented once again in "black and white" with the DGUV test certificate. The tests showed that the operating device could be used in meat loading and processing machines without posing any hygiene risks.

In addition, the Fraunhofer Institute IPA has tested devices from the N - program with a view to their use in clean-room environments. The result: The command and signalling devices are suitable for use in production areas with the highest clean-room classification (air purity class 1 according to ISO 14644-1). The qualification certificate is also a recommendation for use in production environments of sterile preparations up to GMP Class C according to the EC GMP Guide, Annex 1.

The N - program was developed specifically for the food industry and other hygiene sensitive applications. The product range consists of a large portfolio of command and signalling devices, also a variety of accessories (emergency stop palm buttons, mushroom emergency push buttons, push buttons, illuminated push buttons and indicator lights, selector switches and main switches, etc.), all of which fulfil the principles of "Hygienic Design". This means the operating devices are designed so that no contamination can settle; as their geometry has no corners and edges, which allows them to be cleaned easily. Even with regular cleaning using a steam cleaner or high pressure cleaner there is still a considerable service life.

All operating devices of the N - program also meet the requirements of protection type IP 69 K.

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The Schmersal Group

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The company was founded in 1945 and is represented by seven manufacturing sites on three continents with its own subsidiaries and sales partners in more than 60 nations. The Schmersal Group employs 1,750 people and generated a group turnover in 2016 of approximately € 215 million.

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