Megayacht HMI Systems
Provide Functionality and Aesthetic Appeal

Company Profile

Customer name: Palladium Technologies
Industry name: Marine/Megayachts
EAO Series: Series 04, Series 70, Series 84
Application: Monitoring and Control for Yachts

Business Challenge
Palladium Technologies creates sophisticated, eye-catching monitoring and control systems for large yachts – megayachts. These luxury vessels typically range from 84 feet to 150 feet and require control systems that encompass all aspects of megayacht management, including Internet access, monitoring and alarm systems, security systems, and entertainment systems throughout the yacht.

“The first thing we look at,” explained Mike Blake, Palladium’s President, “is aesthetics. Unlike industrial control equipment, for example, our systems need to make a statement. Technical capabilities and flexible configuration are important, but at first blush, we want them to look great.”

Palladium has several world class yacht monitoring and control product lines: SiMON®, SiMON²®, Titan, and Apollo.

SiMON is the flagship product, an integrated and complete monitoring and control system that interfaces with the ship’s critical equipment including engines, generators, bilge, tanks, batteries, AC electric, doors, and more. SiMON has been extended for use with iPhones, iTouch, and iPad devices to deliver complete remote control.

Titan is a product of Palladium’s Electrical Division and controls the main AC and DC switchboards, emergency switchboards, motor control center, power distribution panels, and power frequency converters. Apollo is Palladium’s entertainment control system.

“We work on the bleeding-edge of electronics for all of our control systems,” Blake said. “We have key partnerships with companies who can help us meet our clients’ needs with new technologies. These technologies become very much a part of our toolbox.”
EAO – Your Expert Partner for Human Machine Interfaces

“Whether one of our systems is on the bridge or in the engine room, everything gleams,” added Blake. “That means that our HMI components and systems need to be highly functional and pleasing to the eye.”

Solution
EAO provides expertise in the human-machine interface (HMI). Control systems and switching components are designed to exacting ergonomic standards. The goal is to make the interaction between operator and machine safer, easier, more intuitive, and productive by understanding the unique needs of operators in various application situations.

EAO provides Palladium with the HMI Components they need for visual appeal, functionality, flexibility and reliability. EAO HMI Components are used in each of the Palladium product lines and include Series 04 snap action switches with one or two independent, self-cleaning contact systems. The Series 04 flush mount is ideal for Palladium’s control systems due to its modular component configurations and sleek appearance.

“I like the way they look and the fact that EAO is always coming up with enhancements. For example, we are looking at some new switches that have illumination and engraving for labeling,” Blake said.

According to Jose Antunes, of the electronics division for Palladium, EAO switches meet the functional requirements and provide the flexibility necessary to configure them in the custom configurations found on megayachts. “The flexibility is a key feature for me. With a wide selection of switch types and the ability to fit them into a custom configuration, I can meet the unique needs of each installation,” Antunes said.

Reliability is also important. “These ships can be 1,000 or more miles offshore. They count on the reliability of the systems,” said Blake. “It’s also important to us that EAO offers worldwide support for those cases where we might need a part in Europe or Asia.”

Results
By using EAO HMI components, Palladium can take advantage of the following benefits:
- At-a-glance status indication with highly visible switch functions;
- Sunlight-readable and/or illuminated switches for day and night use;
- High quality appearance with a wide choice of styles, materials, and colors;
- High reliability switching products to handle low to high current ratings;
- Reliable and durable operation that meets and exceeds international standards;
- Wide range of contact terminals, including solder, plug-in, PCB-mount, screw terminals, or ribbon cable;
- Shock and vibration protection, resistance to temperature extremes;
- HMI Components that allow Palladium to create modern, attractive custom control panels;
- Worldwide support and service.

“We look for partners that we can work with who keep us pushing the edge of technology for our customers and providing world-class support for world-class megayachts,” said Blake.

Palladium’s innovative monitoring and control systems continue to evolve – EAO has the advanced HMI Components to keep pace.