

# **MoldMonitor Setup Guide**



N8779 Hwy X Watertown, WI 53094, U.S.A.

# MoldMonitor Set-up Guide

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## Introduction

The MoldMonitor Control System consists of the MoldMonitor temperature controller, the mold temperature sensor and the StackValve electric water valve. The temperature sensor signals the temperature of the mold surface to the MoldMonitor. The MoldMonitor interprets and processes the signal and, based on the program of operation, will energize the StackValve allowing chilled water to flow to the zone.

## Using the MoldMonitor

**Operating Controls and Indicating Instruments** 

*Figure 1* lists the operating controls and the indicating instrumants on the MoldMonitor. Included in *Figure 1* are the front panel nomenclature, device type and function. *Careful study of each operating control and indicating instrument will increase operating efficiency*. The operating controls listed in *Figure 1* are set and used according to plant procedures and parameter set-up procedures. Page 13 & 14, in the appendix, list the different functions of the buttons when in differ-





## MoldMonitor Hook-up

- 1. Mount MoldMonitor(s) in an easily accessible location.
- 2. Install sensor(s) in tool (see sensor placement guide).
- 3. Mount StackValve(s) for easy plumbing to mold.
- 4. Connect mold sensor(s) to MoldMonitors' sensor connector located on the back of the MoldMonitor(s) **or** to the sensor connector located on the StackValve(s).
- 5. Connect valve connection cable(s) from StackValve(s) to MoldMonitors' V1 CONTROL VALVE output connector.

NOTE:Verify that corresponding sensor and valve connection cable are connected to the correct MoldMonitor and StackValve.

- 6. Connect valve connection cable(s) from corresponding V2 Flood Cooling StackValve (if applicable, Models DM/DA ONLY) to MoldMonitors' V2 VALVE output connector.
- 7. Connect RELAY output if desired.
- 8. Connect D9 connector communications if applicable (Model DA ONLY).
- 9. Connect power to unit; see unit legend on front panel for operating voltage specification.
- 10. Turn unit ON and verify that connection cables and sensors are connected to the cor responding MoldMonitor and StackValve for each zone.

## MoldMonitor Start-Up

Follow the instructions shown on *Figure 4* when starting the MoldMonitor.

NOTE: The ON/OFF switch is on the rear of the MoldMonitor control unit.

Set the mold temperature setpoint and the upper and lower limit alarms according to the mold process set-up sheet or guidelines. Ensure that the audio alarm is set (see *Figure 4*).

## Testing the MoldMonitor Alarms

### Make sure Audio Alarm is Enabled (see Figure 4).

Testing OVER Temp Alarm

Run Set point Temp DOWN below OVER Temp Alarm window; OVER Temp light should flash and 10 sec. later the audio alarm will sound.

Testing UNDER Temp Alarm

Run Set Point Temp UP above UNDER Temp Alarm window; UNDER Temp light should flash and 10 sec. later the audio alarm will sound.

Testing Sensor Alarms

Disconnect sensor from MoldMonitor; MoldMonitor display will read "EEE 4" and an audible alarm will sound immediately indicating OPEN Sensor condition.

With sensor disconnected from MoldMonitor, short sensor connector terminals together; MoldMonitor display will read "EEE 5" and an audible alarm will sound immediately indi cating SHORTED Sensor condition.

Start U	p Figure 4
MoldMonitor Start Up Routine: Start Up Set Point Temperature: To Rest: Reset Temperatures:	After a 7 second test routine, the sensor temperature will be displayed Push to read temperature $\bigwedge$ or $\bigtriangledown$ Push all 4 corner buttons at the same time. $\bigtriangledown$ $\bigtriangledown$ $\bigcirc$ $\bigcirc$ $\checkmark$ $\bigcirc$ Setpoint 100°F (38°C) Over Temperature 110°F (38°C) <i>Note: Will reset to program #1</i> Under Temperature 90°F (33°C)
Change Set Point: Over Temp Alarm Setpoint: Under Temp Alarm Setpoint: Over Temp Alarm: Under Temp Alarm:	Push and hold (5 sec.) To increaseImage: Constraint of the
Automatic Alarm Activation: Audio Alarm Disable: Activate Audio Alarm:	Audio will sound after 10 seconds. May be reset at anytime. Temperature must reach set point - This will "arm" the under temp. alarm. Push and - Both alarm lights will flash every 4 seconds. Push and - Both alarm lights will flash upon activation.
Program #1	<b>For Low Temperature Mold Applications</b> ; "ON" "OFF" Cooling. <i>To Activate</i> : Push <b>BOTH GREEN</b> buttons. Yellow display will show F/1, (C/1)
Program #2 🔬 🕅	<b>For Specialty Mold Applications Only</b> . Sensor must see an increase in mold temperature by at least 1°F and then a minimum 1°F decrease in mold temper ature for each <i>injection cycle</i> for program #2 to function properly. MoldMonitor will then sync onto the molding cycle and provide a cooling pulse as the melt is injected into the tool. <i>Do NOT use with hot runner tools</i> . <i>To Activate:</i> push <b>BOTH RED</b> buttons. Display will show F/2, (C/2).
Program #3 🔬 💱	<ul> <li>For Slow Cycles; 15 seconds or longer.</li> <li><i>To Activate:</i> push BOTH BLUE buttons. Display will show F/3, (C/3).</li> <li>For Weak Signal Input.</li> <li>If sensor is farther than.1", (2.5mm) from the molding surface.</li> <li>For Magnetic Sensor.</li> <li>Place as close as possible to molding surface.</li> </ul>
Program #4	<b>For Pulse Advance Cooling</b> . Use with external wet probe. <i>To Activate:</i> push <b>GREEN UP &amp; RED UP</b> buttons. Display will show F/4, (C/4).

## MoldMonitor Program Selection

#### Program #1

Program #1 was designed to accommodate low temperature mold applications with high cooling requirements. It would best be described as an "ON/OFF" controller.

*Operation Explanation*: When the mold temperature rises above the Set Point temperature the MoldMonitor will turn the valve "ON" until the temperature falls below the Set point temperature, at which time it will turn the valve "OFF".

#### Program #2

Program #2 was designed to accommodate special high temperature mold applications or applications requiring very low cooling quantities. Program #2 should be use cautiously as specific process param eters must be maintained for proper operation. The sensor must see an increase in the mold tempera ture by at least 1°F and then a minimum of 1°F decrease in mold temperature for each *injection cycle* for program #2 to function properly. MoldMonitor will then sync onto the molding cycle and provide a cooling pulse as the melt is injected into the tool. Program #2 *should not be used with hot runner tools* as the hot runner heat may trigger unnecessary cooling pulses.

*Operation Explanation:* When the melt is injected into the tool, the MoldMonitor studies the heat input and calculates the correct cooling pulse to counter the heat input. Upon the next shot it will deliver the calculated cooling pulse.

#### Program #3

Program #3 was designed to accommodate slow molding cycles or applications which generate weak signal inputs. A slow cycle can be categorized as a cycle longer than 15 seconds. A weak signal input be categorized as a signal from a sensor which is farther than .100" (2.5 mm) from the molding sur face or from a magnetic sensor. Program #3 compensates for the lag time involved in these molding cycles. It studies the heat input and updates the calculated cooling pulse every 10 seconds, thus fol lowing and compensating for the changing conditions.

*Operation Explanation:* Program #3 looks at the mold temperature every 10 seconds and increases the cool ing pulse if the temperature is above the set point or it will decrease the cooling pulse if temperature is below set point.

#### Program #4

Program #4 "Pulse Advance" was designed to accommodate tools unable to have sensors installed in the steel. It is used with external wet probes which provides a 1/10 of a second cooling pulse which allows the warmed-up coolant to flow pass the sensor, thus turning on the valve as long as the cooling temperature is above the set point.

# *Operation Explanation:* The sensor is installed in the outgoing water line for the zone. Every 10 seconds pro gram #4 delivers a 1/10 of a second cooling pulse which advances warmed-up water to the external sensor. When the water temperature is above the set point the valve is turned on until it falls below the set point.

## Production Runs Using MoldMonitor

Once set, the MoldMonitor will automatically adjust to compensate for changes in water temperature, water pressure and ambient temperature. This automatic self adjustment minimizes human interaction, production interruptions and assures consistant part quality. If there is a dramatic change in production parameter, MoldMonitor will alert personnel by its various alarm indicators. Quality control data can be obtained by utilizing the communications option found on the DA Model or through use of the relay output found on all versions. Additional process data may be obtained through the use of a three channel chart recorder.

•After MoldMonitor has been initially started up, verify that all cooling zones are functioning

properly.

•Set initial mold temperature set point using predetermined set-up value or material manufactures specifications and adjust as necessary.

•Preheat or eject part sooner than normal to bring mold up to quality molding temperature.

•Adjust setpoint temperature ad cure time for optimum part quality and cycle time.

•Observe molding cycle and lower over temperature alarm to minimum desired.

•Observe molding cycle and raise under temperature alarm to maximum desired.

•Step back and let MoldMonitor do the work!

## **Relay Output**

The MoldMonitor Relay Output can be used to perform a variety of tasks from quality control or machine shut down. MoldMonitor's Relay Output can be configured through a jumper setting to meet specific control requirements. Three setting choices are available by removing the left end cap and moving the jumper into the desired output position. The MoldMonitor comes shipped from the factory in the WITHIN LIMITS relay output mode.



## MoldMonitor Shutdown

Turn MoldMonitor power switch to OFF position, setpoint values and alarm limit values are automatically stored in nonvolatile memory and will reappear upon power up.

## **MoldMonitor Troubleshooting**

If the alarm sounds for overtemperature:



Do not turn up the setpoint just to silence the alarm. The alarm sounds to indicate a cooling problem. Increase the cooling time or shut down the job until the cooling problem can be determined. Turning up the setpoint to silence the alarm may result in defective finished parts.

- If the water is turned on, check to see if there is enough flow through the tool.
- Check water valve for proper operation and flow.
- Check to see if the cooling water is the correct temperature.
- If the actions above do not work, slow the cycle time of the tool down to allow more cure for adequate cooling.

time

## **Undertemperature Alarms**

If the alarm sounds for undertemperature:



Do not turn down the setpoint just to silence the alarm. The alarm sounds to indicate a cooling problem. Decrease the cooling time or shut the job down until the cooling problem can be determined. Turning down the setpoint to silence the alarm may result in defective finished parts.

• If the cycle has been interrupted; nozzle froze off, runner stuck in mold, one cavity froze off, etc. These conditions could indicate a drop in Btu input thus resulting in the activation of the alarm.

•Chiller water getting cold enough to trigger alarm setpoint (wet probe).

• If overcooling every few cycles check program mode of operation and change if necessary.



## Water Valve Test

Correct operation of the water valve is essential for proper operation of the MoldMonitor system. Therefore, follow these steps to assure that the value is operating correctly or find the "Valve Troubleshooting" section in the appendix.

- •Check V1 output fuse (see *Figure* 3 item #4).
- •Check to see if Valve LEDs are illuminated (if applicable).
- •Check Valve connection cable for proper operation and double check that it is hoked up to the correct MoldMonitor output.
- •Make sure that the flow is turned on to the valve and the return is open
- •Check for flow through the valve ahead of the tool.
- •Check for blockage or deadheaded cooling loops in the tool
- •Disassemble valve and clean

## MoldMonitor Quick Check

The MoldMonitor is a highly reliable electronic device which should require little or no routine maintenance. However, there are a few items which can be checked.

•Check power fuse (see *Figure 3* item #11)

•Depress calibration button (see Figure 3 item #5) display should read 77°F (25°C) + - 1°. •Check V1 output fuse (see *Figure 3* item #4).

# Appendix

MoldMonitor Keyboard Functions
Moldmonitor Equipment Connections
MoldMonitor Alarm Troubleshooting
Mold Sensor Troubleshooting
Valve Troubleshooting
StackValve Cross Sectional Drawing

















