

Basic Board Mount Pressure Sensors

ABP Series

High Accuracy, Digital or Analog Output, Compensated/Amplified
60 mbar to 10 bar | 6 kPa to 1 MPa |
1 psi to 150 psi

An Application Note

Background

The ABP Series are piezoresistive silicon pressure sensors offering a ratiometric analog or digital output for reading pressure over the specified full scale pressure span and temperature range. They are calibrated and temperature compensated for sensor offset, sensitivity, temperature effects and accuracy errors (which include non-linearity, repeatability and hysteresis) using an on-board Application Specific Integrated Circuit (ASIC). Calibrated output values for pressure are updated at approximately 1 kHz for analog and 2 kHz for digital. All products are designed and manufactured according to ISO 9001 standards.

- Dry gases option: The input port is limited to non-corrosive, non-ionic media (e.g., dry air, gases) and should not be exposed to condensation. The gases are limited to media compatible with high temperature polyamide, silicone, alumina ceramic, silicon, gold, and glass.
- Liquid media option: Includes an additional silicone-based gel coating to protect the electronics under port P1, which enables use with non-corrosive liquids (e.g. water and saline) and in applications where condensation can occur. Since port P2 is designed for use with non-corrosive liquids, this option is suitable for wet-wet differential sensing.

Solutions

POTENTIAL MEDICAL APPLICATIONS

Blood analyzers

Description: Blood analyzers using flow cytometry are used to examine microscopic cells and chromosomes by suspending them in a stream of fluid and passing them by an electronic detection apparatus to analyze their characteristics. Flow cytometry is typically used to diagnose health disorders, such as blood cancers, as well as in research and clinical practice.

Function in application: May be used to regulate the pressure in the pump system to draw and transport the blood samples.

Customer benefits: Designed to optimize system performance. The correct pressure ensures that the cells pass the laser measurement device in the system one cell at a time and in focus so that they may be detected correctly.

Blood pressure monitoring

Description: Blood pressure is measured by placing an inflatable cuff on the patient that restricts blood flow. A manometer is typically then used to measure the pressure which could be replaced by a pressure sensor to automate the reading and facilitate recording the patient's blood pressure measurement remotely so that multiple patients at the same time can be monitored by the medical staff.

Function in application: May be used to monitor the cuff pressure and detect the pulse.

Customer benefits: An accurate, compensated sensor is required to maintain accurate blood pressure readings. The sensor's small size helps to facilitate compact monitor design,

Hospital beds

Description: A hospital bed is designed to be adjustable for patient comfort, to provide accessibility by the physician and nursing staff and, in some cases, to allow for anti-bed sore features. The air mattress bed style is generally intended for long-term use by the patient.

Function in application: May be used to monitor the air pressure in the bed so that the desired firmness can be controlled. Additionally, by helping to facilitate alternating the pressure in the different zones of the mattress, the incidence of bedsores can be reduced. It has been found that by creating different zones in the bed and by alternating the pressure in the various zones, the pressure points experienced by the patient can be varied, which helps prevent bedsores in patients that use the bed for extended use.

Customer benefits: Designed to typically maintain proper level of pressure so that the firmness can be controlled regardless of the patient's weight. The proper control of the pressure improves patient comfort.

Massage machines

Description: A patient undergoing massage treatment or therapy may wear a cuff on an arm, leg or trunk of the body. Different sections of the baffles within the cuff will compress or relax during treatment. This is done to facilitate healing in muscle regeneration or to facilitate better blood circulation. This type of treatment is sometimes used in a hospital setting, for instance, where a cuff is worn around the leg to help leg circulation to prevent deep vein thrombosis.

Function in application: May be used to monitor the pressure in the baffles to help ensure proper inflation.

Customer benefits: Designed to provide a pressure reading that ensures enough compression is applied, helping to ensure proper therapy.

Oxygen concentrators

Description: An oxygen concentrator reduces the amount of nitrogen in the air, thereby increasing the oxygen level delivered to the patient. Oxygen concentrators are used with patients, such as those with lung disease, who have difficulty absorbing oxygen into the blood stream.

Function in application: May be used to monitor the pressure internally in the sieve bed so that the sieve bed can generate the required oxygen levels to the patient. Air is comprised mostly of nitrogen (78%) and approximately 21% oxygen. By removing the nitrogen from the air, the concentration of oxygen is significantly increased. There are two sieve beds with zeolite materials that are pressurized with air. By pressurizing the air, the zeolite sieve bed absorbs the nitrogen. The higher the pressure, the more nitrogen is absorbed by the bed, thereby providing a higher concentration of oxygen to the patient. May also be used to detect when the patient begins to inhale so that oxygen can then be delivered efficiently and effectively.

Customer benefits: Controlling the pressure in the sieve bed helps control the concentration of oxygen in the air for the patient. The use of a pressure sensor to monitor when the patient begins to inhale helps to enhance system response time and minimize wasting oxygen when the patient isn't inhaling. This allows the oxygen concentrator to be smaller and to operate more efficiently. Smaller equipment size also means lower power consumption, as well as greater portability.

Sleep apnea equipment

Description: Sleep apnea is the repeated cessation of breathing during sleep, sometimes hundreds of times during the night and often for a minute or longer. If left untreated, sleep apnea may cause high blood pressure, cardiovascular disease, memory, and weight problems. The resulting lack of restful sleep may also be responsible for job impairment and motor vehicle accidents. A main treatment option is the use of a Continuous Positive Airway Pressure (CPAP) machine. The patient wears a mask that uses pressure to send air flowing through the nasal passages so they don't collapse and cause breathing to cease. CPAP provides a constant pressure to the patient. This positive pressure keeps the throat from collapsing during sleep and allows the patient to breathe freely without worry of episodes of non-breathing.

Function in application: May be used to monitor the pressure of air that is delivered to the patient.

Customer benefits: Designed to enhance accuracy of pressure sensing and optimize airway pressure. Too little pressure and the airway may not stay open, defeating the purpose of the therapy. Too much pressure can cause user discomfort.

Urine analyzers

Description: Urine analysis uses flow cytometry to examine and count cells by separating them into individual cells, suspending them in a stream of fluid, and then passing them by an electronic detection apparatus in order to analyze their characteristics. Flow cytometry is often used to diagnose health disorders such as cancers and kidney stones.

Function in application: May be used to control the pressure in the fluid.

Customer benefits: Enhances test results by ensuring that accurate and repeatable pressure level is maintained. If too little pressure is applied, the resulting count can be too low because multiple cells are presented concurrently to the detection equipment. If the pressure is too high, the image can be distorted, the count could be affected, and cells could be misidentified.

Ventilators/portable ventilators

Description: A ventilator is designed to move a mixture of air and oxygen into and out of a patient's lungs to either assist in breathing or, in some cases, do the mechanical breathing for a patient who is breathing insufficiently or is physically unable to breathe.

Function in application: Designed to measure air and oxygen pressure so that the pressure may not exceed a desired level.

Customer benefits: Provides the appropriate amount of air/oxygen to the patient as directed by the physician, helping to ensure patient safety.

Wound therapy

Description: Wounds may be caused by burns, ulcers, surgery, accidents, or pressure sores (e.g., bedsores). Physicians use negative-pressure wound therapy (NPWT) to promote healing by creating controlled negative pressure over the wound.

Function in application: Used to monitor the pressure applied to the wound via the suction system.

Customer benefits: Designed to provide enhanced therapeutic effect without causing the patient harm.

POTENTIAL INDUSTRIAL APPLICATIONS

Air brakes

Description: Air brakes are generally used on heavy equipment, such as trucks. In these applications, due to safety concerns air is used in the braking system instead of hydraulics. If there is an air leak, the compressor and tank can resupply the required air so that when the brakes are engaged, that air is present to engage the drums or pads. If a hydraulic system were used, a leak could not readily be detected and corrected, which could result in the truck not having the required operational braking power to stop the vehicle or release the parking brakes.

Function in application: May be used to measure the pressure in the pressure cylinder to direct the compressor as needed to turn on or off to maintain the correct braking pressure to the drum/pads.

Customer benefits: Designed to provide a pressure reading to detect an excess leak in the system and alert the driver that the braking system is compromised. A proper pressure reading also increases the efficiency and gas millage since the compressor is only turned on or off as need to keep the required pressure.

HVAC transmitters

Description: Many buildings do not have HVAC system controls in all sections of the building. Instead, transmitters are used in a particular branch of the system so the HVAC master controller can adjust its airflow delivery to those different branches based on information the transmitters send to the HVAC master controller.

Function in application: Can be positioned in outlying areas of the building.

Customer benefits: Designed to provide proper airflow pressure sensing and reduce system costs by eliminating the need for multiple HVAC system controllers.

Life sciences

Description: Pressure sensors are sometimes used in life science applications to measure the pressure of the media that contains carbon dioxide (CO₂), carbon monoxide (CO), and sometimes methane (CH₄). Pressure sensors may be used to evaluate photosynthesis in lab studies and in landfill monitoring.

Function in application: May be used to measure the pressure of the media to aid in the calculation of formulas used to help determine the amount of gas present.

Customer benefits: Testing results are more accurate when the pressure reading output is accurate. Low sensor drift is critical since these systems are in use long term to monitor the gases present.

Process gas monitoring

Description: Process gas monitoring is used where gas pressure and/or flow is critical. For example, in welding, shielding gas flow is monitored and controlled to ensure a high quality weld. Gas analyzers require accurate pressure measurement to ensure the process is under control.

Function in application: Used to measure the pressure and flow of gas to ensure that the proper gas level is being recorded.

Customer benefits: Designed to provide pressure measurement to help improve process efficiency.

Pneumatic control and regulation

Description: Pneumatic control applications have a flow or pressure generation source (such as a compressor or pump) that is used in conjunction with valves to control actuators in a wide variety of industrial components and systems. Some pneumatic pumps, valves, and actuators contain integrated pressure sensors. Pressure sensors are also placed throughout other points of the pneumatic circuit in many industrial systems. Analytical devices for

weather, air quality, and contaminants also make use of pneumatic controls for consistent and accurate sampling. Some of the pneumatic circuits prevalent in industrial applications are:

- Pneumatic components: Valves, pumps and actuators
- Pneumatic systems: HVAC transmitters, automated pneumatic assembly equipment, pneumatic operator control systems
- Gas collection/delivery: Industrial gas supply
- Precise sampling/gas flow: Barometry, gas chromatography, analytical instrument sampling systems

Function in application: In these industrial systems, the pressure sensors are used for both monitoring and control of pneumatic flow and system pressure.

Customer benefits: Designed to provide enhanced performance.

Valve positioning and positioners

Description: A valve positioner is used in combination with a valve actuator to increase accuracy by measuring actual valve position against the set point value and pneumatically correcting the valve position. The use of a valve actuator alone may not accurately position the valve due to imprecise calibration, differential pressure across the valve (pressure drop causes valve lift), valve wear or other reasons. A valve positioner can be used for precise valve positioning based on a signal from a central control system. With a valve positioner, the command is given, the valve positioner reads the opening, verifies position, and readjusts (if necessary) to the position needed. This allows for precision in the valve adjustment. A valve positioner's power source can be a manual gearbox or an electronic device with control and measuring devices. Valve positioners are available with hydraulic, pneumatic, and electric operating mechanics. Valve positioners help deliver controlled valves, which allow facilities to achieve higher throughputs and higher product quality levels. Valve positioners are used throughout the process industries including oil and gas, refining and petrochemicals, chemicals, power, pharmaceutical, food and beverage, pulp and paper, other processes, and pipelines.

Function in application: May be used to monitor diaphragm pressure.

Customer benefits: Designed to provide enhanced control of the valve to minimize under- or over-shoot of the valve in a fast closed loop arrangement. This increased control will allow more accurate positioning of the valve, based on the set point.

POTENTIAL COMMERCIAL APPLICATIONS

Air beds

Description: Air beds are becoming more common than coiled spring mattresses due to the increased comfort potential they offer. The person can adjust the pressure level of the different baffles that are in the air bed to achieve the desired firmness, helping to provide a more comfortable rest. Most models allow for at least two separate zones so that two people can individually control the firmness on their side of the bed.

Function in application: May be used to control the pressure in bed to maintain the desired level as adjusted by the consumer.

Customer benefits: Designed to provide feedback if minor leaks are present to maintain the firmness throughout the nights rest.

Coffee machines

Description: Coffee machines are used to brew coffee. In recent years, many home and office coffee machines have seen improvements in reliability and coffee quality. Electric drip coffee machines have been replaced with higher end single-serve or single-cup coffeemakers.

Function in application: May be used to measure the liquid level of the water in the reservoir. In the past, this was performed by a float that could become encrusted and render it ineffective.

Customer benefits: Designed to provide a better cup of coffee by helping to ensure that enough water is in the reservoir to make a full container of coffee so that the coffee isn't too strong.

Table 1. ABP Series

ABP SERIES	KEY FEATURES
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Measure gage and differential pressures • Total Error Band: $\pm 1.5\%$FSS • Liquid media option: Allows for wet/wet operation on dual ported devices • Industry-leading long-term stability: $\pm 0.25\%$FSS • Industry-leading accuracy: $\pm 0.25\%$FSS BFSL • Wide pressure range: 60 mbar to 10 bar 6 kPa to 1 MPa 1 psi to 150 psi • As small as 8 mm x 7 mm • High burst pressures • Calibrated over temperature range of 0°C to 50°C [32°F to 122°F] • Operates from a single power supply of either 3.3 Vdc or 5.0 Vdc • Output: Ratiometric analog or I²C- or SPI-compatible 12-bit digital • Power consumption: 2 uA typical when utilizing sleep mode option • Meet IPC/JEDEC J-STD-020D.1 Moisture Sensitivity Level 1 requirements • REACH and RoHS compliant • Options: Internal diagnostic function, liquid media, sleep mode, temperature output

Warranty/Remedy

Honeywell warrants goods of its manufacture as being free of defective materials and faulty workmanship during the applicable warranty period. Honeywell's standard product warranty applies unless agreed to otherwise by Honeywell in writing; please refer to your order acknowledgement or consult your local sales office for specific warranty details. If warranted goods are returned to Honeywell during the period of coverage, Honeywell will repair or replace, at its option, without charge those items that Honeywell, in its sole discretion, finds defective. **The foregoing is buyer's sole remedy and is in lieu of all other warranties, expressed or implied, including those of merchantability and fitness for a particular purpose. In no event shall Honeywell be liable for consequential, special, or indirect damages.**

While Honeywell may provide application assistance personally, through our literature and the Honeywell web site, it is buyer's sole responsibility to determine the suitability of the product in the application.

Specifications may change without notice. The information we supply is believed to be accurate and reliable as of this writing. However, Honeywell assumes no responsibility for its use.

For more information

To learn more about Honeywell's sensing and switching products, call 1.800.537.6945, visit sensing.honeywell.com, or e-mail inquiries to info.sc@honeywell.com

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