

# case study



## **Reliable, repeatable switch solves critical safety issue for wheelchair lifts.**

When a manufacturer's mission is to literally move people forward, the last thing it needs is poorly constructed sub-components to stand in its way.

**Honeywell**



## A Good Range of Motion

Recently, an industry-leading manufacturer of personal mobility

products encountered an issue with several switches that controlled ramp position on one of its wheelchair lifts. Reports of malfunctions began coming in, detailing instances where the lifts failed to open or close, or ceased to raise or lower. The company needed to act fast to avoid customer injury or a substantial, expensive recall.

“We pride ourselves on giving our customers the means to experience greater mobility,” the manufacturer said.

“It’s absolutely critical that our lift systems are up-to-par on all fronts. A lift failure threatens customer safety, so we needed a switch we could rely on to prevent malfunctions from happening again.”

For the manufacturer, the solution was the Honeywell MICRO SWITCH™ Large Basic Premium BZ series, a line of highly reliable and repeatable electromechanical switches that support a wide range of operating characteristics. The switch’s reliability also is suitable for a variety of environments over an extensive operating life.

The primary factor in the manufacturer’s decision was the BZ switch’s design and reliability, which is ideal for high cost-of-failure operations. For these kinds of applications, the potential for expensive product recalls or liability lawsuits far outweighs the cost differential between a standard and premium switch. The BZ switch, part of a premium line, met this requirement for its high level of reliability and repeatability.

In addition to supporting simple on/off applications, the rugged BZ switch is customizable to support demands such as electrical loads up to 25

amperes. Based on the manufacturer’s requirements, Honeywell tailored the switch by removing one of the terminals to make it a SPNO switch. Honeywell also changed the switch’s standard boot material to silicone rubber, which helped it better withstand temperatures as low as 40 degrees Celsius below zero, a standard automotive temperature requirement.

“We found the Honeywell BZ switch to consistently and reliably perform to the level we require,” the manufacturer said. “Our customers depend on us for smooth and safe transportation. The Honeywell switch helps us deliver on that promise while providing peace-of-mind.”

Find out more about Honeywell MICRO SWITCH™ BZ Series Premium Large Basic Switches. Contact us for more information about our products.

For more information about sensing and control products, visit [www.honeywell.com/sensing](http://www.honeywell.com/sensing) or call +1-815-235-6847  
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