

## Switch cabinets in hygienic garb - Ilinox manufactures housings and push-buttons suitable for cleaning

The following applies to housing technology in food production: All cavities and gaps in which residues can settle must be avoided by design and corrosion-resistant materials as well as flush and hygienically perfect fits must be used. If cavities make cleaning difficult, dirt deposits and breeding grounds for germs are inevitable. This applies to switch cabinets and control enclosures right down to the smaller switch and push-button housings. Ilinox has one of the broadest product ranges here and will be presenting the latest developments in its hygienic stainless steel housings at Anuga FoodTec in Cologne with its German distribution partner Falk Technical Systems.



The Hygienic Design push-button housings from Ilinox are specially designed for robust use in the food sector and can withstand cleaning with high-pressure cleaners and disinfectants. (Photo: © Falk GmbH Technical Systems)

### In the age of Industry 4.0

Control cabinets bundle all electrical, electronic and pneumatic components in food production. Wherever they fit in as a fully-fledged Industry 4.0 component, optimised design in advance can help to make networked production more effective. For Heinz-Peter Wolf, perfect control cabinet construction already begins in the planning phase. "For example, in terms of dimensions and the door opening, the housings have to be optimally adapted to the available space on the machine," explains the managing partner of Falk GmbH Technical Systems. This philosophy has been incorporated into the successful cooperation with the Italian control cabinet specialist Ilinox, which the distributor from Oberstenfeld represents in Germany, for more than eight years.

Wolf knows the strict hygiene standards that prevail in food processing. "Housings used here not only have to be constructed in such a way that no dirt is deposited. They also have to

withstand the intensive cleaning procedures that are common in the industry in order to protect the network technology installed for the exchange of data, and in some cases also for the power supply of the devices," says the trained power system electronics technician.



Optimised for the food industry: The blue silicone seal protects the installed electronics from water and cleaning agents. (Photo: © Falk GmbH Technical Systems)

### Equipped for wet cleaning

Ilinox mainly uses AISI 304L (1.4307) and AISI 316L (1.4404) grade stainless steel for its housings. "The austenitic steels of the 300 series guarantee optimal use in the food industry, for which the Hygienic line offers a separate housing system that has been thought through down to the smallest detail," says Wolf.

The Hygienic line includes large control cabinets in modular or compact design as well as monobloc housings. Smaller control cabinets, optionally with a pane of shatter-proof laminated glass in the door, and a selection of computer housings and control panels round off the portfolio. In addition, there are small distribution housings available with one or more holes as switch and push-button housings. Most recently, the Hygienic line was expanded to include the push-button housings of the PEH series in protection class IP66 and IP69K. The new push-button housings in V2A stainless steel are protected against splashes and water jets and can be easily cleaned with a high-pressure cleaner.

### Extensive accessories

In addition, Ilinox offers a wide range of accessories for the Hygienic line. It includes levelling feet designed so that all threaded parts are hidden in the housing after installation and cable glands with a smooth, closed surface. Wall spacers are also available to ensure sufficient space behind the housing for cleaning.

All housings with common market dimensions are available from stock. They are manufactured in agreed batch sizes including all cut-outs. The control cabinets pre-produced in this way are available on call and reach German customers within three working days.

## Additional information and contact

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