# Silicone Keypad Interface

APEM Components, Inc., a leading manufacturer of quality switches and joysticks, is pleased to announce the availability of total control panel assembly solutions featuring rubber keypad interfaces. The compact and durable interface can be combined with APEM circuitry for a customized solution, ideal for such applications as medical hand-held devices, military controls, and marine navigation equipment. APEM's innovative new keypad interface consists of a silicone overlay that can be customized using a variety of methods, including laser etching, screen printing, and material coloration. Customers can further customize the feel of the keypad by choosing a specific durometer to control keyboard stiffness. Ultraviolet (UV), matte, glossy, or epoxy coatings protect the keypads from the elements and from daily wear and tear.  All keypad assemblies can be sealed against dust and water damage to IP67 standards.

The control panel housing, circuitry (PCB or flex circuit), and the printed silicone keypad are all available through APEM.  Domes or carbon pills can be added to provide tactile feedback, and a range of backlighting options provide visual feedback and enhance the control panel's overall look.

Silicone keypads provide high tactile feedback (0.8 mm to 1.5 mm travel), and can yield either a soft, comfortable feel or a robust, tactile feel. From the silence required for covert operations to the rugged responsiveness needed for outdoor jobs with gloved operators, APEM's keypad solutions can be customized to fit any application. In addition to being aesthetically appealing, rubber keypads have an excellent quality-price ratio, with a lifetime of up to 5 million operations, depending on contact.

APEM's support team in Haverhill, MA ensures that customers get the right products to meet their application needs in a timely manner, no matter how simple or complex the project.  APEM is ISO9001-certified, ITAR-registered, and a member of SGIA.

**APEM Components**
978-372-1602; www.apem.com [1]

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