

February 27, 2009

SUBJECT: FloTech Product Support Plan

The FloTech product line has been a very important product for many years for Woodward. In February 2007, the F-Series product line was released as a new and highly versatile stand-alone actuator and integrated throttle body (ITB). The plan was to eventually discontinue the FloTech product line as the F-Series is a direct replacement for the FloTech. Obsolescence issues with certain key purchased components such as the position sensor are driving a need to finalize the termination of production for the FloTech product line.

The F-Series product line was released with a 14-pin (F-Series Throttle – FST) and a 23-pin (F-Series Throttle Plus – FSTP) ITB version as well as a 23-pin modular actuator version. For the ITB's, 3 F-Series throttle sizes were released – 48mm, 60mm and 68mm. The 33mm and 75mm versions of the F-Series are planned to be completed and released by the end of 2009. Upon release of these sizes, transition plans and last time buys will need to be finalized for all sizes per the schedule below. Customers for the 48mm, 60mm and 68mm should be actively engaged in transitioning to F-Series.

Many OEM customers have already made the transition from FloTech to F-Series. The F-Series throttle has the same mounting flange configurations available as the FloTech and 4 different actuator positions to accommodate packaging for each application. The same command and feedback signals for the most commonly used FloTech's are available on the F-Series. Woodward also has available FloTech to F-Series adapter cables to enable the transition and support aftermarket requirements. After the dates listed below all service requirements will be met with F-Series as FloTech's will no longer be available. Please refer to the following product references on the Woodward website for further information:

Product Specification 03344 – F-Series ITB
Product Specification 03345 – F-Series Modular Actuator
Application Note 51305 – Conversion from FloTech to F-Series

Woodward has developed the following plan for the FloTech:

48mm, 60mm and 68mm Sizes:

February 2007	F-Series released for 48mm, 60mm and 68mm throttle sizes
April 1, 2009	FloTech Price Adjustment
July 15, 2009	Last time buy
September 30, 2009	FloTech production ends

33mm 75mm Sizes:

December 2009	F-Series release of 33mm and 75mm throttle sizes
April 1, 2010	FloTech Price Adjustment
July 15, 2010	Last time buy
September 30, 2010	FloTech production ends

Parts obsolescence from electronic manufacturers can present a challenge to long term product support plans. Woodward strives to hold inventory or look for alternatives when components are obsolete. However, there are times when components can simply not be obtained and where sufficient last time buys cannot be made. In these cases, Woodward cannot always guarantee that we can maintain the product support plan.

Sincerely,

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