



# CONSTRUCTION DETAILS

## DETENT-ACTION SWITCHES

### Electroswitch Detent Switches

Electroswitch Detent Switches are a heavy-duty design that is very versatile and enables standard units to satisfy a great variety of complex switching applications. They are modular in that several subassemblies are stacked together to form a rigid rugged device. Figure 1 shows a cut-away view exposing the basic components.

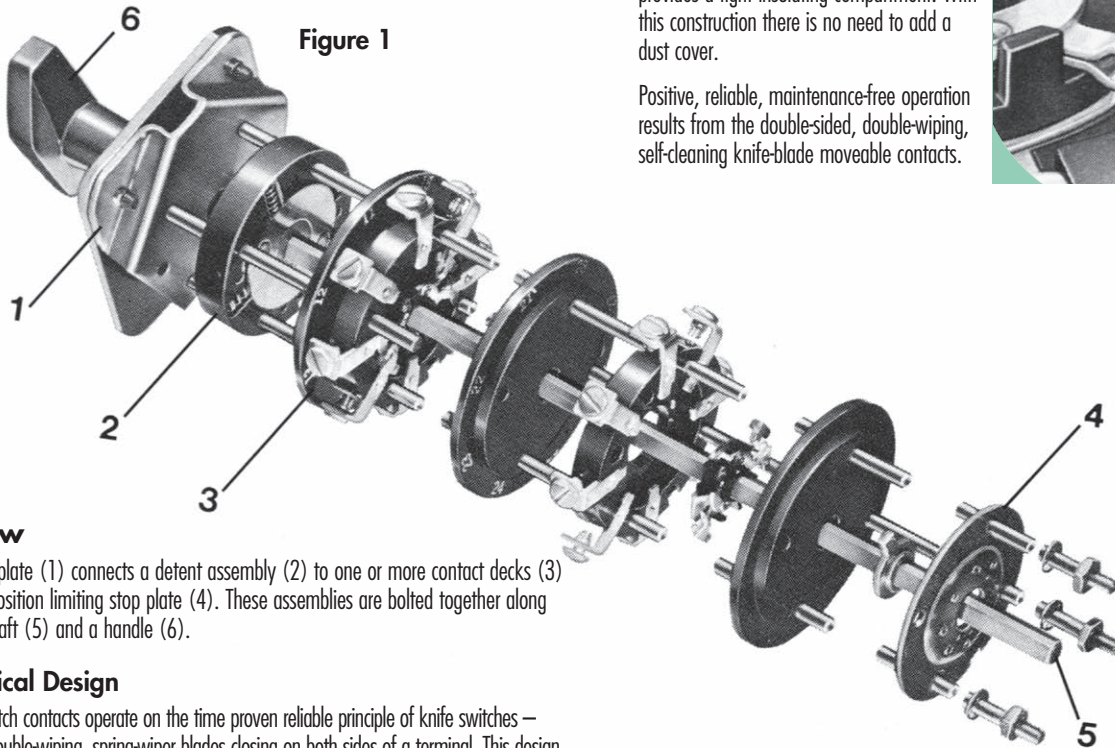


Figure 1

### Overview

The mounting plate (1) connects a detent assembly (2) to one or more contact decks (3) and finally a position limiting stop plate (4). These assemblies are bolted together along with a steel shaft (5) and a handle (6).

### The Electrical Design

The Detent Switch contacts operate on the time proven reliable principle of knife switches — double-sided, double-wiping, spring-wiper blades closing on both sides of a terminal. This design is shock-proof and virtually bounce-proof. Figure 2 shows a typical contacting arrangement.

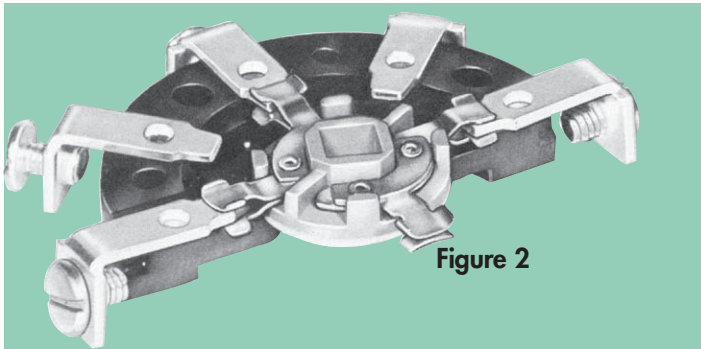


Figure 2

### The Detent Assembly

The detent assembly contains a specially designed star wheel and up to four spring-loaded ball bearings providing snappy positive indexing. Spring return switches use a coil spring in place of the star wheel/spring/ball bearing arrangement.

### The Pull-to-Lock Mechanism

Control switches generally have positions both 45° left and right of the normal vertical position. The handle spring-returns to the normal position. The pull-to-lock mechanism enables an operator to turn the handle beyond the left (normally TRIP) position to the 90° location, pull out the handle and thereby lock the switch into this position. This precludes the possibility of someone inadvertently closing a circuit-breaker when it is desired that it stay in the tripped position.

### The Contact Deck Assembly

The electrical parts are contained within sturdy phenolic moldings that provide individual insulated compartments where all switching takes place.

An insulating barrier completes the contact deck assembly. The barrier not only separates one contact assembly from another but also provides a tight insulating compartment. With this construction there is no need to add a dust cover.

Positive, reliable, maintenance-free operation results from the double-sided, double-wiping, self-cleaning knife-blade moveable contacts.



The barrier next to the stationary terminals is clearly marked with numerals for Series 24 and 31 that correspond with the wiring diagrams.

Terminal screws secure the external wiring to the terminals.



Jumpers may be done right on the switch providing a simple and neat arrangement. Silver plated brass strap jumpers are available for adjacent contacts—either between adjacent contacts on the same deck or the same terminal location on adjacent decks. Wire and lug jumpers are also available. Jumpers are already supplied assembled on the typical instrument switches, illustrated in this catalog, simplifying field wiring. All you need to do is connect the instrument leads and the line wires.

### The Stop Plate

The steel stop plate assembly includes a steel stop arm that is connected to the shaft and a steel stop plate that contains tapped holes. Stop screws are inserted in the field to limit the positions to the number and location desired. This externally adjustable position limiting feature allows the use of standard switches for many customized applications. The limit screws are supplied assembled for typical instrument switches.