Mechan Controls plc has announced that, from this month (November 2004), its popular MAGNASAFE MS6 machine-guard safety interlock system will be available with AC switching. This new development means that the damage resistant safety switch will now fit the great majority of AC singe contact applications.

The original MS6 non-contact safety switch was developed to provide a robust and reliable system that would spell an end to unnecessary stoppages resulting from accidental damage to safety switches. Designed for use in demanding industrial environments, the switch features a tough but compact stainless steel housing with an IP67 rating.

The new AC version shares these same features and is well suited for use in wash-down applications and on machine guards in environments where durability and resistance to damage are critical. Like the original, it is designed principally for use in the food processing, dairy and pharmaceutical industries, but is equally appropriate for many other types of production facility. It features a 10 mm switching distance, and is both easy to install and tolerant to misalignment.

"The original MS6 has proven very effective and popular since its launch," said Mechan Controls Sales Director, Peter Knowles. "It is available in three configurations for single and dual channel DC switching. However, a large proportion of the demand for replacement switches is for AC products, so it obviously made sense to develop a single contact AC alternative that would offer manufacturers the reliability and durability they need to keep unplanned shut-downs to a minimum."