



Good wiring practices for avoiding electrical noise problems.

Automation Devices controls have been designed with a high degree of immunity to electrical noise; however, depending on the control installation, electrical noise can cause problems. These problems occur in less than 1% of the product installations. Most electrical noise problems can be avoided by following some simple guidelines. Good wiring practices need to be used to prevent electrical noise from interfering with your control's operation. Another name for electrical noise is Electro-Magnetic Interference (EMI).

Symptoms of Electrical Noise

The symptoms of electrical noise would appear as follows: a brief pause or a brief "bump" in the vibratory feeder's output that the control automatically recovers from. In rare cases the control will either stop operating or run continuously at full power in 120 pulse (AC) mode until the power switch is slowly cycled OFF and ON.

Sources of Electrical Noise

Electrical noise is generated by devices like relay coils, solenoid valves, contactors, servo motors, and (variable frequency inverter) motor drives. The electrical noise is then transferred to another device by one of three ways. The noise could be conducted through the power wires, or capacitively coupled from

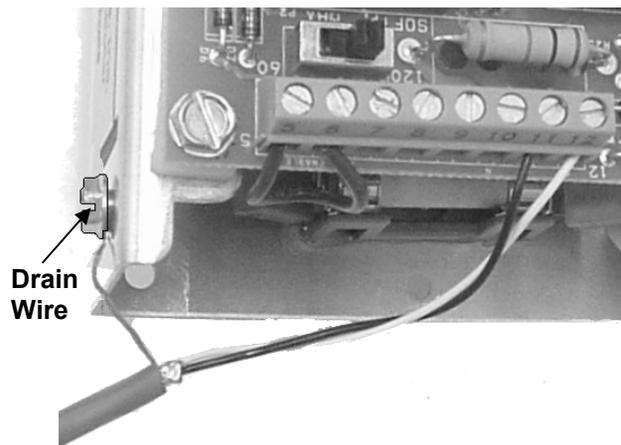
wire to adjacent wire, or it is transmitted from the wires of a noise source.

Solutions for Electrical Noise

1. Use shielded wires for all I/O (Input / Output) signals. The I/O signals may include: Paddle switch, Run input, Interlock input. The shield "drain" wire should be tied to the chassis in the control. The drain wire should be kept shorter than 2". Please see the picture below.

Example of a "drain" wire termination

2. Never run I/O signal wires in the same conduit or raceway as AC power lines such as wires to motors, solenoids, heaters, welders and vibratory feeder controls, etc.



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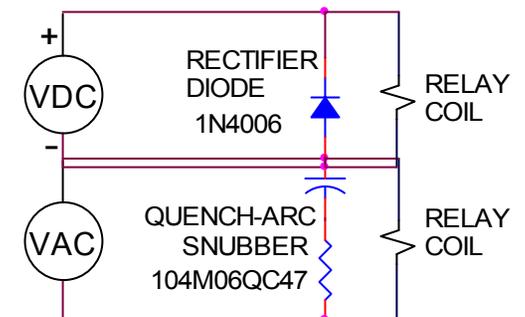
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3. I/O wires within an enclosure should be routed as far away as possible from relays, solenoids, transformers, power wiring and other noisy equipment. Keep the I/O signal wires separate from the control's input and output power wiring. Secure the wires in place.

4. Whenever relays or solenoid valves are used, install a Snubber on them to reduce electrical noise. Use a diode on a DC coil. Use a RC Snubber on an AC coil.



5. In extremely high EMI environments, Power Line Filters and ferrite beads can be effective. Install ferrite beads on I/O signal wires as close as possible to the circuit board terminal strip. Loop the wire through the bead several times or use several beads on each wire for additional protection.