Telecom Handle

A new CompactPCI Injector/Extractor handle designed specifically for the high density packaging needs of the telecommunications market has been introduced by Pentair Electronic Packaging, as part of its Schroff&reg line of CompactPCI and VME64X packaging solutions.

The new IET Schroff handle has a depth of .55&#151 almost two-thirds less than the standard 1.5 deep IEEE 1101.10 handles. For designers of telecom equipment who are typically restricted to an enclosure depth of 12, the low profile Schroff IET handle reduces the percentage of usable enclosure space taken up by handles from 12.5% to 4.5% &#151 an 8% usable space increase. This enables higher packaging density within the enclosure while providing full compliance with the system inter-separation plane requirements of IEEE 1101.10.

In addition to this space saving benefit, the new handle provides improved reliability in CompactPCI hot-swap applications. Handles in such applications are critical components because they actuate the microswitch and also control the insertion/extraction process. Unlike other handle designs, however, the live insertion microswitch is operated by a recessed push button in the Schroff handle and functions independently of the handle ejection process. This prevents accidental triggering of the hot-swap microswitch.

The new Schroff handle is also designed to overcome premature failure associated with earlier CompactPCI handle designs. Tested to 200 cycles of injection/extraction, this handle matches the life expectancy of the CompactPCI 2 mm connector.

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