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*For immediate release*

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**NEWS RELEASE**

## **Contemporary Controls EIS Series Ethernet Switches Authorized to Carry UL 864 9<sup>th</sup> Edition Recognized Component Marking**

*Four EIS Series models meet the most recent UL standard for fire alarm systems and equipment.*

Downers Grove, Illinois (June 29, 2009) – Contemporary Controls, a leading manufacturer of Ethernet technologies used in automation, has re-qualified the EIS Ethernet Interconnect Switch series to comply with the requirements of Underwriters Laboratories (UL) 864 *Control Units and Accessories for Fire Alarm Systems* 9<sup>th</sup> Edition. The EIS series, consisting of an eight-port 10/100 Mbps copper switch along with three six-port copper/fiber switches are now 9<sup>th</sup> edition Recognized Components. All new fire alarm and smoke control systems being installed claiming UL 864 compliance must comply with this latest edition.

“The major Fire Safety providers use our EIS Series when they need Ethernet connectivity.” said Joe Stasiek, Sales Manager of Contemporary Controls. “We’re one of the few companies to Ethernet switches that are UL 864 9<sup>th</sup> Edition Recognized Components, we’re cost effective, and we understand the challenges facing the fire and safety industry.”

UL 864 9<sup>th</sup> Edition governs the safety of fire alarm systems and equipment, including smoke detectors, sprinkler systems and fire alarms. UL 864 is consistent with the most recent National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) 72, making it a requirement for all United States fire safety equipment. The standard is the most recognized fire safety standard worldwide.

By having the fire alarm system supplier specifying a Contemporary Controls’ EIS Ethernet switch to be used within the system, the supplier is not required to perform additional testing on this component. Several fire alarm and security firms have already specified the EIS series as part of their system thereby improving their time-to-market.

Components that bear the UL Recognized Component mark are separately covered under UL’s Follow-Up Surveillance program to ensure continued compliance and prevent unpleasant surprises when an end-product is inspected.

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“For our Life Safety System customers, having UL 864 recognized components is a requirement,” said George Karones, Operations Manager of Contemporary Controls. “To be in accordance with UL 864, the EIS was subjected to high transient voltages across its Ethernet data pairs requiring additional protection. The system had to continue to perform even after the Ethernet data line pairs were subjected to 2400 V pulses of 80 µs in duration followed by successively lower potentials with longer durations.”

The EIS series consists of the EIS8-100T eight-port copper switch, the EIS6-100T/FC copper/multimode fiber switch with SC connectors, the EIS6-100T/FT copper/multimode fiber switch with ST connectors, and the EIS6-100T/FCS copper/single mode fiber switch with SC connectors. All support auto-negotiation, broadcast storm control and have easy DIN-rail installation.

The EIS6 models accommodate industrial applications requiring a fiber backbone by combining the benefits of switching technology and fiber optics, making them ideal for applications where longer networking distance — up to 15 km (single-mode) — and immunity to EMI/RFI is important. These benefits result in decreased downtime, fewer outages and improved reliability.

UL 864 is written by Underwriters Laboratories, Inc., an independent product safety certification organization. The UL Mark, featured on more than 72,000 products, is recognized worldwide as the standard for products that are physically and environmentally safe.

For more information about the EIS series, please visit [www.ul864.com](http://www.ul864.com).

### **About Contemporary Controls**

With over 30 years of experience, Contemporary Controls designs and manufactures Ethernet, BACnet®, ARCNET and Controller Area Network (CAN) technologies for automation projects. Products include hubs, switches, routers, gateways, network interface modules (NIMs) and input/output devices. Contemporary Controls is headquartered in Downers Grove, Illinois, USA with additional locations in China, Germany and the United Kingdom, serving the Americas, EMEA and APAC. For more information, visit [www.ccontrols.com](http://www.ccontrols.com), call 630-963-7070 or email [info@ccontrols.com](mailto:info@ccontrols.com).