

The Human Touch®

Since 1947, we have been opening doors...



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Your Expert Partner for Human Machine Interfaces

... into other worlds.

EAO – *Your Expert Partner
for Human Machine Interfaces*

It is moments that matter. Behind each interaction lies a need, a story, an objective, a wish, and a goal. These are just as diverse as the requirements for the operation of machines. Expressing the immediate moment of interaction and making it innovative, intuitive and reliable is our task, our credo, and at the same time our fascination.

*“You
decide.”*

Starting the day with a journey is a matter of course these days. Daily life is shaped by distances. To open doors and get moving are decisions that every individual makes each day.



EAO
Transportation.

Our products are as intuitive and reliable as anyone would expect. They facilitate. To be prepared to meet all requirements and to help people make their decisions – that is the challenge we take on each day.

08

*“You
trust.”*

Wherever the path may take you. The freedom to choose it and to overcome its challenges means to trust in experience, competence, and safety. It's the carefree moments that touch us.



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**EAO
Automotive.**

Safety matters to us. Design and individuality as well. There are no compromises. Using innovative technologies and materials, we set the standards of tomorrow and combine diligence with trust.

*“You
act.”*

Functionality, productivity, and durability are the fundamental features of any machine. The will and desire to set something in motion are the driving – virtually limitless – powers that humans possess. It is a gift and a source of pride.



EAO Heavy Duty & Special Vehicles.

The insight to meet our customers' individual wishes with forward-looking ideas and actions is what drives us. Developing products that inspire people is a source of pride to us.

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*“You
control.”*

Finely coordinated processes that are characterized by speed and accuracy are impressive. The ability to start or stop something with a single touch is the result of human creativeness.



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EAO Machinery.

The precision of our products is based on knowledge and passion. Only interface solutions created with the greatest diligence meet our definitions of innovation, intuition, and reliability. An impressive added value.

*“We
open worlds.”*



**EAO
creates
possibilities.**

To create interfaces, we have to understand them first. It is only our complete understanding of the requirements, the environmental demands, and the technical functionality of machines that allows us to develop innovative, intuitive, reliable, and safe products and systems.

HMI – Human Machine Interfaces
The interface. Our fascination.



Our range of products stands out thanks to international expertise, technical precision, and individual variety. We offer component customization, so that the exterior colour, symbols, materials, and lettering are designed according

to the individual requirements of our customers. We also go one step further, carrying out targeted, standard-specific development of our components' technology and functionality in line with our customers' needs and specifications.

EAO target markets

To understand requirements. To live innovation.



Transportation

As one of the world's leading HMI providers, we have always met the industry's ever-growing challenges with reliable and sustainable products for road and railway vehicles. With control elements that are intuitive, user-friendly, and so adaptable that they meet all global requirements. Whether it's products and solutions for cockpits, doors, or other applications: using variety, quality, and individuality, we help provide safe and environmentally friendly mobility.



Automotive

Virtually no other market combines technology, design, and safety to such a high standard as the automotive industry. Such complexity provides the sort of challenge we relish. Innovative and reliable technology paired with customer-specific functionality are what characterize our sensor-controlled, electronic, and electromechanical control elements. As a globally certified partner to major automotive manufacturers and suppliers, we impress our customers with the excellent quality of our products and services.



Heavy Duty & Special Vehicles

As urbanization continues, boundaries are being pushed back. A development that would be impossible without the support of machines. Performance, robustness, and reliability are the fundamental requirements of our control elements, no matter whether they are deployed in machines and vehicles for the agricultural or construction industries, or in the special vehicle sector. Yet our focus never wavers from the people that operate the machines. This is what allows us to develop product designs that impress thanks to their tactile appeal, ergonomics, and aesthetics.



Machinery

Progress in the industrial sector is synonymous with automation. Precision, speed, and performance go hand in hand with miniaturization and networking. For over 65 years, we have been meeting the demands in complexity with reliable components and customized system solutions. True to the motto "safe operation even under the most adverse of conditions." Our philosophy will not allow us to settle for anything less.

Market diversity

Our diverse range of standard components combined with our expertise enable us to provide appropriate individual and system-based solutions for a variety of markets. We are a partner and supplier to major corporations in the fields of aviation, shipbuilding, telecommunications, medical technology, energy technology, automation technology, building infrastructure technology, and in the areas of lifting and moving, as well as in many other markets that involve a connection between humans and machines.

To us, being an expert means having a deep understanding of all the requirements that our products must meet. Our competence extends to customizing and designing components and to developing systems, according to our customers' needs. Production sites around the world and a global consultation and distribution network guarantee maximum efficiency, from planning through to operation.

The EAO Company

More than experts. Partner.

EAO AG, a Swiss, family-owned company founded in 1947, has developed into one of the world's leading manufacturers of switches, keyboards, sophisticated control elements, and complete HMI control units and HMI Systems.

With about 600 dedicated employees, EAO has a global production and distribution network at its disposal. And with production sites in Switzerland, Germany, North America and China, as well as our 11 sales companies and distributors in over 50 countries, we can guarantee global availability.

Efficient and modern development processes, effective global supply chains, and skilled project and consultation management represent additional services that we offer our customers and business partners around the world.

In Touch with EAO

Our philosophy and our approach is to have excellent knowledge, and take full account, of the requirements of humans and machines together with social and industrial trends. We are experts when it comes to human machine interfaces: with dedication and passion, we develop products and solutions that impress our customers – and end-users in particular – with their intuitiveness, their tactile appeal, and their design. Our expertise allows us to manufacture easy-to-operate, adaptable, high-quality, and future-proof solutions for all possible markets and applications in a way that conforms to industry standards.

The moment of interaction between humans and machines is the moment we work towards, the moment for which we have been developing products and setting standards for over 65 years.

Place your trust in good service

We do much more than just manufacture individual control elements. As a solution-focused partner, we provide the option of technically customizing existing HMI Components in line with our customers' individual requirements. From simple control elements through to sophisticated HMI Systems (HMIS), we are able to offer a comprehensive service that encompasses everything from development through to serial production and mounting.

Protecting the environment

We act responsibly. In our ecological focus, we set benchmarks for ourselves, our products, and our customers. Our purchasing, manufacturing, and logistics operations are carried out in a manner that conserves resources and which is environmentally friendly. When selecting our components and materials, we ensure that we have partnerships in place with certified manufacturers and that we adhere to EC guidelines on hazardous materials (RoHS). We view continuous monitoring and optimization procedures at all levels as a vital part of our commitment to protecting the environment.



EAO Headquarters
Olten, Switzerland

Founding year	1947
Number of employees	600
Headquarters	Olten, Switzerland
Manufacturing companies	Switzerland, Germany, North America and China
Sales companies	11
Distribution regions	50
Target markets	Transportation Automotive Heavy Duty & Special Vehicles Machinery
Certificates and approvals	CB No. (IEC 60947) CB No. (IEC 61058) CCC CQC CSA e1 EBC DNV

Certificates and approvals	GOST RoHS SEV UL VDE
Standards	CCA-NTR (EN 60947) EN 13850 EN 14752 EN 45545 EN 50155 ENEC (EN 61058) FCC IRIS Rev. 02 ISO 14001 (Environment) ISO 9001 ISO/TS 16949 (Automotive standard)

HMI Components

A broad range of products. Greater individuality.

With over 65 years of experience as a global provider, we have the knowledge and the products to satisfy any application or product requirements and meet international standards. Our products stand out thanks to their excellent quality, innovative design, safe functionality, and ease of assembly. Our range of standard components is complemented by our value-added service, in which we offer components customized according to individual customers' specific requirements.

Series

EAO manufactures one of the world's largest ranges of HMI products. Depending on the preferred operation type, the requirements in terms of assembly, environment, and function, as well as the electrical layout design, EAO customers will find the right equipment for all imaginable applications and sectors. Classic HMI Components offered by EAO include lever switches, pushbuttons, snap-action buttons, membrane switches, illuminated pushbuttons, emergency stops, key lock switches, buzzers, joysticks, and many more.

A variety of mounting depths, design and combination options make our products hugely versatile. But what makes every EAO component really stand out is cutting-edge materials, the most innovative of technologies, and complete user-friendliness. Using test laboratories, environmental chambers, and various methods of analysis, EAO's products are exposed to the most adverse of

conditions in order to test their service life, fire safety, and electrical safety. Since our very first series, we have been setting global standards in reliability and safety. Internationally award-winning design combined with Swiss quality.

Value-added services

Our definition of value-added services is simple: We individually modify our standard components in accordance with our customers' needs. Depending on the environmental requirements, regulations, configuration, or design specifications, we customize our standard components in close collaboration with our customers. Customization of the front design, the acoustics, the haptics, and the marking is all part of the service we offer. The same is true with technical customization.

The individual adaptability of our components means that small as well as more major customizations can be carried out directly by EAO. We can also offer customized innovations based on standard components, with subsequent serial production. Meeting the requirements of our customers and the needs of end-users is what we do best.



*Fully automated assembly
with a human touch*

Assembly and production

We are fascinated by the interaction between humans and machines. It is this fascination that enables the qualified engineers, designers, and production teams at EAO to develop internationally award-winning components.

Research, development, and comprehensive project management and consultation are our cornerstones for future-proof and market-leading products. Thanks to our many years of experience and close partnerships, EAO combines two things in particular, and on a global scale: competence and passion, meeting international industry-specific standards and making our entire product range available on a global scale.

Our customer-oriented service includes not only the global availability of our products, but also our worldwide consulting and logistics services. The motto "on time – on place" is one of EAO's strengths, and that on an international scale. Our products stand out thanks to their precision, which is a characteristic that also defines our customer service and logistics service. It is a recipe for success, and one which has made us the partner of many renowned manufacturers.

HMI Systems

Sharing experiences. Creating interactions.

Innovative solutions can only be classed as such when they are also effective, sustainable, and useful. For over 65 years now, our innovativeness has been based on a thorough understanding of our products' users and on our fascination with making interactions possible. Here, the networking of control systems creates the foundations for the communication between humans and machines.

System solutions

When manufacturing HMI Systems (HMIS) that meet the entire spectrum of market requirements, quality is key. Thanks to EAO's high-quality product range, and to the variety and flexibility of our components and systems, we have in place the ideal requirements for effective HMIS. When it comes to cockpits, control panels and modules, control devices for robot systems, and larger-scale systems, we have the right components and the necessary expertise to combine these with one another and to create perfected system solutions.

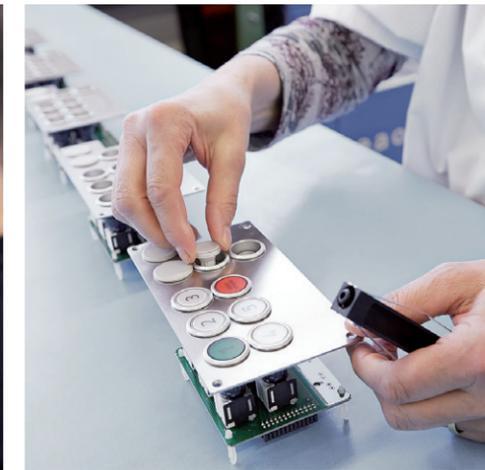
But our engineering services also include bringing together customer-specific components and touchscreens that are not part of the EAO product range. As experts in such mixed technology solutions, we can provide our customers with our expertise – from the initial idea right through to the manufacturing stage – and generate real added value on their behalf. Global experience in supply chains, accurate planning, process optimization, risk management, and reducing the

number of interfaces all result in considerable savings in terms of both cost and time. EAO's customers also benefit from our global expertise when it comes to functional and ergonomic user requirements as well as market-specific and country-specific standards, certifications, and permits.

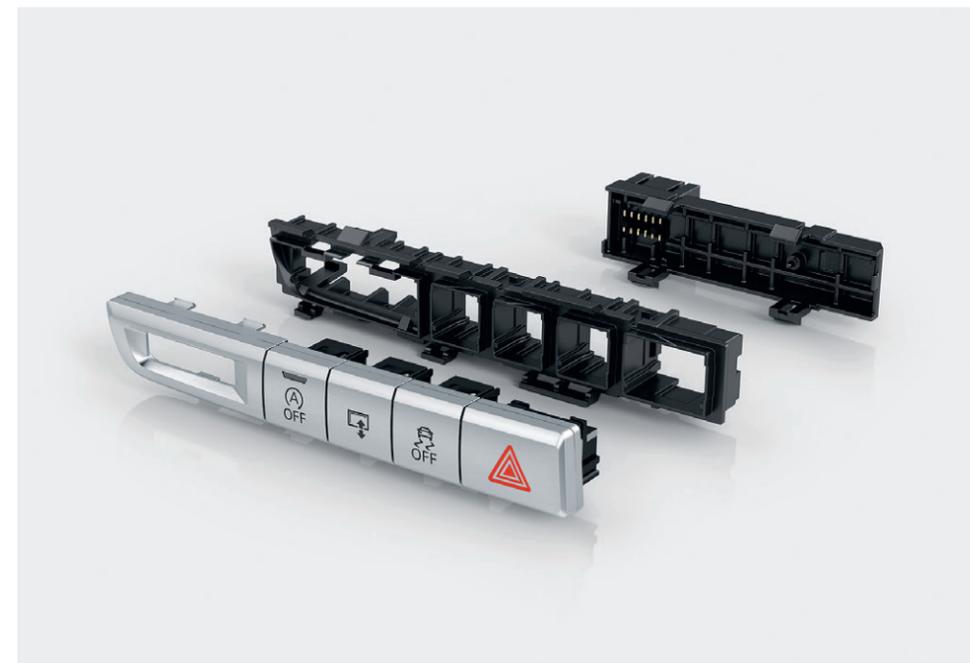
Global service spectrum

We use three globally active planning and production centres to provide advice and support during all project phases. This is all part of our system of total quality management. The EAO network of sales companies and production sites in Europe, America, and Asia provides our customers with access to top-quality consultation, logistics, and design services. From planning and prototyping through to assembly, we offer all the steps necessary for the production of process-specific systems solutions.

Sustainability also forms a part of our consultation service. As an expert and a partner, warehousing, project documentation, on-site training, refurbishment services, and a broad range of additional services are all a natural part of what we offer our customers.



*Leading-edge technology
by Swiss craftsmanship*



*Premium car manufacturers
trust EAO*

Swiss Touch®

Tradition meets innovation.

In 1947 in the town of Olten, located on the Swiss Plateau, Kurt Loosli Senior founded a business together with René Thalmann that successfully combined typical Swiss values. With precision, innovativeness, and outstanding engineering, the two pioneers developed, in addition to high-voltage rectifiers, static converters and transformers, the first illuminated pushbutton.

This revolutionary new idea soon established itself on the international market. The journey from initially slow-selling, hand-manufactured products to the first fully automated serial production and the establishing of international sales companies still took a few years. In 1958, the second product generation in the form of the 02 series became an international industry standard that is still in place today. Innovation combined with high-quality design are the fundamental factors behind EAO's ongoing growth. A success story that is being continued to this day.

Quality and responsibility are the cornerstones of a successful tradition. Continuous innovation, clear preferences, and powerful motivation are the key factors for developing high-quality products. During the course of our company's history, we have set many international standards and benchmarks.

As a Swiss, family-run company, we can look back on a 65-year history of success, which has been, and continues to be, characterized by our fascination with the interface between humans and machines. This fascination allows us to manufacture innovative, intuitive, and reliable products. It is people that are always the key focus of our activities. Their needs are our motivation. Our passion is at the heart of our success and our partnerships with leading manufacturers in a variety of industries.

“The will to keep alive this pioneering spirit, to preserve our own traditions and pass on our fascination is what makes us stand out and allows us to be so innovative.”

Kurt Loosli, CEO in second generation

Foundings	Innovations
Elektro Apparatebau Olten AG (EAO AG)	1947
	1958
EAO Germany	1965
EAO Netherlands	1967
EAO United Kingdom	1972
EAO Sweden	1974
EAO USA	1978
EAO Far East	1980
	1983
EAO Hong Kong	1985
EAO Japan	1993
	1994
EAO France	1995
	1996
	1998
	1999
	2000
EAO China	2004
	2005
EAO Italy	2005
	2006
	2008
	2010
	2011
	2012
	2013

- Series 02, the first illuminated pushbutton
- Series 01, volume-optimized series with 16 mm dimension
- Series 51, the first fully splash-proof pushbutton
- First touch-sensitive control elements and systems
- iF Award, Series 84
- EAO HKS handbrake control switch
- iF Award, Series 56
- VDA 6.1 certification
- Series 95, first triple-illuminated pushbutton
- iF Award, Series 95
- Patenting of DBS4 seat belt key lock switch, automotive
- iF Award, Series 05
- iF Award, Series 84, emergency switch
- Development of EAO CANopen module
- Patenting of M-Series keypads
- Patenting of 2nd-generation seat belt key lock switch, automotive
- Patenting of TSI-conforming door-opening switch
- Patenting of Series 57, all-in-one door-opening pushbutton
- Development of Series 57
- GOOD DESIGN Award, Series 57
- iF Award, Series 57

EAO worldwide

With global efficacy.

Customer proximity and a comprehensive range of services are fundamental to our success and at the core of our corporate policy. For our customers and suppliers all around the world, EAO is an innovative, intuitive, and reliable expert and partner.

EAO's production sites in Switzerland, Germany, North America and China combine serial production, development, research, and logistics. In addition to these centres of competence, EAO has 11 sales companies around the world at its disposal. Thanks to this comprehensive network and our 50 distribution companies in the major industrialized countries, EAO is represented wherever interactions between humans and machines play key roles.



Manufacturing companies/sales companies: ■ Switzerland, EAO Headquarters ■ Austria, Belgium, China, France, Germany, Great Britain, Italy, Japan, Netherlands, Sweden, USA, **Distributors:** ■ Argentina, Australia, Belarus, Belgium, Bulgaria, Canada, Chile, Croatia, Czech Republic, Denmark, Egypt, Finland, Great Britain, Greece, Iceland, India, Iran, Israel, Italy, Korea, Latvia, Malaysia, Mexico, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nigeria, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Russia, Saudi Arabia, Singapore, Slovenia, Spain, Sri Lanka, South Africa, Sweden, Taiwan, Thailand, Turkey, UAE, Ukraine, USA

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