

# RODIX INCORPORATED

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**FEEDER CUBE ®** 

FC-109-4 Plus, P/N 121-000-8710

**OIL RESISTANT MODEL** 

**IMPORTANT: APPLICATION NOTE** 



Input: 240 VAC, 50/60 HZ. (Operating range 180-265 VAC) Triple Unit Fuse Sizes:

Unit A 8A, Unit B 8A, Unit C 8A

Output: 0-240 VAC

100% Duty Cycle 0.6-6.4A per unit, 80% for 7-8A

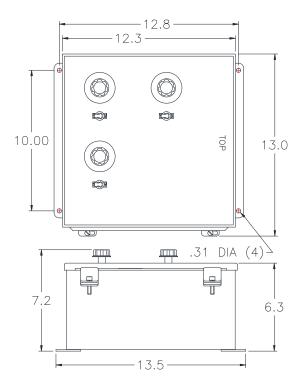
Circuit Boards P/N 24-491 & 24-211

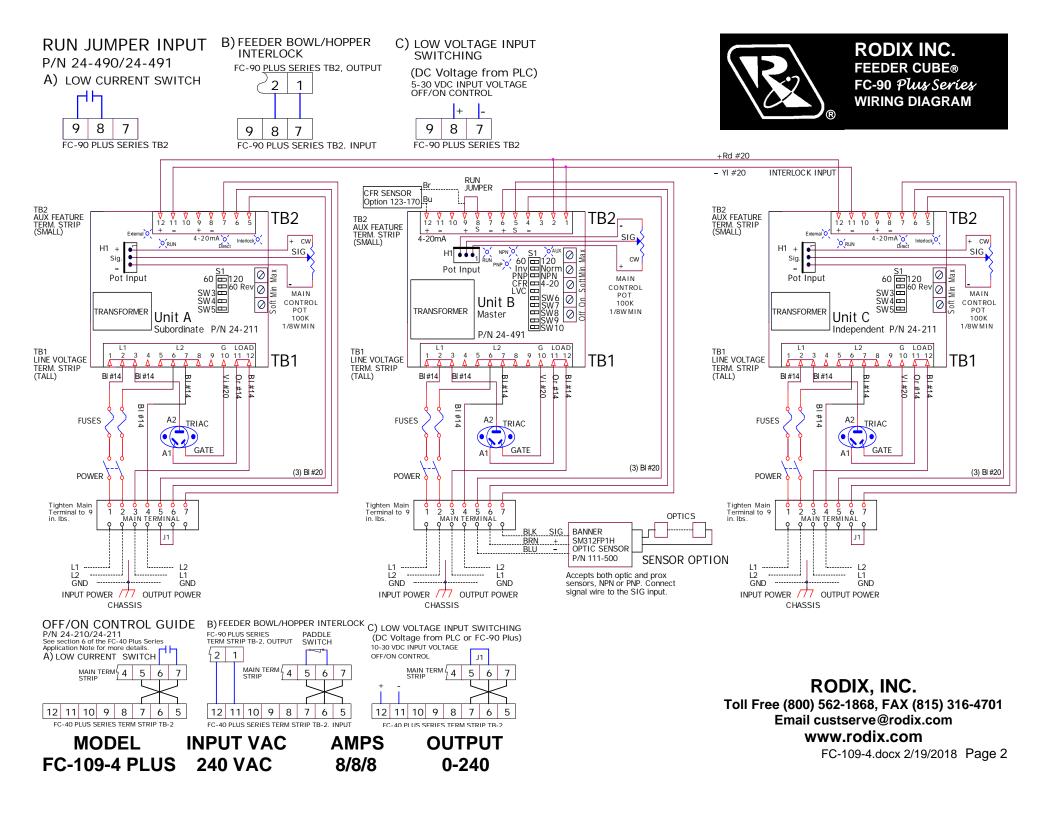
<u>Unit A Information:</u> This unit is based on the FC-40 *Plus* Series Feeder Cube®. For more information on this unit, refer to the enclosed Adjustments and Set Up pages. Unit A is interlocked (subordinate) to the operation of Unit B so that Unit A operates only when Unit B is feeding parts.

<u>Unit B Information:</u> This unit is based on the FC-90 *Plus* Series Part Sensing Feeder Cube®. The On/Off operation of the output can be controlled with an optional part sensor. For more information on this unit, refer to the enclosed Adjustments and Set Up pages.

<u>Unit C Information:</u> This unit is based on the FC-40 *Plus* Series Feeder Cube®. For more information on this unit, refer to the enclosed Adjustments and Set Up pages. The Unit C operation is independent of the other units.











# FC-90 *Plus* Series Application Note

For Circuit Board Part Numbers 24-490 (120V) & 24-491 (240V)

# **General Description**

The FC-90 **Plus** Series Controls are used to operate vibratory bowls with parts sensors and storage hoppers fitted with electronic bowl level detectors. The 12VDC power supply and sensor time delays are provided by the control. The demand cycling of the bowl is controlled by the parts sensor's output and the control's On and Off time delay settings.

Standard features include an interlock output, enable input, soft start adjustment, minimum and maximum output adjustments, full wave/half wave selector switch, line voltage compensation, 4-20mA and 0-5vdc amplitude control. The optional CFR vibration sensor, P/N 123-170, can provide feedback to help maintain a constant part feed rate.

# **ADJUSTMENTS & SET UP**

### 1. SELECT THE PULSE SETTING

Match the control's pulse mode to the feeder's tuning:

- A. For 60 pulse output Set DIP switch (S1) to 60 on the circuit card.
- B. For 120 pulse output Set DIP switch (S1) to 120 on the circuit card.
- C. For 40, 30, 15 or 60 Reverse pulse settings, see the "S1 Programming Chart."

Note: The MAX trimpot may need readjustment after changing the pulse switch setting.

# 2. INSTALLING THE PARTS SENSOR

(Photo-sensor or Proximity Switch)

- A. Connect a three wire, current-sourcing (PNP) or current-sinking (NPN) sensor as shown on the enclosed wiring diagram. The sensor must be able to operate on 12VDC and switch 3.0 mA. Set switch (S1) to PNP or NPN according to the sensor's output type.
- B. Set DIP switch (S1) for the proper logic. When the switch is in the "NORM" position, the control will run only when the sensor's signal is present. The "NORM" position is used with Light-Operate photoeyes (through beam). When switch (S1) is in the "INV" position, the control runs only when the sensor signal is not present. The "INV" switch position is used for Dark-Operate (reflective) photoeyes and Proximity Sensors.

# 3. RUN JUMPER INPUT

The Run Jumper Input comes with a factory installed jumper wire. If the Feeder Cube® will be controlled by a relay contact, switch, or other device, replace the factory-installed jumper with a "Run Contact" at terminals 8 and 9 of TB2. The contact will switch 12VDC and 3.0 mA. The control will run only when the contact is closed and the parts sensor is calling for parts.

For PLC control of the Run Input, remove the Run Jumper and connect the 24V PLC output to TB-2 terminals 8 (+) and 7 (-). If electrical isolation is desired, remove R3. R3 is located on the circuit board near TB2-8.

In the High/Low parts sensing mode, a second parts sensor can be connected to the run input in place of the run jumper. The parts sensor must be a PNP sensor. Both sensors must use the same light-operate or dark-operate logic.

# 4. LIMITING THE MAXIMUM OUTPUT OF CONTROL

The **MAX** output trimpot can be adjusted to limit the maximum vibration level of the vibratory feeder when the Main Control Dial is fully turned up. When setting up the MAX output of the feeder control, the output wiring to feeder must be connected and the control set for the proper pulse mode setting, 60 or 120. The Run Jumper input must be closed, and the Parts Sensor must be calling for parts.

- A. Power input should be **OFF** or disconnected.
- B. Open cover to allow access to circuit card.
- C. Adjust the **MAX** Output trimpot counter-clockwise to its minimum setting.
- D. Using **CAUTION**, turn power **ON** (no output should be present).
- E. Rotate the **MAIN CONTROL DIAL** on front cover clockwise to its highest setting.
- F. Adjust the **MAX** Output trimpot so that the output to the feeder reaches its desired maximum level.

# 5. SETTING THE MINIMUM OUTPUT LEVEL OF CONTROL

When the vibratory feeder is nearly empty, turn the **MAIN CONTROL DIAL** to "1", and adjust the **MIN** trimpot to just below the proper feed rate. The MIN trimpot also serves as the "low speed" trimpot for 2-speed operation. See "S1 Programming Chart."

# 6. MAIN CONTROL DIAL

The output power is controlled by the MAIN CONTROL DIAL. It uses a logarithmic-tapered power out curve (non-linear) that spreads the power broadly across the MAIN CONTROL DIAL. The logarithmic power curve helps to give maximum "Fine Control" over the output speed of the vibratory feeder. When very precise adjustment of the MAIN CONTROL DIAL is needed, increase the MIN trimpot setting and/or decrease the MAX trimpot setting. For precise scaling at low amplitudes, use the linear POT taper or reduce the Max pot setting. To select the linear pot taper for the Main Control Dial, see the "S1 Programming Chart."

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# 7. FEEDER BOWL/HOPPER INTERLOCK OUTPUT

The Feeder Bowl/Hopper Interlock feature (TB2-1 & 2) accomplished by the following methods: can be connected to a Rodix FC-40 Plus Series A. 4-20mA signal from a PLC can be used to remotely (TB2-11 & 12) control or another FC-90 Plus Series (TB2-7 & 8) control when control of a bulk material hopper is needed. The bowl/hopper interlock will prevent the hopper from operating anytime the bowl is turned OFF or in "STAND BY" mode. The Auxiliary Interlock output can also be used to drive a solid state relay or a low wattage 12VDC air valve. A solid state relay can operate any auxiliary equipment such as a light stand or an air valve. To monitor the Auxiliary Output with a PLC see the details in the Advanced FC-90 Plus Application Note. The Auxiliary output is capable of switching 70 mA if an external power C. A Constant Feed Rate (CFR) sensor can be added source is used. The logic of the Aux. output can be changed through the settings of S1 (see S1 Prog. Chart). Some other features for the Aux output are: Aux invert; bowl out of parts with alarm; and an air jet sequence for starting air before feeding and stopping the air after feeding.

# 8. SETTING THE TIME DELAYS

The sensor time delays can be set for independent OFF delay and ON delay periods. The time delay trimpots can be adjusted to provide the best individual response for the feeder (0 to 12 seconds). By rotating the adjustment clockwise, the delay will become longer.

### 9. SETTING THE SOFT-START

The start-up of the control's output can be adjusted to ramp up to the desired output level instead of starting abruptly. Soft-start keeps parts from falling off the tooling, reduces spring shock, and prevents hammering when the control turns ON. Turn the **SOFT** Start trimpot clockwise for the gentlest start (about a 6 sec. ramp up to full output). Turn the trimpot fully counter-clockwise for no soft start.

#### 10. POWER SUPPLY

At the rated line voltage, the line isolated power supply is capable of providing a combined total current of 100 mA at 12 VDC (40mA with a low line voltage of 100VAC or 200VAC). The total current includes the parts sensor and any auxiliary output accessories that are connected to the Bowl/Hopper Interlock output terminals.

#### 11. REMOTE SPEED CONTROL

Remote control of the power level

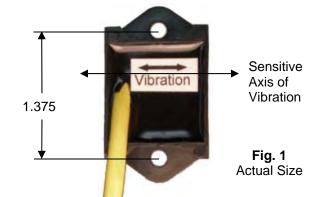
- vary the output of the control instead of the Main Control Dial. Set S1 to the 4-20 position. The 4-20mA input is automatically in control whenever a 4-20mA signal is applied to the control (terminals TB2-11 & 12). The Main Control dial setting is ignored whenever there is a 4-20mA signal. The 4-20mA input is transformer isolated from the power line. See "S1 Programming Chart" for 0-20mA.
- B. 0-5VDC Analog input signal may be applied in place of the Main Control Dial. The 0-5VDC signal is transformer isolated from the power line. Control cable P/N 123-145 is sold separately.
- for closed loop feeder amplitude regulation. Switch S1 needs to be set to CFR.

### 12. LINE VOLTAGE COMPENSATION

Fluctuations in the line voltage can cause a feeder bowl to vary its feed rate. The line voltage compensation feature adjusts the control's output to help compensate for fluctuations in the supply voltage. If it becomes necessary to disable this feature, set LVC (S1) right to disable compensation.

#### 13. INSTALLING THE CFR SENSOR

Note: Failure to adequately prepare the feeder's which is at a right angle to the spring pack. surface properly may result in a Constant Feed Rate (CFR) sensor that will not bond to the feeder. The sensor will not be mounted until step C-6.



A. ORIENT THE SENSOR so that its sensitive axis is in the same direction as the vibration of the feeder. The arrow in figure 1 shows the sensor's sensitive axis. Align the sensitive axis of the sensor in the same

direction as the vibration (see figure 2). The sensor can be must be oriented correctly for proper operation.

> B. CHOOSE A LOCATION for mounting the sensor on the feeder that is smooth and that will allow the adhesive on the sensor to bond. Avoid mounting the sensor over ridges and bumps which can reduce the ability of the adhesive to stick to the feeder. The correct location will also have enough space for the sensor's cable to hang straight down without touching anything else.

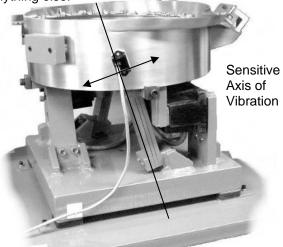


Fig. 2 The arrow shows the direction of vibration

- C. SURFACE PREPARATION of the feeder is crucial for proper bonding between the sensor and the feeder. Please follow these steps completely.
  - 1) The feeder should be kept between 70°-100°F (21-38°C) for ideal tape application.
  - 2) Clean a 3.5" (10cm) circular area with a solvent like isopropyl alcohol that will not leave a residue. As a rule of thumb, the area can be considered clean when after cleaning the area with a solventsaturated, white paper-towel, the towel is as clean as it was before wiping.
  - 3) Using a good amount of pressure, polish the cleaned, circular area of the feeder using a scratch pad or steel wool. Repeat step 2, and then go to step 4.
  - 4) Wipe the cleaned surface with an alcohol wipe or with a 50/50 isopropyl alcohol/water combination.
  - 5) Dry the surface thoroughly using a low lint cloth or a clean paper towel.

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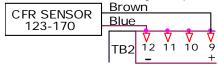
- 6) Remove the vibration sensor from its protective packaging. Remove the liner from the adhesive backing. Avoid touching the tape. Align the sensor as shown in figures 1 and 2. Apply the vibration sensor to the prepared area of the feeder. Press the sensor very firmly onto the feeder surface for at least 10 seconds.
- 7) Allow the vibration sensor at least 20 minutes to cure before operation. Note it takes 72 hours for the adhesive to fully cure at 70°F.

Alternatively, #8 or M4 screws can be used to mount the sensor to the feeder. The hole centers are 1.375" (3.49cm) apart.

**D. ROUTE THE SENSOR CABLE** to protect it from strain due to vibration. The cable that attaches to the sensor will not break from normal vibration; however, some care should be used when routing the sensor cable from the sensor to the control. The cable should hang straight down from the sensor without touching the feeder bowl or anything else. Then, the sensor cable should curve towards the power control with a bend radius larger than 3 inches (8cm).

Use a cable tie and an adhesive-backed mount to attach the sensor cable to the side of the drive base. See Figure 2. Clean the mounting area before applying the adhesive-backed mount.

**E. CONNECT THE SENSOR** to the control. The sensor's brown wire connects to +12VDC at TB2-9. The blue wire connects to the signal input at TB2-12.



## 14. SETTING CFR GAIN SELECTION

The CFR response rate can be increased with "High Gain". If the response is too quick, oscillating or unstable, use "Low Gain". See the S1 switch selections for the "High" and "Low" CFR Gains.

## 15. OUTPUT CONNECTIONS

The 120V models in general purpose enclosures provide a standard North American receptacle (NEMA 5-15R) for connection to the feeder. 240V models have a pigtail output cord. Power cords are optional on Oil Resistant models.

# **16. SUPPLEMENTARY FEATURES**

Special supplementary software features can be

enabled on the 24-490/24-491 circuit boards. Included features: Constant On, High/Low Track level control, 60 pulse polarity reversal, low pulse rate, linear pot taper, Constant Feed Rate response time, bowl out of parts, and two speed pots. See the S1 Switch Programming Chart. For more feature information download (or request from RODIX) the FC-90 Plus Series Advanced Application Note.

#### 17. STATUS LEDs

When the Sensor input is active, either the PNP or NPN LED will be ON. When the RUN input circuit is complete, the RUN LED will be ON. The AUX LED is ON whenever the Aux output is turned ON.

#### **TROUBLESHOOTING**

For the control to run: The RUN LED must be lit (see Run Jumper Input chart on wiring diagram). The Main Control Dial or 4-20mA signal must be present. Turn the ON and OFF delay pots down CCW. The DIP switch S1 must be set to match the sensor's output type, PNP or NPN. The PNP or NPN LED must light up and turn off when making and breaking the 3- wire DC parts sensor. If no parts sensor is connected, set the S1 INV/NORM switch to "Invert". If the feeder only hums, toggle the 60/120 dip switch.

For more troubleshooting helps, download the FC-90 Plus Troubleshooting Guide at rodix.com

# **WARNING:**

Fuses should be replaced with Bussman ABC or Littelfuse 3AB "Fast Acting" type or equivalent of manufacturer's original value.

Mounting this control on a vibrating surface will void the warranty.

# **WARRANTY**

Rodix Control Products are Warranted to be free from defects in material and workmanship under normal use for a period of two years from date of shipment. For the full description of the warranty, terms, and software license, please contact the factory.

For assistance installing or operating your Rodix Feeder Cube® please call the factory or visit our web site. Technical help is available to answer your questions and email any needed information. To return a control for IN or

OUT of warranty service, please ship it prepaid to:

## Rodix Inc., ATTN: Repair Department

If under warranty, Rodix will repair or replace your control at no charge; If out of warranty, we will repair it and you will be billed for the repair charges (Time and Material) plus the return freight. Quotes for repairs are available upon request. A brief note describing the symptoms helps our technicians address the issue.

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S1 Programming Chart							
<b>Program Description</b>	S1 Sw. Positions						
Switch	6	7	8	9	10		
Standard Program	0	0	0	0	0		
Constant ON	0	0	0	0	1		
High/Low Track	0	0	0	1	0		
Linear Pot Taper	0	0	0	1	1		
0-20mA	0	0	1	0	0		
2-Speed Operation	0	0	1	0	1		
Bowl Out Parts, Stop	0	0	1	1	0		
BOP stop/ with alarm	0	0	1	1	1		
BOP alarm w/o stop	0	1	0	0	0		
30/15 hertz operation	0	1	0	0	1		
Aux Invert	0	1	0	1	0		
Air Jet Timers	0	1	0	1	1		
40 Pulse operation	0	1	1	0	0		
Low Amplitude at "1"	0	1	1	0	1		
Low CFR Gain	0	1	1	1	0		
High CFR Gain	0	1	1	1	1		
Waveform Reversal	1	0	0	0	0		
Constant ON, WR	1	0	0	0	1		
High/Low Track, WR	1	0	0	1	0		
Linear Pot Taper, WR	1	0	0	1	1		
0-20mA, WR	1	0	1	0	0		
Option Prog.	1	0	1	0	1		
Option Prog.	1	0	1	1	0		
Option Prog.	1	0	1	1	1		

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# FC-40 *Plus* Series Application Note

For Circuit Board P/N's 24-210 & 24-211

# **General Description**

The FC-40 **Plus** Series of controls are designed to power vibratory bowls, storage hoppers and linear inline feeders. The controls are designed to run continuously or can be turned on and off with a PLC, a contact closure or interlocked to the operation of a part sensing Feeder Cube®.

Standard features include a soft start adjustment, minimum and maximum output adjustments, full wave/half wave selector switch, line voltage compensation, 4-20mA and 0-5vdc amplitude control.

Note: FC-200 Series and FC-90 *Plus* Series are available for use on applications requiring a three wire DC sensor, an interlock output, or a Constant Feed Rate (vibration feedback) sensor.

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# **ADJUSTMENTS & SET UP**

### 1. SELECT THE PULSE SETTING

Match the control's pulse mode to the feeder's tuning:

- A. <u>For 60 pulse output</u> Set DIP switch (S1) to 60 on the circuit card.
- B. For 120 pulse output Set DIP switch (S1) to 120 on the circuit card.
- C. <u>For 40, 30 or 60 Reverse</u> pulse settings, see the "S1 Programming Chart" and the FC-40 *Plus* Advanced Application Note

Note: Readjust the MAX trimpot after changing pulse switch setting.

# 2. LIMITING THE MAXIMUM OUTPUT OF CONTROL

The MAX output trimpot can be adjusted to limit the maximum vibration level of the vibratory feeder when the Main Control Dial is fully turned up. When setting up the MAX output of the feeder control, the output wiring to feeder must be connected and the control set for the proper pulse (60 or 120) setting. A Run Jumper must be connected as shown on either the wiring diagram or the ON/OFF Control Guide.

- A. Power input should be **OFF** or disconnected.
- B. Open cover to allow access to circuit card.
- C. Adjust the **MAX** Output trimpot counter-clockwise to its minimum setting.
- D. Using **CAUTION**, turn power **ON** (no output should be present).
- E. Rotate the **MAIN CONTROL DIAL** on front cover clockwise to its highest setting.
- F. Adjust the **MAX** Output trimpot so that the output to the feeder reaches its desired maximum level.

# 3. SETTING THE MINIMUM OUTPUT LEVEL OF CONTROL

When the vibratory feeder is nearly empty, turn the MAIN CONTROL DIAL to "1" and adjust the MIN trimpot to just below the proper feed rate. The MIN trimpot also serves as the "low speed" trimpot for 2-speed operation. See "S1 Programming Chart" for feature selection details.

#### 4. MAIN CONTROL DIAL

The output power is controlled by the MAIN CONTROL DIAL. It is a logarithmic-tapered power out curve (non-linear) that spreads the power broadly across the MAIN CONTROL DIAL. The logarithmic taper power curve helps to give maximum "Fine Control" over the output speed of the vibratory feeder. When very precise adjustment of the MAIN CONTROL DIAL is needed, increase the MIN trimpot setting and/or decrease the MAX trimpot setting. For precise scaling at low amplitudes, use the linear POT taper or reduce the Max pot setting. To select a linear pot taper for the Main Control Dial, see the "S1 Programming Chart."

#### **5. SETTING THE SOFT-START**

The start-up rate of the control output can be adjusted to ramp up to the desired output level instead of starting abruptly. Soft-start keeps parts from falling off the tooling, reduces spring shock, and hammering when the control turns ON. Turn the **SOFT** Start trimpot clockwise for the gentlest start (about a 6 sec. ramp up to full output). Turn the trimpot fully counter-clockwise for no soft start.

# 6. REMOTE OFF/ON CONTROL

A Run Jumper has been installed at the factory as shown on the enclosed wiring diagram.

Remote OFF/ON operation of the FC-40 *Plus Series* Feeder Cube<sub>®</sub> control can be configured to operate in one of the following ways.

- A. A <u>low current switch</u> such as a paddle switch can replace the factory-installed Run Jumper "J1." The "Run Contact" connects to terminals 6 and 7. The contact must be able to switch 5VDC and 2mA. The control will run only when the contact is closed. Refer to Section A of the OFF/ON CONTROL GUIDE.
- B. Feeder Bowl/Hopper Interlock allows the Hopper control to operate only when the Bowl is running and the paddle switch contact is closed. The interlock input on terminals 11 and 12 of TB2 is controlled by the interlock output of a "Parts Sensing Feeder Bowl Control" such as an FC-90 Plus.

Remove jumper "J1" of this control from terminals 6 and 7. Connect the Hopper Paddle switch to alternate terminals 5 and 6. Connect TB2 terminals 11 and 12 of this control to the "Parts Sensing Control". Refer to Section B of the OFF/ON CONTROL GUIDE. Check specific instructions for the "Parts Sensing Control" wiring. Two FC-40 Series controls will not interlock to each other since neither one has an **interlock output**.

C. Low Voltage DC can be used to turn the control ON and OFF. Move jumper "J1" from terminal 7, to terminal 5, (6 remains the same). Then connect the positive signal (+10 to 30VDC @ 10mA) to terminal 12 and the negative to terminal 11 of TB2. The control will now turn ON when the DC signal is present at terminals 11 and 12 of TB2. This input is optically isolated. Refer to Section C of the OFF/ON CONTROL GUIDE.

### 7. REMOTE SPEED CONTROL

Remote control of the power level can be accomplished by the following methods:

- A. 4-20mA signal from a PLC can be used to remotely vary the output of the control instead of the Main Control Dial. The 4-20mA input is automatically in control whenever a 4-20mA signal is applied to the control (terminals TB2-8 & 9). The Main Control dial setting is ignored whenever there is a 4-20mA signal. The 4-20mA input is transformer isolated from the power line. In an environment with high electrical noise, use a shielded cable for the 4-20mA signal. The "S1 Programming Chart" shows how change to 0-20mA speed control instead of the default of 4-20mA.
- B. A 0-5VDC Analog input signal may be applied in place of the Main Control Dial at H1. The 0-5VDC input is transformer isolated from the power line.

### 8. LINE VOLTAGE COMPENSATION

Fluctuations in the line voltage can cause a feeder bowl to vary its feed rate. The line voltage compensation feature adjusts the control's output to help compensate for fluctuations in the supply voltage. If it becomes necessary to disable this feature, set "Disable LVC" from the S1 programming chart.

#### 9. OUTPUT CONNECTIONS

The 120V models in general purpose enclosures provide a standard North American receptacle (NEMA 5-15R) for connection to the feeder. 240V models have a pigtail output cord. Power cords are optional on Oil Resistant models.

### **10. SUPPLEMENTARY FEATURES**

Special supplementary software features can be enabled on the 24-210/24-211 circuit boards. The features include: linear pot taper, 0-20mA control, empty bowl timer, low pulse rates, and two speed pots. See the S1 Switch Programming Chart. For more feature information download (or request from RODIX) the FC-40 *Plus* Advanced Application Note 24-210/24-211.

#### 11. STATUS LEDs

When any of the inputs are active, the associated LED will turn ON. When the RUN input conditions are met, the RUN LED will turn ON. See section 6 and the wiring diagram's ON/OFF Control Guide for more information on how to satisfy the RUN conditions.

## **TROUBLESHOOTING**

For the control to run: The MAIN CONTROL DIAL must be turned up or have over 4mA at the 4-20mA input. Either the DIRECT LED must be lit or both the INTERLOCK and EXT VOLTS LEDs must be on. To light the DIRECT LED, connect a Run Jumper at TB2-6 & TB2-7. To light the INTERLOCK LED, a Run Jumper must connect TB2-5 to TB2-6. To illuminate the EXT VOLTS LED, TB2-11 & 12 needs a 10-30 VDC signal. If the feeder only hums, flip the 60/120 dip switch.

For more troubleshooting helps, download the FC-40 *Plus* Troubleshooting Guide at rodix.com

# **WARNING:**

Fuses should be replaced with a Bussman ABC or Littelfuse 3AB "Fast Acting" type or equivalent of manufacturer's original value.

Mounting this control on a vibrating surface will void the warranty.

## WARRANTY

Rodix Control Products are Warranted to be free from defects in material and workmanship under normal use for a period of two years from date of shipment. For the full description of the warranty, terms, and software license, please contact the factory.

For assistance installing or operating your Rodix Feeder Cube® please call the factory or visit our web site. Technical help is available to answer your questions and email any needed information. To return a control for IN or OUT of warranty service, please ship it prepaid to:

#### Rodix Inc., ATTN: Repair Department

If under warranty, Rodix will repair or replace your control at no charge; If out of warranty, we will repair it and you will be billed for the repair charges (Time and Material) plus the return freight. Quotes for repairs are available upon request. A brief note describing the symptoms helps our technicians address the issue.

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S1 Programming Chart								
<b>Program Description</b>	S1 Switch Positions					S1 Switch Positions		
	SW3	SW4	SW5					
Standard Program	0	0	0					
Linear Pot Taper	1	0	0					
0-20mA option	0	1	0					
Empty Bowl Timer	1	1	0					
Disable LVC	0	0	1					
2-Speed Operation	1	0	1					
30/40 Pulse Operation	0	1	1					
Low Amplitude at "1"	1	1	1					

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# **RODIX SOLUTION**

# Good wiring practices for avoiding electrical noise problems.

Rodix 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 mode until the power switch is slowly cycled OFF and ON.

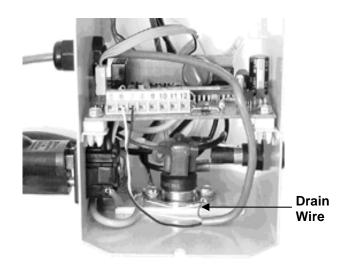
# **Sources of Electrical Noise**

Electrical noise is generated by devices like relay coils, solenoid valves, contactors, servo motors, and variable

frequency inverter 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 nearby noise source.

# **Solutions for Electrical Noise**

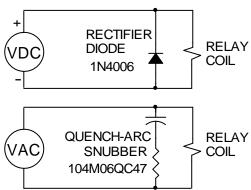
1. Use shielded wires for all I/O (Input / Output) signals. The I/O signals may include: 4-20mA input, Run input, Sensor input, 0-5VDC input, Interlock input or AUX output. The shield "drain" wire should be tied to the chassis in the Rodix control. The drain wire should be kept shorter than 2". Please see the enclosed picture.



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 Rodix controls, etc.

- 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.

# RODIX, INC.

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