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Relocation Resets Lead Times for 2025

As we welcome the new year, KB Signaling would like to share some exciting updates about the progress we have made in relocating our switch machine product line from Hornell, NY, to Warrensburg, MO. With 2025 in full swing, we're proud to reflect on the milestones achieved last year and look forward to continued improvements in the months ahead.



This was no small feat. Over 300,000 components, fixturing, and tooling were carefully packed, loaded onto 40 semi-trucks, and transported over a 12-week period. Despite the scale of this move, our commitment to serving you, our valued customers, has never wavered.

The hard work has paid off. At the end of May 2024, the first switch machine was shipped from our Warrensburg facility. Fast forward to today, we are proud to report that our manufacturing team has produced 184 switch machines in just seven months. Not only that, but the team has achieved a build rate that surpasses the previous Hornell facility's rate by approximately 50%—and we're improving every month!

What Does This Mean for You?

We know that lead times are critical to your operations, and we are laser-focused on reducing them. Until recently, the lead time for our most common machines (5E, 5F, 5G, 5H, 5R, and Model 6) was 52 weeks. Thanks to our team's dedication, we have already reduced this to 48 weeks and are on track to bring it down to 26 weeks by mid-2025.

But we're not stopping there. By the end of 2025, we aim to achieve a 16-week lead time—a game-changer for meeting your needs more efficiently and effectively.

Thank You for Your Support

We are excited about the strides we have made and even more optimistic about what lies ahead. Your understanding and patience during this transition has been invaluable, and we remain committed to exceeding your expectations.

If you have any questions or need assistance with your orders, please don't hesitate to reach out to your Business Development Team Manager.

From all of us at KB Signaling and the Switch Machine Team, we wish you a happy, healthy, and prosperous new year.

EC6 Success Stories: Simplifying Signaling, Eliminating Infrastructure

EC6 is transforming the way railroads approach signaling. By working effectively over longer distances and in challenging ballast conditions, EC6 makes it possible to eliminate track circuit repeaters or design longer track circuits. The result? Fewer bungalows, insulated joints, and equipment—ultimately improving reliability while cutting costs for installation and maintenance.



Here's how railroads are putting EC6 to work:

Canadian National (CN): On the Champaign Subdivision, poor ballast conditions and infrequent track maintenance required multiple track circuit repeaters. By switching to EC6, CN eliminated 4 track circuit repeater locations across just 14 miles, cutting their signaling infrastructure by 36%. Even with receive current as low as 380mA, EC6 has been running reliably for 18 months.

CPKC: When resignaling their Ignace Subdivision, CPKC replaced existing MicroTrax circuits, which relied on multiple repeaters due to distance limitations. EC6 enabled CPKC to eliminate 7 track circuit repeater locations in just 12 miles, reducing their signaling infrastructure by an impressive 70%.

BNSF: The Cascade Tunnel, the longest railroad tunnel in the U.S. at 8.1 miles, is currently signaled with 7 MicroTrax circuits. Using EC6, BNSF plans to reduce this to just 2–4 track circuits. This not only cuts down equipment but also minimizes the time maintenance crews spend inside the tunnel for calibrations – a significant safety and efficiency improvement.

Reducing Train Delays Caused by Signal Equipment

One of the standout advantages of EC6 is its ability to reduce train delays and unplanned maintenance caused by signal equipment. By operating reliably over a wide range of ballast resistance and environmental conditions, EC6 eliminates the need for constant track circuit adjustments, preventing false occupancies.

Canadian National (CN): On the Missabe Subdivision, CN faced 18 trouble tickets in a year due to false track occupancies caused by severe ballast contamination from taconite. Since installing EC6, they've experienced 18 months of trouble-free operations with no false occupancies.

Metrolink: On the Orange Subdivision, proximity to the Pacific Ocean created monthly false occupancies during high tide. Ocean spray from crashing waves impacted the track circuits due to saltwater contamination. Since switching to EC6, Metrolink hasn't had a single false occupancy in the last year.

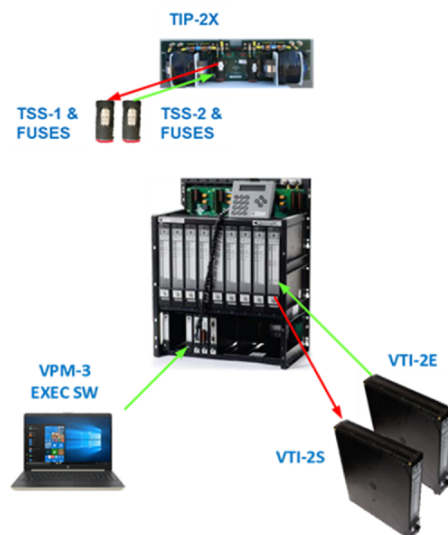
Easy Upgrades for Existing Systems

Upgrading to EC6 is quick and straightforward for railroads already using EC5 or ElectroLogIXS systems. Here's what's involved:

1. Swap the **VTI-2S** module for a **VTI-2E**.
2. Update fuse and surge suppression components on the **Track Inductor Panel**.
3. Install the latest **VPM-3** executive software.

No changes to application logic or existing wiring are needed, making the transition seamless.

EC6 is proving to be a game-changer for the rail industry, offering smarter signaling, fewer delays, and simplified maintenance while cutting infrastructure and costs. If you're ready to streamline your signaling systems, EC6 is the solution you've been waiting for.



KB Signaling's Annual User Conference Returns to Melbourne, FL

As we ring in the New Year, we are excited to announce the continuation of KB Signaling's annual User Conference, taking place in Melbourne, FL, from January 28 through January 30. This event highlights our commitment to fostering customer engagement, collaboration, and long-term partnerships. Each year, we build on this tradition by presenting cutting-edge advancements, industry insights, and opportunities for meaningful dialogue. With a packed agenda of exciting presentations, networking opportunities, and hands-on demos, this year's conference promises to be an unforgettable experience.



What to Expect

The conference kicks off on Tuesday, January 28, with registration and a welcome reception to set the tone for two days of insightful presentations and interactive opportunities. Highlights include technical sessions on key innovations, complemented by rotating Demonstration Room tours showcasing the latest advancements in rail signaling technology.

This year, we are also introducing Alternative Demonstration Room Tracks A and B, available during select main group presentations as direct result of feedback requesting more time to see the demonstrations. These exclusive tracks dive deeper into specific focus areas, offering a unique, hands-on exploration of cutting-edge products and concepts. Stay tuned for an email announcement when sign-ups open as space is limited, so act quickly to secure your spot!

Key Presentations to Watch

1. Rail TempEst: Lights, Camera, Action!

Rail TempEst makes its commercial debut! This innovative WSDMM application uses VTI track circuit data to estimate rail temperatures and forces in real time. The session will guide attendees through installation and configuration while introducing Update Manager, a new tool for seamlessly adding or updating WSDMM applications without re-imaging.

2. Expanding Possibilities with ElectroLogIXS

VPM-4 Discover significant progress with the VPM-4 product development since last year's conference. This presentation will spotlight key updates and future milestones, including new expansion capabilities that simplify the design and linkage of multiple ElectroLogIXS systems.

3. Vital Contact Module: Feasibility and Next Steps

Learn about the Vital Contact Module, an innovative replacement for electro-mechanical vital relays. This session will showcase proof-of-concept development, lightning strike testing, and real-world performance results, as well as provide a timeline for development and next steps toward productization.

Don't Miss Out!

With opportunities for networking, live demonstrations, and a first look at the future of rail signaling, this event delivers immense value. Don't miss this chance to connect with industry leaders, explore innovative solutions, and engage in meaningful discussions about the future of rail signaling.

Limited Spots Available

A few registration slots remain open! For details, please reach out to your KB Signaling Business Development Leader before registration ends January 13.

We can't wait to welcome familiar faces and new attendees alike. Safe travels, and we will see you in Melbourne!

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