ALPS ALPINE
Perfecting the Art of Electronics

PRESS RELEASE

Oct 1st, 2024
ALPS ALPINE CO., LTD

Development of the World's Smallest class TACT Switch™*

Combining Miniaturization and High Performance to Drive Further Evolution in Electronic Devices

Alps Alpine Co., Ltd. (TOKYO: 6770; Representative Director, President & CEO: Hideo Izumi; Head Office: Ota-ku, Tokyo; hereinafter "Alps Alpine") announces the launch of the world's smallest*class surface-mount type TACT Switch™, the "SKUB Series." This switch achieves a smaller size while maintaining the same tactile feel and durability as previous models. Mass production began in September 2024.

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*As of October 2024, based on our research.

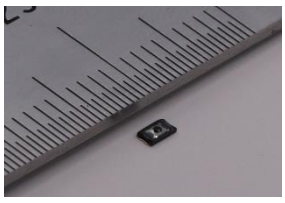
Background

In today's market for electronic devices such as wearable devices and smartphones, there is a growing demand for miniaturization and higher performance. To meet this demand, electronic components on circuit boards are increasingly densely packed, making it essential to reduce the size of each component.

With nearly 50 years of experience in developing and manufacturing TACT Switch™ since 1976, Alps Alpine has utilized its technological expertise to develop this new product that meets market needs. This switch supports further advancements in the electronic devices in which it is installed, expanding the possibilities of next-generation electronics.

Key Features

1. World's Smallest Class*



The switch boasts a compact size of 2.4mm × 1.4mm, making it approximately 17% smaller in volume than our previous smallest model, the SKTA Series. It is also about 20% lighter, contributing to reduced environmental impact through its lighter weight.

[New Product: SKUB Series] (W×D×H): 2.4×1.4×0.55mm, 0.0024g

[Previous Model: SKTA Series] (W×D×H): 2.6×1.6×0.53mm, 0.003g

2. **Top-Level Waterproof and Dustproof Performance**
   By enhancing the sealed structure, the SKUB Series achieves IP68-level waterproof and dustproof performance, the highest standard. It is ideal for products requiring waterproofing, such as wearable devices, earphones, and hearing aids.

3. **Comparable Tactile Feel to Previous Models**
   Miniaturization often weakens the tactile “click” feeling when pressed, but improvements to the spring structure solve this issue, providing the same tactile feel as the SKTA Series. The switch offers a comfortable user experience, even in wearable devices or earphones where tactile feedback is crucial for operation without visual cues.

4. **Extended Product Lifespan**
   With improvements to the spring structure, the SKUB Series boasts a lifespan of 500,000 operations, one of the highest among our products. This ensures stable performance over the long term, even in devices where the switch is frequently used.

5. **Environmental Consideration**
   As with our previous products, the housing of the SKUB Series is made from recycled materials. By effectively utilizing resources without compromising quality or performance, we contribute to the realization of a circular economy.

Product Information

Item	Specification
Dimensions	W2.4 × D1.4 × H0.55
Operating Force	1.6N
Travel Distance	0.11mm
Maximum Rating	12V DC 50mA
Operating Life	500,000 cycles
Initial Contact Resistance	500mΩ
Protection Rating	Equivalent to IP68

Applications

Smartphones, Wearable Devices, Earphones, Electronic Cigarettes

Sales Information

Sales Start: September 2024
Sample Purchase: Products Search | Products & Technologies | Alps Alpine

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