

# CASE STUDY

## AttaBox® SolarShield™ HMI Covers Enable Customers of MRI Automation to Benefit from Rugged, Durable Protection of HMI Screens and Hands-Free Viewing

### THE SITUATION:

With more than 70 years of industry experience, MRI Automation — located in Corpus Christi, TX — specializes in providing solutions for industrial process instrumentation and controls.

### THE CHALLENGE:

As a representative and distributor for a wide variety of industrial controls, MRI Automation supports customers who are faced with diverse needs ranging from turnkey programs to highly individualized application requirements. To meet such challenges, MRI Automation is committed to a customer-first approach that anticipates needs and delivers tailored, efficient problem-solving products and services.

Among those needs is a growing demand in many non-hazardous industrial and commercial OEM market sectors for the protection of Human-Machine Interface (HMI) screens from UV and harsh environmental conditions.

### THE SOLUTION: ATTABOX ENCLOSURES

Enter, AttaBox® SolarShield™. The patented SolarShield HMI Cover, available in standard opaque or clear cover options, offers the most innovative, durable non-metallic HMI Cover for use with all enclosure material types. Both clear and opaque cover options are rated for flammability and are proven to protect HMI screens from harsh environmental conditions. The opaque cover option additionally protects HMI screens from UV.

The SolarShield HMI Cover is ideal for diverse applications including oil and gas, equipment manufacturing, industrial machines, water/wastewater, marine, and food and beverage. This flexibility of function made SolarShield a perfect fit to meet the



**When the opaque SolarShield HMI Cover is open, it offers hands-free viewing of HMI devices regardless of the angle of the sun.**

varying needs of MRI Automation’s customers. According to Steve Kopecky, Vice President of Sales for MRI Automation, “We are sold on AttaBox Enclosures and their SolarShield HMI Shield.”

Mr. Kopecky reports that, among their current customers, AttaBox SolarShield HMI Covers are in use in the oil and gas industry for safety panels as part of the control process for flaring—a burning off of gasses that is part of oil production. SolarShield HMI Covers are also in active use on control systems for saltwater disposal.

In both applications, notes Mr. Kopecky, “SolarShield HMI Covers make it easier for operators to see and clearly read critical instrumentation, control, and measurement screens because glare is greatly reduced. Once viewing is completed, they can close the cover and save their HMI screens from damage.”

However, hands-free viewing and durable protection of HMI screens is not the only reason MRI Automation relies on AttaBox SolarShield HMI Covers. Availability, Mr. Kopecky emphasizes, is key.

“AttaBox replaced a different product that we had been



**When the SolarShield HMI Cover is closed, it offers rugged, durable protection of HMI devices from environmental damage.**

using because we needed reliability of availability," he says. "AttaBox products have always been available. We haven't had any delivery issues. Always very timely responses. That's a big benefit for us."

## CONCLUSION

When asked if MRI Automation would recommend SolarShield HMI Covers to others, Steve Kopecky said a resounding "yes!"

"I would recommend both AttaBox Enclosures and SolarShield HMI Covers. These are high quality, well-rounded products that we've used in different applications and they've proved to be very reliable. Everything's been great!"

**"SolarShield HMI Covers make it easier for operators to see and clearly read critical instrumentation, control, and measurement screens."**

**-Steve Kopecky, MRI Automation**

## ATTABOX SOLARSHIELD HMI COVERS AT A GLANCE:

Extremely tough and durable, AttaBox SolarShield HMI Covers can be used in both outdoor and indoor applications. They provide superior protection of HMI screens from sun, dust, water (rain, sleet, snow), sand, flames, oils, chemicals, grease, dirt, foreign objects, and other environmental conditions that cause corrosion and damage. SolarShield HMI Covers maintain a NEMA 4 and 4X rating when paired with a

NEMA type 4 or 4X HMI device.

SolarShield's simple and functional design features hinged inner doors that support the cover when it is opened, offering a hands-free viewing experience and better visibility of the HMI screen in the sun. The impact-resistant yet light-weight polycarbonate cover and base construction with UV inhibitors provides long dependable life in harsh conditions, while a robotically-applied foam-in-place seamless polyurethane gasket creates a reliable seal.

AttaBox SolarShield HMI Covers fit standard 8" and smaller HMI screens and maintain a NEMA 4X rating of enclosure and screen. These universal covers can be used with either non-metallic or metallic enclosures. They come with a stainless steel hardware kit and are padlock-able for increased security. Installation is simple and easy with the use of common tools.

AttaBox SolarShield HMI Covers maintain UL's best outdoor rating: an "f1" per UL 746C, meaning the polycarbonate material has passed tests for UV exposure and water immersion. They also conform to the following standards: UL Listed, UL50e, UL508A, Type 1, 3R, 4, 4X, 12. They feature an Operating Temperature Rating of -40°F to +248°F (-40°C to +120°C).

SolarShield has been such a success, and have been received so enthusiastically in the market, that there is a demand for additional sizes which will be released to the market soon.

## FOR MORE INFORMATION:

**MRI Automation**  
[www.mriautomation.com](http://www.mriautomation.com)

**AttaBox Enclosures**  
[www.attabox.com](http://www.attabox.com)