



# Industrial Andons, LLC

Efficient Manufacturing Solutions

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## Trial Andon systems now available with fully-functioning software control for the trial period.

The new web-based data resource is now an available option as part of a pre-purchase, trial Andon system, both to new clients as well as current customers who do not have the software. Please call or email for details.

## New Cloud Software Demonstration Videos

- [Web Monitor Configuration Training Video](#)
- [Problem Matrix Configuration Training Video](#)
- [Recording Problems Training Video](#)
- [general information videos](#)

## New Switch Box Increases Ease of Use and Improved Visual Control



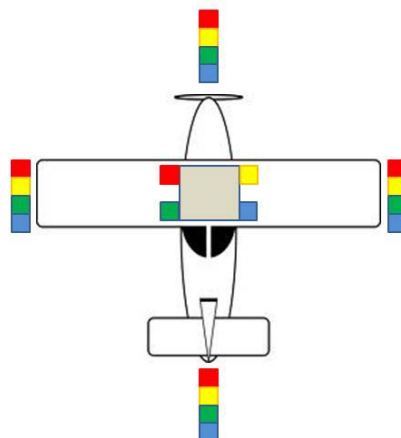
Industrial Andons is always looking for ways to improve our products. We have recently improved the design of our switch boxes from identical toggle switches to color coded buttons. This change improves the product in two key ways. First, the button colors match the lights. This makes it easier to identify

which button to press no matter the direction the switch box is mounted.

Second, the button can easily be pressed with one finger instead of using several as with the toggle switch. During an onsite visit recently we noticed a team member having a tough time turning their andon light on while they had both hands full with parts.

The new switch boxes use the same cordsets and receptacles as the previous ones and are a direct replacement.

## American Airlines Uses Andons for Safety



When you think of the purpose of having an andon system, you normally think about signaling for someone to come and help. Whether it's for parts, a quality issue, maintenance or a general question.

American Airlines called and said they wanted to improve their visual control to keep people AWAY, they peaked our interest. American Airlines takes safety very serious, in the air and on the ground, and it's no different at their Tulsa Maintenance and Engineering Base.

## Document Links

[Always get the current Users Manual here.](#)

## Referrals

### Newsletter

*Please forward this newsletter to your colleagues*

### About us

*Located in Austin TX, press [here](#) to continue...*

## Contact Us

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At the Tulsa base, American overhauls, repairs and performs maintenance on various fleets of aircraft. As Thomas Nelson, 737 Production Manager explained, “with the size and shape of the aircraft in dock, it is difficult to ensure that your people aren’t in a safety compromising position when the different systems are energized for checks and testing. Also, with the noise levels in the dock it’s difficult to hear the warning pages and you simply can’t yell out to everyone.”

Therefore, American needed a highly visual way to indicate to the various skill sets working on the aircraft what systems were coming on line and that certain parts of the aircraft would be operational and moving, presenting possible safety hazards to workers in the immediate area. As a result, they placed Industrial Andons’ Floor Signal Stations at the tip of each wing and at the nose and tail of the aircraft along with a Plant Signal Unit placed overhead by the aisle way into the dock with signage to warn employees entering the hangar dock of potential hazards.

When a system comes online, the crew chiefs make an announcement on the PA system and use the keyfob remote to light up the stations and Plant Signal Unit to indicate what system (flight controls/landing gear, electrical, hydraulic, or pneumatic systems) is coming online, creating a safety perimeter for the mechanics working on the aircraft.

Both Nelson and Safety Committee member Clay Streater agree that the Andon System has created a safer environment for everyone in the Hangar Docks.

Customers come up with amazing new ways to use our products beyond what we ever imagined. If you would like to share your application in an upcoming newsletter, send us a note at [info@industrialandons.com](mailto:info@industrialandons.com).

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## New wifi Based Andon System

When Industrial Andons, LLC first opened its doors in 2003 wifi was still new. People were starting to install it in their homes and some businesses had it in their offices. However, wifi on the factory floor was almost unheard of.

As a result, Industrial Andons first wireless products were based on our proprietary point to point wireless protocol. We have expanded this design to several product variants and it continues to be a great solution for many customers. However, we are now seeing that most manufacturing facilities do have strong reliable wifi networks.

Industrial Andons is always looking for innovative new ways to help our customers communicate effectively and reduce downtime, increase productivity and improve quality. Many sites are not one big open space, which is ideal for our standard system. They have multiple floors and buildings with lots of layers of concrete and metal in between. This is not ideal for a point to point solution.

This is why we initially designed our database system. In addition to collecting data, customers could send out notifications and view the status online. But

sometimes you just need a light and a melody. With this in mind, we are happy to launch our completely wifi based andon system.

This system uses your existing wifi network (802.11g) as the backbone of the system to communicate with the other devices. The devices no longer have to be line of sight or 'not too far away' from each other. The devices just have to be on the same network. The Floor Signal Station sends a signal to a computer running the control program (in the background as a service). The program then sends the signal out to the Plant Signal Unit(s) that can be in all different locations.

#### Mix and Match Systems

In keeping with our modular approach to our products, you don't have to have a completely wifi based system. You can have some point to point and some wifi equipment working together. In other words, if you are currently using a point to point system but would like to add a Plant Signal Unit to a remote location, you can! In the current area where the Floor Signal Stations are located you will need to add a wifi based listening device. This device will listen to the current point to point devices and then transmit on the wifi network to the new wifi based Plant Signal Unit at the remote location.

Please contact us at [info@industrialandons.com](mailto:info@industrialandons.com) if you have any questions.

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## Cub Scout Rocket Day



Industrial Andons President Bob Wilson is the Committee Chair for his son's Cub Scout Pack. Every June the Pack has "Rocket Day", where the scouts build and launch solid fuel model rockets.

This year Bob scavenged an old prototype WLRX board and used it as the remote trigger for a battery powered compressed air rocket launcher.

Some of the Tiger Cubs came to watch but didn't have rockets of their own. So they got to build their own foam rockets out of pipe insulation and duct tape.

Fun was had by all.