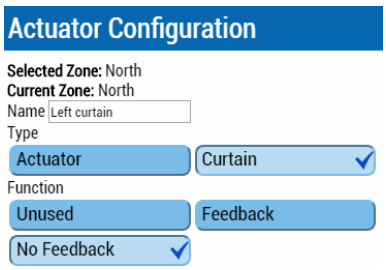
APP-003: Using whisker switches with curtains

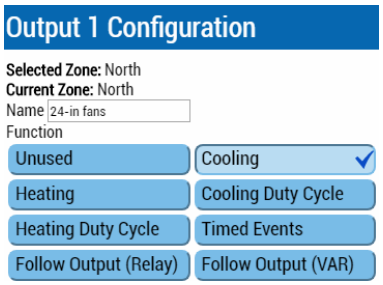
This application note explains how to program AutoFlex Connect to use curtain machines with whisker switches and have the fans shut off when the curtains are opening or closing. We will do this by creating a secondary modifier for the fans using the whisker switch as the modifier.

Configuring the modules

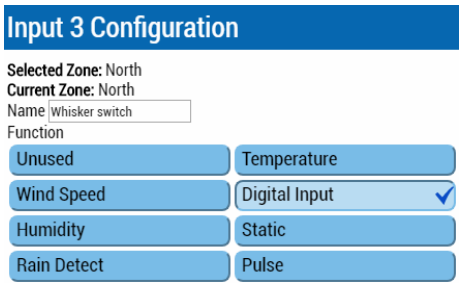
- Curtain machines connect to Actuator Modules (**ACT-1**). You can configure them with or without feedback. For example:



- Variable speed fans connect to either Variable AC Modules (**VAC-1**) or Variable DC Modules (**VDC-4**), depending on the type of fans. Single speed fans connect to Relay Modules (**RM-2** or **RM-4**). The following is a single-speed example on a Relay Module.



- Whisker switches connect to Input Modules (**IN-4**). Configure them as digital inputs. For example:



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Programming settings

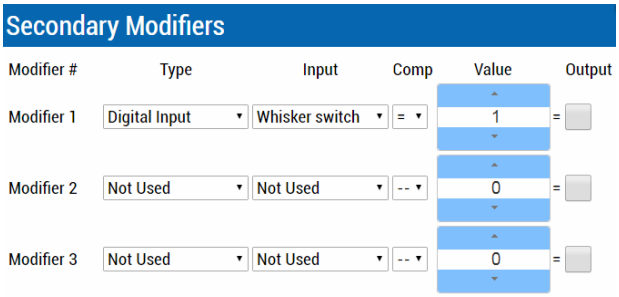
1. Program the settings for the curtains as you normally would.

2. Program the settings for the fans as you normally would.

3. After programming the fan settings, press the **secondary modifier** icon in the bottom-right corner of the fan settings screen.

4. Create a secondary modifier with the following settings for **Modifier 1**:

- **Type:** digital input
- **Input:** the whisker switch you configured
- **Comparison:** is equal to
- **Value:** 1 (circuit closed)
- **Output:** not checked (no output)



This means: "When the digital input *whisker switch* is closed, there is no output to the fan."

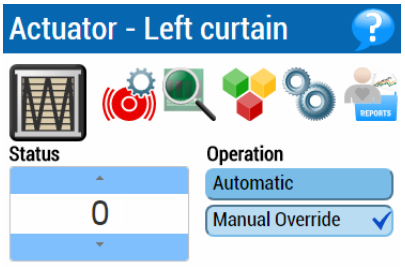
- ◇ The example is for a whisker switch that is *normally open* and closes when the curtains move.
- ◇ If you have a whisker switch that is *normally closed* and opens when the curtains move, you would set the value to 0 instead of 1.

Testing the modifier

Configuration and programming is now complete. If you want to test the setup, go through the following steps. The example below is for an actuator that has feedback.

1. With the fan running and operating normally (not in manual mode), press the widget for the curtain.

2. Press manual override and then adjust the position by about 20.
When the curtain starts to move, the fans should shut off.



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