

## **Electric Power Steering for MGA, MGB & MGC.**

A company in Holland called: "EZ electric power steering" makes replacement steering columns for over 200 different cars, including the MGA, MGB & MGC.

The power unit is made by NSK (well known for precision bearings) of Japan and the people in Holland fit suitable power units into new columns to make a complete column to replace the factory column depending on make and model.

The ECU is part of the motor assembly on the column and there is a small match box sized separate unit with wiring to a potentiometer to allow the driver to set the amount of assistance he/she requires.

The EZ unit is totally independent of the cars electrical systems only requiring a feed from the ignition circuit, main power from the solenoid terminal and earth to operate. Current draw is from 5 to 8 amps (only while operating) so is suitable for cars using dynamos or alternators.

Installation is under the dash and is hardly visible to the casual observer. Once the ignition is switched on the unit is operable in about 2 seconds so the car can be easily moved around once the ignition is on. The steering characteristics are unchanged from normal and if a driver does not want power steering a toggle switch can be fitted in the wire from the ignition circuit to turn it off to suit a male and female driver for example. A Big Healey owner in the USA has done this to his car so he can be a "He Man" and then his wife can drive the car like any modern car. By being able to adjust the assistance the system can be set for individual circuits or any on road conditions that the driver desires.

John Hoyle of Hoyle Engineering has the EZ system on his highly developed MGA (loves it around Silverstone) and also for Autobahn cruising setting the car as required. He highly recommended I fit this to the very heavy (15" wheel and fast rack) steering on the "Truck" which is now ex truck driving wise.

I have had this in for a couple of months and travelled over 1,000 miles and have found it excellent, no more sore shoulders and rib cage after a 2 day mid-week run. The heavy MGC really benefits from power assistance. Older RV8 drivers with arthritis report that electric power steering has saved their car being sold. MGF units being fitted. The limited edition of the anniversary MGB-GT (50 only cars at GBP 50,000 plus options) uses the EZ unit when owners specify power steering.

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