

SOLUTIONS IN ACTION

PACK EXPO 2008



The AMS A-400E Filler



*Allen-Bradley® MicroLogix™ 1500
Programmable Logic Controller*



*Allen-Bradley® Ultra™ 3000
Servo Drive*

AMS
FILLING SYSTEMS, INC.

Booth No. S-2636

Filling substances into tiny containers can be a challenging process. Manufacturers turn to filling-machine builders like **AMS Filling Systems** to take on the meticulous task of pouring an exact amount – down to the ounce – of spices, ground coffee and other powdery substances into various-sized containers.

The Honey Brook, Pa. based packaging OEM delivers filling solutions for customers who manufacture powders and granulates in the food, pharmaceutical, chemical and cosmetic industries. In response to industry demands for increased accuracy, AMS designed the **SA-410E single-head automatic filler**.

“From pharmaceutical companies that need to validate every gram of product to cosmetic companies who can’t afford to waste expensive powders during the manufacturing process, accuracy is critical,” says Andy Baker, president/CEO, AMS Filling Systems.

The AMS SA-410E filler provides customers with speed, flexibility and precision. It fills 10 containers per minute, can enact product changeovers in less than eight minutes, and can provide the weight verification capabilities demanded by customers. Ideal for the food industry, the SA-410E features a stainless-steel design for easy cleaning.

The filler relies on Rockwell Automation solutions to help automate all aspects of filling. As empty containers advance through the filler, they are lifted onto a scale the size of a deck of playing cards. The scale communicates with an Allen-Bradley® MicroLogix™ 1500 programmable logic controller (PLC) to begin dispensing the product.

The PLC works seamlessly with Allen-Bradley Ultra™ 3000 servo drives to boost the machine’s speed and precision. By integrating the drive and controller, AMS machines help to eliminate network delays, enhance performance and reduce motion cycle time.

Solutions in action at Pack Expo 2008



High-resolution feedback between the servo drives, controller, scale and other machine elements helps the SA-410E quickly and accurately fill the precise amount of product into each container. The precise capabilities of the Ultra 3000 servo drives enable it to rotate the dispenser opening at half-revolution increments, to flow extremely small amounts of product.

As powders flow into containers, operators can closely monitor the fluctuating weight in real time on the Allen-Bradley PanelView™ 600 human-machine interface (HMI). With several programs and applications on the screen at once, operators can monitor information about everything from machine diagnostics to how many containers are being filled each minute.

The MicroLogix 1500 PLC delivers the functionality, flexibility, and data-logging capabilities to meet the needs of the global marketplace. Designed for expandability, it can handle applications that traditionally call for larger, more expensive controllers. AMS can remotely add, remove or change machine features for customers by e-mailing them the updated programming.

The integrated nature of the Rockwell Automation solutions help AMS assemble its filling machine up to 25 percent faster, reduce wiring and give customers the flexibility to react to future changes. If customers need support, they can turn to AMS or the Rockwell Automation global network.

“Our customers are held accountable for what they put on the shelves,” says Baker. “In order for us to help meet their need for quality control, we’ve partnered with Rockwell Automation to create a filling machine that offers them accuracy they can depend on.”

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