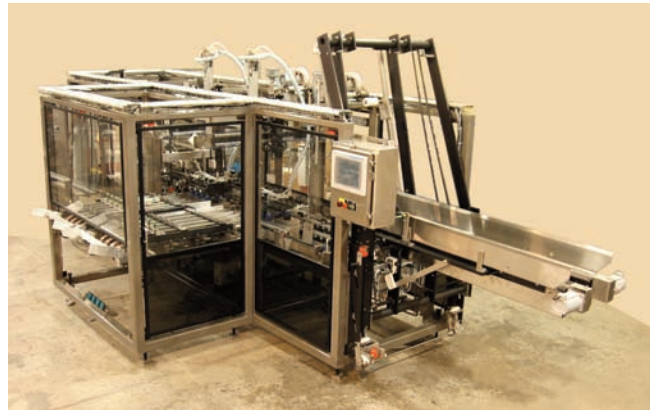


SOLUTIONS IN ACTION

PACK EXPO 2008



*Dual-load-station-wraparound Case Packer
from Massman Automation Designs*

Booth No. S-2874



*Allen-Bradley® ControlLogix®
Programmable Automation Controller*



*Allen-Bradley® Kinetix® 6000
Servo Drive*

Massman Automation Designs partners with customers in the food, consumable goods and building materials industries to produce dependable standard and custom machinery. Located in Villard, Minn., Massman builds secondary packaging machines, such as automatic case packers, palletizers, lane dividers, case erectors and case sealers. For 30 years, Massman machines have leveraged the latest technology for proven control and design schemes.

PACK EXPO 2008 provides the venue for Massman to display a **dual-load-station wraparound case packer**. Made specifically for Kemps LLC, a dairy products producer, the case packer is designed to pack the 5 ounce ice cream cups.

Transferred from Kemps' conveyors, the ice cream cups come into the machine on eight equal lanes, four infeed lanes to each of the two load stations. The product is accumulated and readied for loading. When the layer pattern is complete, the product is loaded into the case by a pick-and-place system. The first four infeed lanes load the lower layer of the case with 12 cups, and the second four lanes load the second layer, for a total of 24 cups per case. Finally, the case's flaps are closed, glue is applied, and the completed case is discharged onto the Kemps' take-away conveyor.

Unique to this machine is a tubular stainless-steel washdown frame with all stainless steel washdown internal components and NEMA 4X electronics. This type of frame offers the end user supreme accessibility with its walk-in feature, the ability to clear jams or to maintain the machine. This type of construction addresses Kemps requirement to perform a thorough washdown of this equipment weekly. The extra compression and loading stations within the machine, improve the throughput and reliability.

Standard on the case packer, due to the speeds and accuracy requirements, are servo motor-driven mechanisms. Additionally, careful attention to quality drives and servo motors as well as solid motion application and component design yield more dependable machines. Massman also makes an overall review of the motion components as an effort to reduce the customers requirements for spare parts. On this entire 10 axis machine, the customer will only be required to stock 2 servo drives and 3 servo motors.

Solutions in action at Pack Expo 2008

"When proposing and building our machines, we are getting more and more requests for Rockwell Automation controls," said Mark Suchy, vice president, Massman Automation Designs. "Our customers value their Allen-Bradley® products due to the company's local support and nationwide training programs."

To meet Kemps' needs, Massman turned to Rockwell Automation and its Allen-Bradley ControlLogix® programmable automation controller (PAC). The ControlLogix PAC with the Allen-Bradley PanelView™ operator interface leverages the Rockwell Automation Logix Control Platform. This platform includes multidisciplinary control, open networking technology, and communications services to increase functionality, scalability and flexibility. Also, with the integrated Allen-Bradley Kinetix® motion control built in, the ControlLogix PAC eliminates the need for a separate motion controller, thus significantly reducing programming time and improving synchronization.

In addition, the machine uses EtherNet/IP™ networking, a 16-axis SERCOS® interface motion module, two Allen-Bradley PowerFlex® AC drives, 10 Allen Bradley Kinetix 6000 multi-axis servo drives, and 10 Allen-Bradley MP-Series™ food-grade servo motors.

The servo motors are used for any high-speed control and motion application that is required throughout the packing process. Servo drives control the vertical lift for lifting the cups, and the horizontal motion required to transport the cups into the cases. Servo drives also control set-up arms, feed chains, flap tuckers and the glue compression system.

For simplified drive startup and reduced development time, drive configuration is integrated with the machine's Rockwell Software® RSLogix™ 5000 programming software, also from Rockwell Automation. This single-software design environment simplifies parameter and tag programming while still allowing stand-alone drive software tools to be used on the factory floor.

A broad range of Allen-Bradley industrial control components also are incorporated in the control package including relays, switches, pushbuttons, fuse holders and contactors. The components help provide safety monitoring, high reliability and low maintenance costs, and are widely available through the Rockwell Automation worldwide distributor network.

"Working with Rockwell Automation has allowed us to gain multiple competitive benefits, including excellent product lead time for quicker deliveries, local support, and reduced programming and design efforts," said Suchy. "This brings additional value to our machines and helps us provide a product that satisfies our customers' needs, and extends our reputation for providing long-lasting, solid equipment."

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