

SOLUTIONS IN ACTION

PACK EXPO 2008



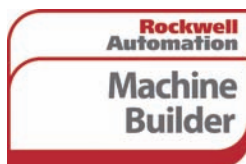
The Pearson RTL-MX
Robotic Case Packer



Allen-Bradley® ControlLogix®
Programmable Automation Controller



Allen-Bradley® PowerFlex® 40
Variable Frequency Drive



Booth No. S-2218

Since 1955, **Pearson Packaging Systems** has erected, packed, lined and sealed cases and trays for manufacturers all over the world. Today, Pearson Packaging Systems is one of the largest manufacturers of secondary packaging machinery. Over the years, its product line has grown to include not only a wide variety of **case erectors, case sealers, bag inserters** and other specialized packaging machinery but, they also offer complete **end-of-line systems**, including **robotic case packers, robotic palletizers and robotic magazine loaders**.

Pearson's approach to machinery and end-of-line systems design results in truly unified systems. By making PackML, a commonly understood state model, standard on all of their core machinery, they are able to offer highly reliable machinery and systems, which are not only easily tied together, but easier to maintain and can be supported by a single vendor.

Pearson RTL-MX Robotic Case Packing Cell

On display at PACK EXPO 2008, is the Pearson RTL-MX Robotic Case Packing Cell. The RTL-MX uses highly reliable multiaxis articulated arm robots to gently pick products and accurately place them into shipping containers.

A Fanuc LR-Mate robotic arm, utilizing Fanuc's integrated irVision® technology and line tracking will pick and place individual flexible pouches into a pattern before a Fanuc M-710 robotic arm picks a layer of the pouches and packs them into a shipping case. With fast, preprogrammed changeovers, customizable end-of-arm tooling, and fully interlocked guarding, the RTL-MX packing cell can easily and safely pack a variety of product styles into different pack patterns.

The system relies on an Allen-Bradley® ControlLogix® programmable automation controller (PAC) to manage overall packing functions. The multidisciplinary controller combines discrete and motion control into one processor, resulting in reduced maintenance, less training and lower operating costs. The ControlLogix processor links to the robot controller via EtherNet/IP, allowing operators to control and reset cell parameters through an Allen-Bradley PanelView™ Plus 1000 operator interface. Helping to deliver precise motor control and smooth reliable performance is an Allen-Bradley PowerFlex® 40 drive from Rockwell Automation.

"Our customers place increasing importance on equipment reliability," said Michael A. Senske, president and CEO of Pearson Packaging Systems. "One of the ways we meet this expectation is by standardizing on Rockwell Automation components. Partnering with Rockwell Automation not only allows us to shorten our lead times, but also provides our customers with other important benefits, including reduced maintenance and training costs, increased flexibility for future changes, and single-source service and support."

Solutions in action at Pack Expo 2008

Pearson VP15-T VersaPack® Hand-Packing System

The Pearson VP15-T VersaPack® Hand-Packing System consists of an ergonomically-designed hand-packing station, the Pearson model CE15-T case erector and a model CS15-T case sealer. It is an all-in-one, semiautomatic system designed to erect and bottom seal cases with tape, automatically advance the case to a hand-packing station and release the full case on demand to the case sealer at speeds up to 15 cases per minute.

The hand-packing station features an ergonomically-designed product infeed conveyor with adjustable height as well as an adjustable width case conveyor. This enables the operator to work closely to the case without reaching over a conveyor. Once the case is full, the operator simply passes a finger across a sensor, releasing the case to the sealer. The case sealer then top seals it with pressure-sensitive tape.

Pearson uses an Allen-Bradley MicroLogix™ 1000 programmable logic controller (PLC) to manage overall control functions. An electrically interlocked safety guard package provides enhanced safety and reliability.

Pearson CE35-G Case Erector

The easy-to-use, highly reliable Pearson CE35-G Case Erector, features smooth, cam-guided case selection, as well as a dual opposing vacuum cup case set-up and flighted case transfer. It is capable of erecting and sealing cases with pressure-sensitive tape or hot-melt glue at speeds up to 35 cases per minute 24-hours a day, 7-days a week.

Erecting and sealing functions are managed by an Allen-Bradley CompactLogix™ PAC, while an Allen-Bradley PowerFlex 4 drive helps ensure smooth, reliable performance. The machine is equipped with quick-release kip handles and scales for fast, no-tool changeover with optional quick-change mandrels. An Allen-Bradley PanelView Plus 600 operator interface guides the operator through the easy changeover process.

Pearson CS30-RT Random Case Sealer

The Pearson CS30-RT high-speed case sealer is capable of top and bottom tape sealing cases with varying dimensions in completely random order. The compact and rugged continuous motion sealer runs at 30 cases per minute across the entire case size range. The unique design allows the machine to run an unlimited number of case sizes, measuring each case as it enters the flap folding area and adjusting accordingly.

The machine is also equipped with Allen-Bradley Kinetix® 6000 servo drives, which enable smooth, fast case adjustments while meeting speed requirements. Compared to a mechanical system, the electronic servo design helps to reduce setup time, improves diagnostics, and streamline troubleshooting and maintenance.

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