

SOLUTIONS IN ACTION

PACK EXPO 2008



The Horizontal GSL10 Case Packer
from MG2



Allen-Bradley® CompactLogix™
Programmable Automation Controller



Allen-Bradley® Kinetix® 6000
Servo Drive

MG2

Keeping ahead for you

Booth No. S-7417

Italian manufacturer **MG2**, established in 1966, has a new fully automatic, **horizontal GSL10 case packer**. The GSL10 combines advanced control and servo motion technologies and benefits from compact size and ease of use. The new MG2 case packer, capable of speeds of up to 10 cases per minute, can handle different configurations for in-feed systems, pack patterns, item insertions and positioning. From its sealing station, carton flaps can be sealed through hot-melt glue or adhesive tape dispensers or through a combination of the two techniques.

The GSL10 case packer is fully equipped with products and solutions from Rockwell Automation, from electromechanical components to motion and control electronic devices. The case packer is controlled by an Allen-Bradley® CompactLogix™ programmable automation controller (PAC) connected to a Kinetix® 6000 servo drive. The servo drive manages the four MPL Series brushless motors which are, in turn, linked to PowerFlex® 4 drives. All production data is viewed through a 7.5" PanelView Plus™ 700 operator interface.

"In the past, we usually equipped our machines with dedicated mechanical cams and traditional shaft drives to control the main case-packing processes. It resulted in high costs and lengthy timing in the design phase, as well as significant downtimes in changeovers and slow down in productivity to our customers," stated Mr. Alessandro Nanni, Head of the Electronic and Software Department at MG2 Packaging Division. "When we planned the new GSL10 case packer design, we looked for an integrated motion and logic control platform which could help us to reduce dedicated mechanical cams and, at the same time, synchronize all the mechanical motion elements driving the process, in order to achieve a flexible machine that is easier to access and to clean. We wanted to provide our customers with the highest position accuracy and the shortest motion cycle timing."

Rockwell Automation helped MG2 to reach this goal, as its solutions allowed Mr. Nanni's team to rely on a complete integrated and fully-electronic automation platform that could be developed using the Rockwell Software® RSLogix™ 5000 programming software.

Solutions in action at Pack Expo 2008



“By choosing the Allen-Bradley CompactLogix PAC connected to the Kinetix 6000 servo drive, we have met the main challenging demands of our end-users who are brand leaders in the pharmaceutical, cosmetics and food industries,” explained Mr Nanni. “We can now provide them with one of the most flexible case packers available in the market. Our customers can now benefit from high accessibility and easier size changeovers, as most of them currently need to change case sizes even twice a day on the same case packer. Relying on our GSL10, and thanks to the Rockwell Automation integrated motion control platform, they can handle different types of cases, product arrangements and size changeovers as required.”

Due to the synchronization of all the mechanical motion elements that drive the process, MG2's customers are now able to achieve an easier, faster and more cost-effective maintenance service. MG2's GSL10 is one of the first fully implemented EtherNet/IP™ compact case packers on the market.

“Thanks to us working with Rockwell Automation, we could shift from DeviceNet to EtherNet/IP protocol and Remote I/O. In the past, we usually managed different communication protocols on the same machine. The different protocols meant different software tools for programming, and different data speed rates, or even different technical failures”, Mr. Nanni ends. “With the Rockwell Automation Integrated Architecture™ solution, end-users can now share the same IP open network on the GSL10 case packer. Integration of control devices and communication standards on the same machine has never been easier.”

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