

Tindall Packaging, Inc.- Unitronics V570™ Controls Precise Filling Cycles

PACKAGING MACHINERY

For over 30 years, Tindall Packaging, Inc. has been filling everything from ice cream, to yogurt, cottage cheese and more. The primary control for the system is none other than the Unitronics Vision570™. Filling 4 packages at one time with 4 independent nozzles, "We wanted the ability to control the cycle of each nozzle." Said Ray Campbell, Machine Fabricator for Tindall Packaging. "Unitronics Vision570™ made it possible for us to program and select a flavor using the color-Touchscreen, select how many counts per flavor we wanted to distribute, and start a new batch of flavors at the touch of a button."



For equal filling of each container, the Vision570™ is interfaced with the servo drive that cycles the machine. "This allows us to time the open cycle of the nozzle in a 10th of a second for accurate cup fills. It provides a seamless interface with the operator and electrical pneumatics that operate the filling equipment." Says Campbell.

Unitronics' free "remote access" utility also allowed the plant managers to control and keep track of what was happening on the floor in comfort of their own offices. "This is our first time incorporating a PLC into our equipment. The unit we have on our filler has hundreds of applications that we haven't even tried or applied to our filling cycles as of yet." Says Campbell. "The Vision570™ system is easy to operate, and allows us the flexibility to meet our customers' needs."



Unitronics in Italy: Improved Lime Plant Process Control Boosts ROI

PLANT PROCESS CONTROL

In the long run, obsolete, outdated process control systems result in reduced production that costs the manufacturer money. Minermix s.r.l., one of Italy's most dynamic and versatile producers of lime and dolomite, recently made the decision to retrofit their machinery by introducing PLC automated control. Minermix opted to use Unitronics PLC and integrated HMI controllers to update and simplify the current lime kiln, mill, and mixing plant control systems.

"Our goals were to efficiently communicate data between plant divisions, reduce human error, and achieve the best possible quality standards." says Fabio Stranieri, manager of Minermix's Electronic Controls division. "We also needed a powerful tool for calculating production, weighing, PID for gas flow, communication with external devices, alarms and so on."



The units they chose for this task were the Vision280™, Vision230™, Vision120™ and the EX-RC1 for remote, distributed control. The Vision280™ controls everything-the weighing system for limestone production, PID for gas and air regulation, the charging and discharging of the kiln, temperature and combustion process. In the second plant, the Vision230™ and Vision120™ control the mixing of minerals through mixers, augers, conveyors, pneumatic thrusters etc.

Stranieri was formerly a devout user of a competing PLC line. He switched to Unitronics mainly because "Our previous controllers could not compare with Unitronics products, which are much easier to use, and are always reliable. Unitronics controllers have perfectly controlled every variable and point of our processes."



If you have an application story that you would like to share, please contact Lindsay.Pestilli@Unitronics.com (x7903)