

SUCCESS STORY



Plant Expansion Leading Dairy Company

The customer's plant expansion project was on a very aggressive schedule. They needed programming services, design and fabrication of 25 large panels, and panel termination services. We worked with the customer to successfully meet their schedule.



BUSINESS NEED

A large dairy company was on a very aggressive schedule to expand their facility to support a new production line. Due to the project magnitude, they needed to augment their corporate engineering staff by outsourcing panel design for the new process equipment, PLC programming, and startup assistance. In addition, they needed 25 large (2 and 3-door) stainless steel panels fabricated and installed.

OUR SOLUTION

- Engineering team worked alongside the customer's in-house engineers for 18 months
- Developed multiple systems with many thousand I/O points and incorporated new programming architecture and standards with customized UDTs for equipment and new AOIs for devices
- Developed modular, streamlined code for ease of use and reuse across multiple equipment modules and processes
- Assisted the customer in developing the control panel requirements
- Accommodated last-minute panel changes and still met schedule and budget
- Cates Field Resources group managed panel installation and on-site contractors
- Conceptual System Design, PLC & HMI Programming, Simulation, Commissioning, Informal Training, Long-term Remote Support, Project Management, Control Prints AutoCAD® Electrical

CUSTOMER RESULTS

The customer was able to add engineering capacity without hiring staff for a short-term capital project. Using Cates Engineering and Field Resources, the customer was able to use their engineering staff to manage the project and keep the focus on production at their other sites. They were still able to do their primary job even though they were putting in a large production line.

The coordination effort by the customer was minimized and simplified. With panel builds, the customer did not have to coordinate efforts between a design company and a panel company as this coordination was internal to Cates. The customer was able to coordinate design, engineering, fabrication, on-site installation, and billing through a single company.

Need assistance with a plant expansion? Contact us for an estimate.



CATES CONTROL SYSTEMS

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Equipping Manufacturers to Succeed Globally

SUCCESS STORY



Process Equipment for New Facility

Leading Coffee Company

The customer needed all of the process equipment designed and installed in their new 500,000-square-foot manufacturing facility. Cates Control Systems worked with the customer to complete the project on time and within the budget.



BUSINESS NEED

The customer needed all of the process equipment designed and installed in their new manufacturing plant. The 500,000-square-foot facility is used for coffee roasting and product distribution.

OUR SOLUTION

- The control system architecture was based on Rockwell Automation's Allen-Bradley ControlLogix® utilizing GuardLogix® processors.
- ControlLogix processors were used for the control system using Remote I/O (RIO) panels segregated by function and process areas, including packaging and distribution.
- A fiber-optic ring along with EtherNet/IP™ and Device Level Ring (DLR) was installed and utilized for the plant floor communications protocol for all equipment.
- The HMI/SCADA platform used was Inductive Automation's Ignition Pro Platform with unlimited HMI/SCADA Run-Time clients, Historian Tags, Track and Trace, Recipe Management, SPC Module, OEE Downtime Module, and Alarm Notification.
- The installed Industrial Data Center (IDC) will allow the Ignition Pro Platform to function in a Terminal Services environment, enabling a centralized application that supports multiple client computers running HMI/SCADA view sessions.

CUSTOMER RESULTS

Cates Control Systems successfully executed the Phase 1 project requirements under budget and within the projected timeline. Eight months after the completion of Phase 1, Cates was sole sourced as the integrator for Phase 2. Future enhancements are planned for MES development including track and trace, OEE downtime, SPC, and recipe management.

The customer's ERP system (JD Edwards) was tied to plant floor production information via a custom transaction manager interface to the production SQL database. This interface allowed data flow between the two systems and enabled closer coordination between order entry and production.

Need help with a control panel upgrade or other automation project? Contact us for an estimate.



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