

Automatic Cutting and Unloading System

Leading Global Packaging Company

The customer wanted to increase efficiency in the manufacturing of their flexible packaging for the food industry. We worked with them to automate the process, and the customer was able to achieve their labor reduction goal as well as improve overall process efficiency and quality.



BUSINESS NEED

A leading packaging company wanted to reduce the amount of labor needed to manufacture their flexible packaging products for the food industry. The process involved thermally pressing and sealing multiple layers of large format sheet material (4' x 8') to create the perimeter of the liner shape. Following this process, the liner required trimming to remove excess sheet material outside of the liner shape created by the thermal press/seal.

The trimming process was labor intensive and required two associates with hand scissors to trim along the sealed profile to remove the excess liner material. This process was also highly repetitive and completed every 18 seconds on average.

OUR SOLUTION

To reduce labor and the repetitive trimming process, Cates Control Systems provided an Automated Knife Blade Cutting System and Liner Unload Mechanism, integrated in-line with the Thermal Press/Seal System. The Automated Knife Blade Cutting System featured a 5' x 10' cutting area and conveyor to transport the liner material.

After the liner was CNC Knife Blade trimmed to the shape profile, an automated liner unload mechanism stacked the trimmed liners. This unload mechanism featured an electro-mechanical servo mechanism with vacuum pick heads to transfer and stack the trimmed liners.

CUSTOMER RESULTS

The customer achieved their labor reduction goal, along with improved overall process efficiency and quality. After six months of operation, the customer has placed an order for two additional Automatic Cutting and Unloading Systems.

Need help automating a process or increasing manufacturing efficiency? Contact us for an estimate.



CATES CONTROL SYSTEMS

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