

SOLUTIONS IN ACTION

PACK EXPO 2007



The Shuttleworth Pie Handling System



Pies on the way to packaging on the Conveyor System



Allen-Bradley ControlLogix Programmable Automation Controller



Booth No. S-5067

Shuttleworth, Inc. - When it comes to handling fresh-made delicacies like apple pie, the challenge for manufacturers is to maximize factory efficiency without damaging the goods. Shuttleworth, an Indiana-based builder of automated material handling and conveyor systems for the food processing, healthcare and paper industries, has applied its more than 40 years of industry expertise to develop their **Pie Handling Systems**.

Hot off the manufacturing line, pies and other delicacies need to be quickly cooled for packaging. To maximize freezer space, the pies are gently spread out on the conveyor with diverters that are mounted below the conveyor surface. Once cooled, the pies are combined into a single lane on their way to the packaging equipment.

Shuttleworth leverages the Rockwell Automation Integrated Architecture™ for control of the axis, drives and interfaces. At the heart of the solution, an Allen-Bradley® ControlLogix® programmable automation controller manages the movement among the mechanical components, eliminating the risk of collision between pies.

FactoryTalk® View Machine Edition in tandem with an Allen-Bradley PanelView™ human-machine interface terminal allow customers access to real-time diagnostics, such as line efficiencies, making it possible for them to fine tune different zones of the system to accommodate a back up or shortage of product in specific areas.

Despite the fact that Shuttleworth has delivered more than 18,000 product handling systems such as this one, the company's systems are far from a canned solution. "We make an effort to understand each customer's needs individually and provide a system tailored to their business situation," said Todd Eckert business development manager, Shuttleworth, Inc.

Solutions in Action at PACK EXPO 2007

The secret to Shuttleworth's ability to provide cost-effective customization has been the company's partnership with Rockwell Automation.

"Our ability to leverage Rockwell Automation's experience and quality across all areas of manufacturing has added tremendous value for us and our customers," said Eckert, "Standardizing on AB products allows us to make one call to one supplier". "That efficiency is reflected in our ability to deliver custom material handling solutions that are competitively priced."

Perhaps the reason the partnership has worked so well is because of the similarities between the two company philosophies.

"Being a family owned, family-named company comes with an added pressure to uphold a reputation for quality," said Eckert. "To us, Rockwell Automation represents that same high-standard of quality. Installing Rockwell Automation components backed by their global service and support team allow us to rest assured that our name and reputation have that extra level of service and protection built in."

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