

NEWS for Immediate Release

Why you should upgrade or install a new press to press transfer system

Introducing the “Production Pro” press to press transfer line supervisor. This new & exciting way to process & monitor press to press transfer systems is going to change the way you currently do business.

What will the Production Pro do for you? Simple answer, it will increase productivity.

The heart of the Production Pro system is the PLC controller. We use Allen Bradley control logix & compact logix PLC controllers on our systems, along with Devicenet & Ethernet remote I.O. modules. This creates a truly modular system that allows us to expand at will, and virtually never run out of programming space. These new controllers allow us to program in a manner never seen before in this industry. We break each press down to their core components, and have scripted routines for each press. For example a press might need the following: part in place, die protection, programmable limit switches, & lube control. We treat the press as a module & call up each scripted subroutine for each function. We do this for every component that is part of the line. Once completed, all the press functions are then loaded into the Production Pro plc matrix which then processes the information to control the line.

Our Production Pro system is like no other. We use the latest technology to determine press and robot position.



This allows us to track each and every part through the entire process. No more wondering if a prox or limit switch is working. It is displayed right on the screen in real time so you know what is happening with the line. If something does go wrong the Production Pro will let you know, and can even be set to page or email you in the event of a problem.

Let's take a look at the Production Pro's sequence of operations. We start off at the front of the line which consists of the Production Pro Line supervisor and a vision de-stacking system. We use independent systems that can communicate with each other. This is a nice option to have, if a vision de-stacking system is not needed for a particular application. The major advantage of a vision system is that you won't have to mess with a gauge table for different parts. With the vision system it's as simple as taking a snapshot of the part, teaching the system the leading edge of the part, saving it as a part, and that's it. The Production Pro will position the part according to the leading edge, and in to the die of the press, straight & true every time.

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Another unique feature of the Production Pro is the recipe manager. We made this as simple to use as possible. Creating a part is the first step in the recipe. Each part can have up to two hundred different parameters assigned to it for each robot in the line. This allows you to fine tune each robot for the specific part, with options such as chase distance, automation valves,

kickers or lifters, & tooling ID. Once all the parameters have been set, we save the recipe. Recipes can be edited and saved as new recipes for different parts, making it easier to create new parts. Once a recipe is loaded, the Production Pro automatically checks to make sure all tooling ID, robot programs, and vision part styles are all the same before the operation can proceed.

Now for something completely amazing! "Auto Optimization" This function alone sets us completely apart from our competition. What is auto optimization? Auto optimization automatically adjusts the current part being run for maximum performance. That's right, no more having to tweak the system for hours at a time, trying to squeeze every bit of performance out of the line. The Production Pro will automatically do this for you, allowing you to diagnose the slowest part of your operation. We have seen averages of fifteen to twenty percent increases in production by using this function.

The Production Pro is designed to be operated from a central location. However, human machine interface devices are placed though out the line for quick & easy interaction with the system. Need complete part tracking, or production reports? Not a problem the Production Pro can communicate to a SQL server for complete data logging, along with time & date stamping of any parameter that is needed by your quality control department.

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