

CASE STUDY

OEM CUSTOM CONTROL SYSTEM



BACKGROUND

Our client is a key manufacturer in hygienic conveyor equipment utilized in food & beverage applications. Their product is known for its modular components and ease of serviceability. They reached out to GTH for assistance with controls for a custom OEM application.

CHALLENGE

One of their customers contacted them to build a machine to brand bread with their custom logo. This had previously been done manually using a handheld branding iron. There were a number of issues with this system including inconsistent product, excessive energy costs, and workplace safety concerns. The GTH engineering team was tasked with the design and fabrication of the control system required to run the machine.

SOLUTION

GTH worked side-by-side with the client from conceptualizing the design to running physical product on site. Pre-engineering work involved identifying relevant interlocks and safety functions, documenting feedback loop methodologies, and specifying the physical controls and equipment that would be required. Watlow cartridge heaters, selected for their reliability, were controlled using Automation Direct PLCs and Watlow DIN-a-mite power controllers. A local HMI was also used to display process status. This interface allowed the operators make adjustments to temperature and timing as needed.

BENEFITS

Our client was very pleased with the work of GTH on this OEM application. More importantly however, their customer was satisfied with the final product and they are now seeing the benefits of system automation across their facility.

- Reduced energy costs
- Improved efficiencies
- Safer work environment
- Reduction in labor costs
- Increased product quality
- Greater visibility and access to data

