Where open machine systems remove productivity constraints

Material handling

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Material handling outsourcing trends drive need for technology linkages

The machine builder parts supplier role is evolving towards participation in a more connected, holistic approach

Machine builders are tasked with providing the machinery and mechanical parts that support core logistics processes. This ensures that supply chains to and from factories work as planned. With products in constant motion, accurate tracking is mandatory throughout the product manufacturing, warehousing, distribution, consumption and disposal life cycle phases.

In order for handoffs and transitions to operate smoothly, material handling technologies add value by minimizing product delivery constraints and delays. In a domain where linkages and advanced connectivity to outsourcers and manufacturers are critical success factors, Schneider Electric supports machine builders and their customers through an open architecture, EcoStruxure Machine (see next slide for detail), that links connected products regardless of manufacturer, to both edge control and core process apps and analytics. In this way information can be centralized as products are tracked along their journey to their destinations, thereby minimizing interruption and delays.

Convergence of open systems drives enhanced product availability forecasting

Uptime and connectivity emerge as critical success factors in helping logistics to align with forecasts

Consumers want to receive their ordered goods as quickly as possible. In the Food & Beverage industry, for example, freshness is a critical success factor. Manufacturers need the ability to properly forecast quantities to be shipped so that costly under and oversupply situations can be avoided.

Digitization enables forecasting with the highest degree of accuracy possible. However, digitization only bears fruit when logistics systems are linked and when supporting systems such electrical infrastructures are resilient. Schneider Electric works with machine builders and their end users to help specify digitized logistics systems that both support multi-vendor environments and that reduce unanticipated downtime.

Technologies that fuel material handling efficiency gains

Enhanced flexibility of controllers provide shorter machine development and programming times

As supply chains adapt to consumer expectations of shorter delivery times, more robots and automation will appear around conveyors, storage systems, and delivery systems.

Dual purpose controllers such as the Modicon M262 controller, which accommodate both logic and motion applications, ease the integration burden of both machine builders and end users. Built-in open protocols allow for collection of data from both Schneider Electric and 3rd party controllers. In synchronized motion machine applications, the Modicon M262 integrates seamlessly with PacDrive motion controllers to enable linkages to VSDs and servo drives.

Machine-to-machine and system-to-system communications, however, represents an even bigger potential for driving operational optimization. Open frameworks such as Schneider Electric EcoStruxure, leverage smart devices, edge control, software and analytics to orchestrate the linkages and data sharing across power distribution, secure power, building automation, and process automation systems.

See how new tools and software make machines more adaptable …

Discover the right approach for you

> More on material handling

Grow your business

Machine Builders, industry stakeholders and technology manufacturers are entering a new era. Industry 4.0 places new demands on all parties and, at the same time, is opening doors to higher productivity, new business growth opportunities, and new service business models.

Schneider Electric is well positioned to support machine builders and manufacturers with digital transformation by offering expertise in open IIoT-ready architecture platforms such as EcoStruxure for Machine Builders, which link connected hardware and software products such as TeSys island, Modicon M262, and EcoStruxure Machine Advisor to both the cloud and to local edge environments. Together these technologies support machine builders, throughout the machine lifecycle, by reducing time-to-market by up to 30% through simplified design and engineering, by driving 40% faster commissioning integration, and by generating up to 50% in diagnosis and corrective action time savings.

Find out more about our OEM program

EcoStruxure™ Innovation At Every Level Machine

Packaging & Food & Beverage Machinery	Material Handing	Material Working	Hoisting	Pumping	HVAC

EcoStruxure™ Architecture

End-to-end Cybersecurity

Cloud and/or On Premise

Apps, Analytics & Services

AVEVA Software*
Asset Performance
Monitor and Control

EcoStruxure Machine Advisor
EcoStruxure Secure Connect Advisor

EcoStruxure Augmented Operator Advisor

Edge Control

Magelis
IIoT Box and Industrial PC

PacDrive
Motion & Automation Controllers

Modicon
Machine Controllers

EcoStruxure
Machine Expert

EcoStruxure
Machine SCADA Expert

Connected Products

Magelis
HMI

Harmony
Control & signaling

Zelio
Relays

Sensors &
RFID

TeSys
Motor control

Altivar
Variable Speed
Drives

Preventa
Machine Safety

Lexium
Motion Control &
Robotics

Industrial
UPS

Compact,
Circuit Breakers

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