

the
DL

Volume 6 | May 2021

WEIGHER EDITION





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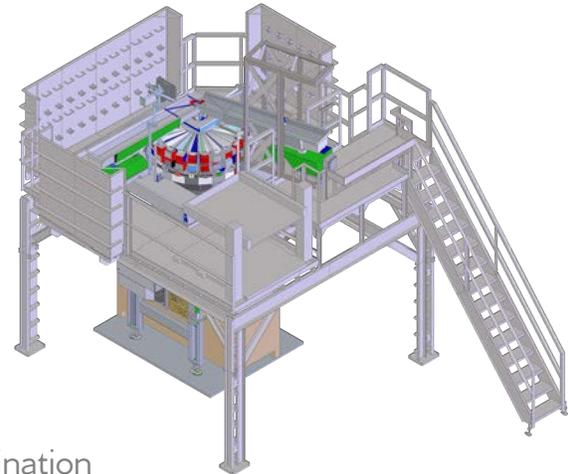
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MULTIPOND

Technology Spotlight:

MULTI-HEAD WEIGHERS / SCALE DECKS / WASH WALLS / ACCESSORIES

One of the fastest growing segments of our business is integrating multi-head weighers with upstream material handling, controls integration, and primary as well as secondary packaging. Friesen's experience with this yield saving technology is broad and can help deliver a turn key solution with full integration.



MULTI-HEAD WEIGHER DEFINITION

A multi-head weigher – also sometimes known as a combination weigher or multi-head scale – is a high-speed, high accuracy weighing machine which is commonly used in the food industry as well as other packaging applications. Each machine contains multiple weighing heads, each with their own load cell, that are used in combination to achieve exact weights. Based on the target weight, the software of the scale chooses which scale buckets (when added together) to combine into a single package and reach the desired weight.

TYPICAL APPLICATIONS

From bacon bits to chicken tenders to finished packages (e.g. master bags) to nutraceuticals, the applications for multi-head weighing are nearly endless. Much of what you see in the grocery store today is scaled via this technology. Much of the reason is yield. When you can control the exact weight, there's value in managing giveaway and rework. Additionally, this technology can work with a variety of packaging platforms including but not limited to horizontal thermoforming. Traysealing, vertical form fill and seal, and standard bag fillers / sealers.

FRIESEN'S INTEGRATIONS APPLICATIONS

With our experience in integrating custom hygienic solutions surrounding multi-head weighers, Friesen's can help from product introduction through palletizing. Typical applications may start with a Friesen's dumper that presents the product to an incline metering hopper.



This will transport the product up an incline conveyor and/or screw conveyor to the top of the multi-head weigher. Then, either the conveyor will transport product to the multi-head weigher infeed or we will integrate a vibrating conveyor for proper transport. This is often decided by the application.

The entire platform around the multi-head weigher is engineered and built to customer specifications by Friesen's. This can include the size of the platform walkways and/or catwalks as well as the design of the wash walls. Wash walls are designed to hold and support the parts of the scale deck during wash down and/or maintenance. Friesen's experience can help achieve a fully washdown system that allows for no hollow tubing, no flat surfaces, spacers throughout, and optional passivation capabilities for hygiene. With 3D modeling and simulation, we can confirm no interferences and proper egress prior to cutting metal.

For packaging, we have some unique solutions for the discharge of vertical baggers. Friesen's also offers a flexible, specially engineered, metal detector conveyor that can take the discharge of the vertical bagger or optionally, a bulk system for boxed product.

Once the product has been packaged by your favorite packaging medium, Friesen's can then integrate secondary packaging. This would include but not be limited to merging conveyors, check weighing, case pack stations, empty box handling, taping, strapping, and palletizing. This is where the value of Friesen's can help your business have it YOUR way. Our applications engineers work on hundreds of layouts per year and can provide free consulting to optimize your layout successfully.

Please reach out to your local sales professional for more information to help your business improve it's ROI by integrating multi-head weighers.

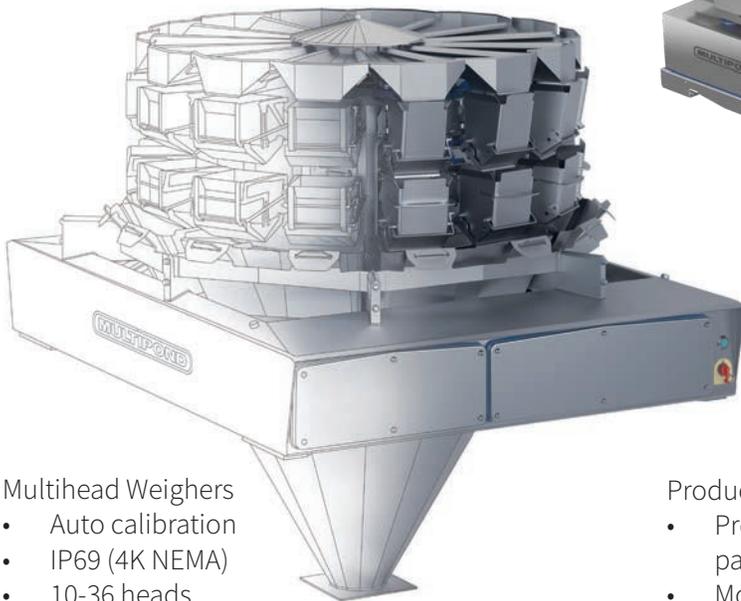


WEIGHING TECHNOLOGY

HYGIENIC WEIGHING SOLUTIONS

PRODUCT DISTRIBUTION SYSTEMS

GERMAN ENGINEERED AND MANUFACTURED



Multihead Weighers

- Auto calibration
- IP69 (4K NEMA)
- 10-36 heads
- Mixing and counting applications



Vibratory Crosshead Feeders

- Various sizes and outlets
- Fines/Water removal



Product Distribution Systems

- Provides interface to packaging machine
- Motor driven
- Up to 24 fill points

THE RIGHT MULTIHEAD WEIGHER FOR EVERY PRODUCT

Regardless of the products you want to accurately weigh and then package, our worldwide team will make every effort to provide optimum and custom packaging solutions.

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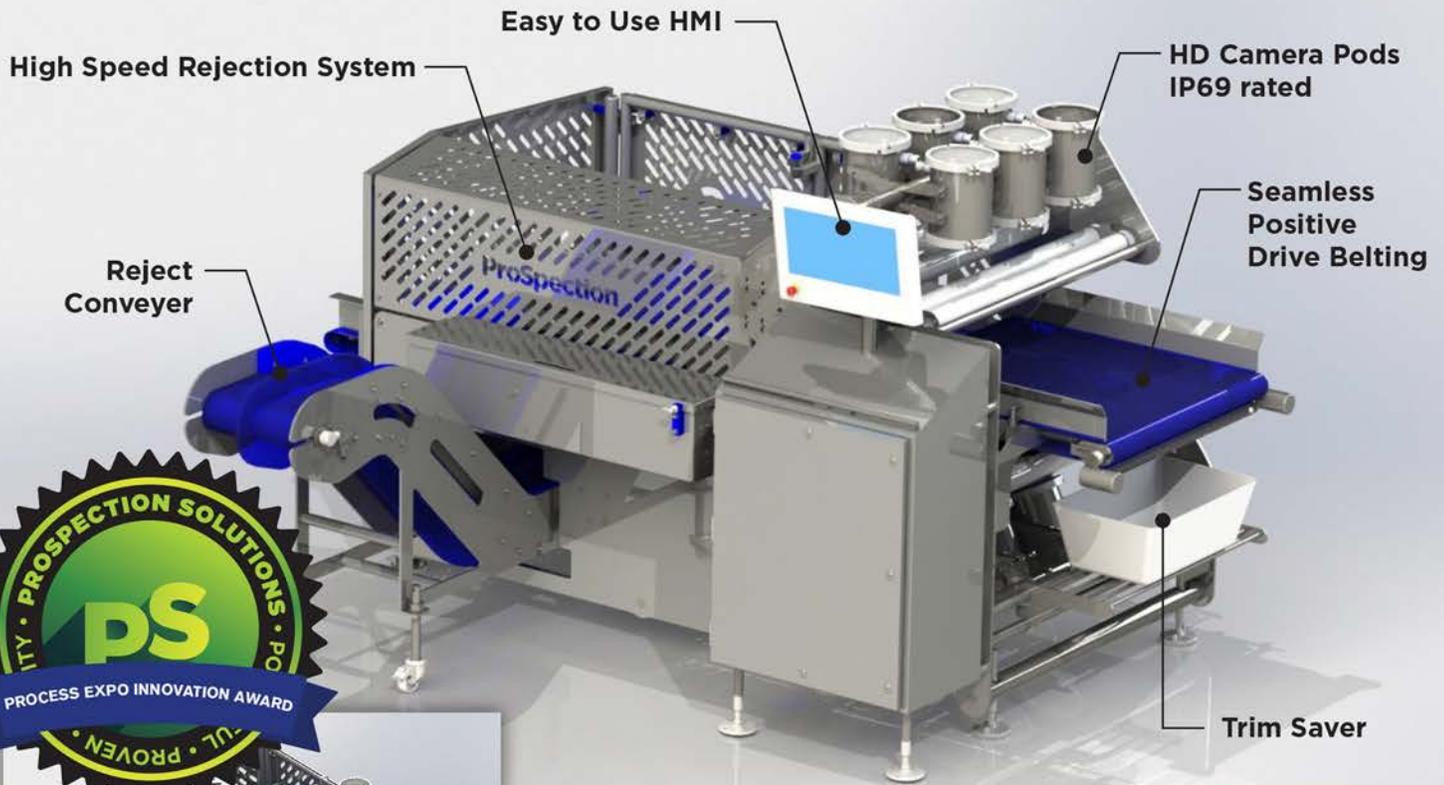
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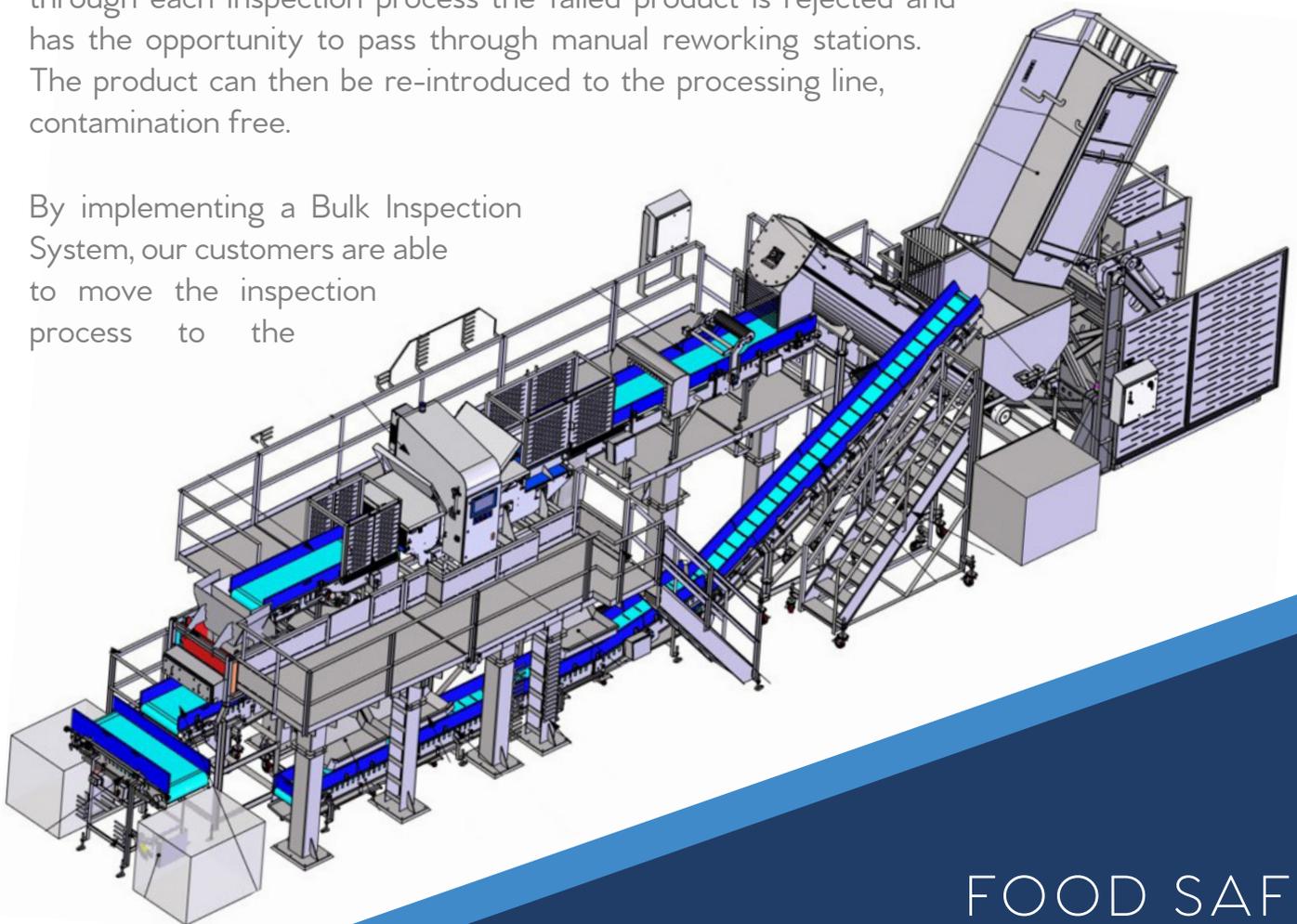
ProSpection - Where Innovation Never Stops

BULK INSPECTION

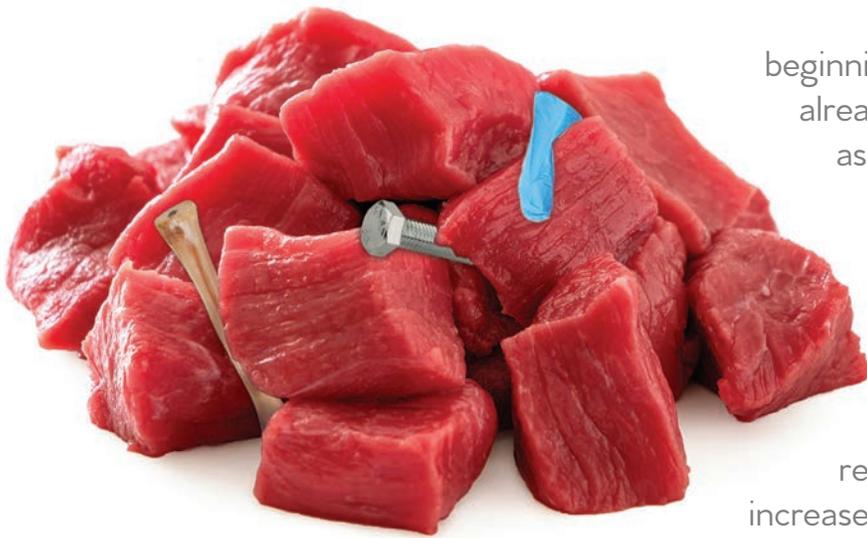
Friesen's Bulk Inspection Systems have been developed to solve the Raw Material Receiving problem of foreign material contamination. Many companies that receive product in bulk containers for introduction to their local processes (whether from an outside supplier or an internal partner/other plant) often times struggle to maintain a food-safe environment. Contaminants from pallets, conveyors, conveyor belts, plastic bags, processing aids, among other items, are often overlooked and embedded in product. These contaminants are often not able to be removed prior to the bulk packaging and shipping process.

Friesen's Inc. Three Pronged Inspection Approach includes X-ray inspection, Metal Detector inspection and Vision System inspection (or Chemical Spectroscopy Inspection) to assure any contaminants are recognized and removed from the product to eliminate down stream processing problems and improve process efficiency. Once the products go through each inspection process the failed product is rejected and has the opportunity to pass through manual reworking stations. The product can then be re-introduced to the processing line, contamination free.

By implementing a Bulk Inspection System, our customers are able to move the inspection process to the



FOOD SAFE
INTEGRATED



beginning of the process often times in an already available processing space such as an empty room or cooler area and conserve production floor space for increased processing capacity and equipment.

The obvious benefits of a Friesen's Bulk Inspection System include reduced downtime in production, increased food safety and leaner protocol, reduced chance of product holds and recalls, less chance of processing equipment damage, accountability and direct tracing of foreign material contaminants to the supplier plants, and, potential tracing the exact processing line and faulty process/contamination point.

CORPORATE SUMMARY



February 2021 – Detroit Lakes, MN – New to Friesen's is a four-page Corporate Summary Brochure that attempts to capture Friesen's Manufacturing Capabilities. This proved to be a tough initiative as Friesen's has so many capabilities and to condense into 4 pages wasn't possible. However, the brochure does focus on our core competencies with the caveat that there's not much we can't do. These are hard copy brochures that our sales professionals can present to prospects and existing customers for brain storming and project planning. Please reach out to your sales professional for an electronic copy.



FIND FOREIGN MATERIALS AND INSPECT FOR QUALITY, WITH ONE SYSTEM

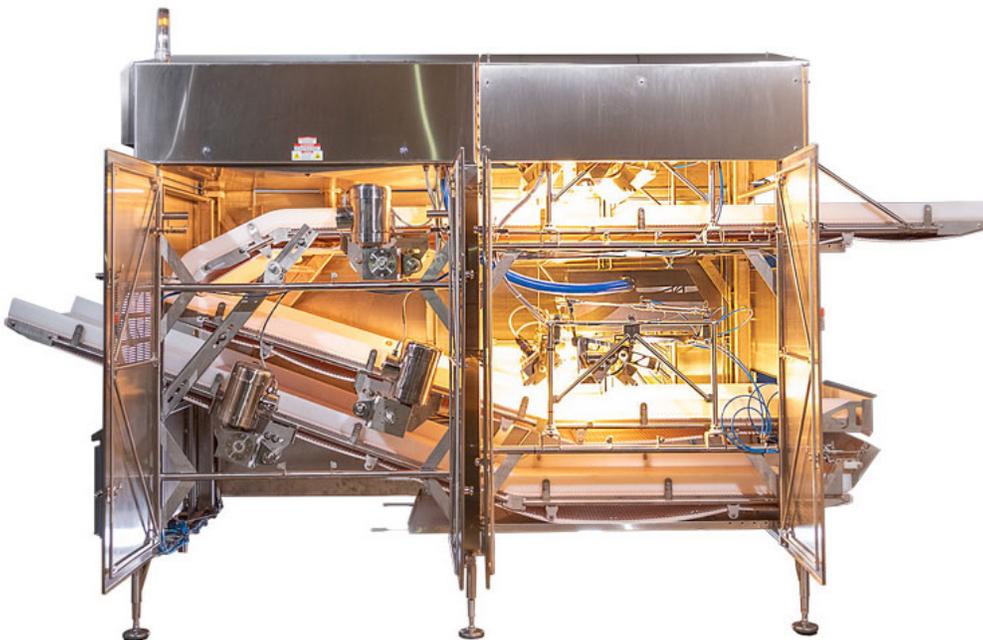
P&P Optica (PPO) delivers unprecedented safety and quality inspection for food processors. PPO finds foreign materials that no other system can find, and assesses food quality at the same time, with the same system.

Unlike vision systems, PPO's Smart Imaging System doesn't depend on color or contrast to find contaminants. Instead it sees the chemical make-up of your products. That makes it easy for PPO to find foreign materials that other solutions can't, like **plastics, wood, rubber, and cardboard**.

PPO's system can do more than just find foreign materials. Using chemistry, PPO's Smart Imaging System assesses product qualities such as **fat/lean composition, tenderness and pH**.

PPO uses a patented technology called hyperspectral imaging to collect rich information about food chemistry. While the system operates on the line at line speed, this information is gathered into PPO Insights software. The Insights platform uses this data to present you with trends and recommendations over time.

Deliver higher quality, safer product for your customers, every time - without the need for multiple inspection systems! With PPO's Smart Imaging and Insights, you'll optimize your production and more effectively manage your suppliers, leading to reduced waste and higher margins for your plant.



Website: ppo.ca

Phone: 1-800-706-3811

Email: sales@ppo.ca

DEPARTMENT SPOTLIGHT

Friesen's Controls Team

"Be the go to in our industry"



DL: Bryce, tell us a little bit about your work history and the dynamics of your controls team.

Bryce Yokom: I have been working in the automation field for 13 years. I started at Friesen's in 2016. Our controls team consists of 13 members. We design, program, wire, and test all of Friesen's equipment. Our group builds and UL Lists between 150-200 enclosures a year. Friesen's produces systems of various sizes ranging from 1 VFD to hundreds of VFDs with Remote IO, Safety PLCs with distributed Safety IO, Motion Control, advanced networking, SQL integration, and much more. Friesen's is a custom controls Engineering firm that can tailor a solution to fit our customers' needs.

DL: You were one of the first, if not the first, to start the controls department at Friesen's. How did the controls team develop?

Bryce Yokom: Friesen's was founded in 1939 and has been doing controls for many years, but it has come a long way since then. Four years ago we revamped our controls platform with the help of the entire controls team.

- For our PLCs we implemented Modular Programming which helps us reuse standard code so all our programs look the same way no matter who programs it. The code has already been tested so our code works the first time. The structure of the code is the same no matter the size of the program so it is easy to navigate and understand. This standard also makes it easy to connect to existing plant MES and SCADA systems.
- For HMIs we have a standard design for all Friesen's equipment. Even though our equipment might be a custom one-off machine or system the HMI interface will have the same look and feel as any other equipment Friesen's provides. This greatly reduces training time for end-users that need to move personnel around their plant. We also provide advanced device diagnostics and IO forcing capabilities on the HMI for maintenance personnel. This

improves safety as most problems can be diagnosed without opening the enclosure door with power applied and reduces downtime by giving maintenance the tools they need at the equipment to quickly diagnose issues without the need to look up manuals or other manufacturer data.

- We implemented Solidworks Electrical for our schematics design. This software is built on SQL so we can build queries or reports for wire schedules, wire label lists, IP address lists, and build design checks into our projects to double-check our work. For example, we can check that all symbols in our schematics have manufactured parts assigned using a design check. Our schematics are directly linked to our panel layout so if there is a component missing in either one it becomes apparent. The advantage to our customers is we can quickly provide wire schedules, IP lists, or electrical spare parts information from the project.

DL: How would you describe Friesen's competitive edge relative to Friesen's Controls Capabilities?

Bryce Yokom: One of our big advantages is we are turnkey, meaning we build all the equipment and controls in-house. We can setup and test everything, including a full FAT before the equipment leaves our facility. This greatly reduces issues/delays during startup. We are a custom equipment builder so we can build anything to fit our customers' needs including a custom controls solution.

DL: What are some of the tools or steps you take to ensure customer expectations are met for each project?

Bryce Yokom: Meeting our customers' expectations is something we take seriously. Initial kickoffs with Applications, Mechanical Engineering, and Controls Engineering are performed on each project to ensure expectations are properly communicated and understood before work begins. We maintain open communications with the customer throughout the process. Friesen's utilizes QC checklists for each step of our process that the engineer or technician must follow and sign-off on once that step has been completed. Design reviews with Mechanical Engineering are completed throughout the project to ensure there were no internal communication gaps during design. Before releasing panel layouts and schematics to the floor, we send them out to the customer for final approval. An internal FAT with the Plant Manager, Engineering Manager, and myself (Controls Engineering Manager) is performed before equipment leaves our facility. Our customers also have the option to attend a virtual or on-site FAT at our facility.

DL: The controls field is always evolving and changing, what steps are used to ensure personal development within the team?

Bryce Yokom: We are given a lot of new and challenging opportunities from our customers. Training and building our team is an extremely important part of our business plan to ensure we can continue to support our customers and keep a competitive advantage. We offer internal training for our team on Rockwell PLCs/HMIs, Solidworks electrical, Beckhoff, SQL, Metal detectors, X-Ray systems, scales/check weighers, UL, and many more. In person training classes are utilized at Rockwell, Beckhoff, and UL. We've found online training is also useful for SQL, Rockwell, Beckhoff, and leadership training. Additionally, we encourage the team to watch webinars from our vendors and manufacturers.

DL: What is your plan for the future of controls at Friesen's? What's coming down the pike?

Bryce Yokom: Process improvement is continuous for us here at Friesen's. We have just released an updated scale using TwinCat 3 and TwinCat HMI with modern graphics. This involved updating the Beckhoff platform to follow the same programming structure and HMI layout as we've used in our Allen Bradley software. This will help with training for our customers and reduce our time to market on Beckhoff controlled machines. We have also added diagnostics and IO forcing, simplified parameters, saving weigh cell parameters to the PC and upgraded SQL integration.

DL: Thank you Bryce. Your team is amazingly flexible. We appreciate you and your team.

A COMMITMENT
TO EXCELLENCE

FRIESEN'S FUN

Ladies Night

December 11th – The Friesen's ladies enjoyed a full evening of laughs, conversation, delicious hors d'oeuvres, and a ridiculously fun painting experience! We have some very talented and artistic ladies!



NEW HIRES

welcome to the TEAM!



Brenda has developed her talents over the years working in finance and accounting and has now joined the Friesen's family. After being in several places where she found herself wearing multiple hats, she's appreciating putting on one and not having to change during the day.

Brenda has a passion for being outdoors spending time in her ever-growing vegetable garden. She's an avid fisherman and enjoys tournament fishing. She and her husband, Todd, have two sons and two beautiful granddaughters. Welcome to the Family, Brenda!



Brenda Stroschein

ACCOUNTS PAYABLE SPECIALIST

welcome to the TEAM!



Jacob and his family recently moved to Detroit Lakes from the Twin Cities area. His previous career in retail management made him a perfect fit for our receiving department where he's responsible for ensuring all purchased items are placed in their proper location and handling the associated paperwork.

Jacob and his wife have two children, ages 1 and 3. Having 2 little children doesn't leave for much leisure time, but he plans to go hunting for deer, quail, and turkey this year. Welcome to the Family, Jacob!



Jacob Windham

RECEIVING SPECIALIST

This carved flag was purchased at a community fundraiser in Perham. All past and present veterans whom have served in the military that are employed by Friesen's will be asked to sign the flag. It will be proudly displayed at Friesen's for remembrance and honor to our country.



EXPANSION CONTINUES



DETROIT LAKES, MN
APRIL, 2021



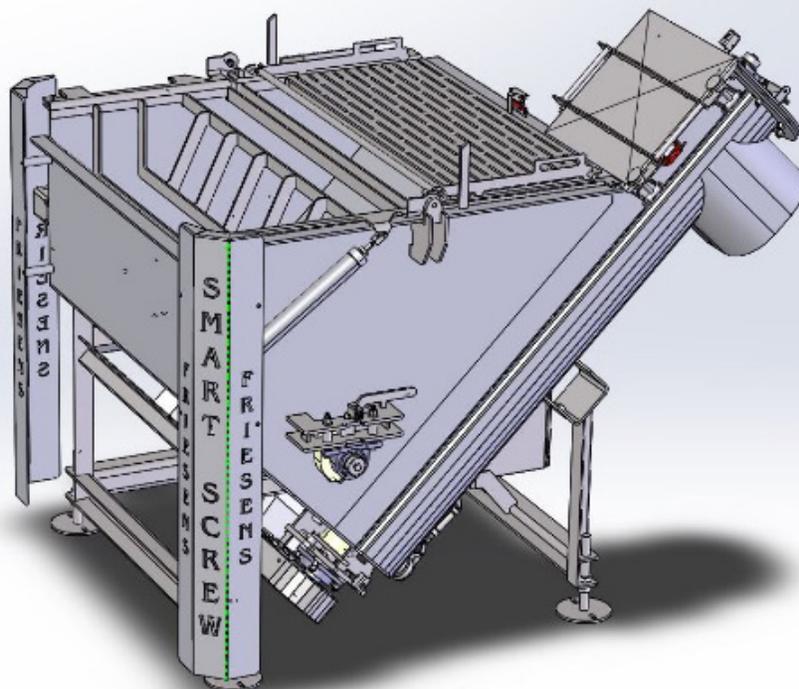
PRODUCT DEVELOPMENT

January 2021 – Detroit Lakes, MN – Friesen’s has developed the Smart Screw. This innovative technology is designed for flexibility across products and future proofing applications that have not yet been presented. The industry is experiencing labor challenges and the Smart Screw is designed to help. Much like your smart phone, this machine is designed to be intuitive to use. Featuring self diagnostics for shaft alignment to prevent metal on metal interferences. The shafts are balanced to reduce life cycle costs with less required horsepower and eliminate the need of hanger bearings and wear bars. The system comes with an HMI for recipe settings and speed control, eliminating the need for manual adjustment.

This equipment has been thought through to incorporate a pneumatic actuated clean out drain at the bottom of the Smart Screw. This allows for quicker sanitation and easier cleaning. Even the top guard is pneumatically actuated for safety and open access for the infeed and further cleaning.

There are many advantages to the Smart Screw with even the basic features. The chute is designed round to prevent product build up in a traditional square chute.

Please get in touch with your sales professional for more information and ways to incorporate the Smart Screw into your next project.



UPCOMING SHOWS



Please join us at the following trade shows where Friesen's Sales Professionals will be on location.

June 15-17, 2021 – American Association of Meat Processors – Oklahoma City, OK

June 24-26, 2021 – United Fresh – Los Angeles, CA

July 22-25, 2021 – North Carolina Association of Meat Processors – Myrtle Beach, NC

August 26-29, 2021 – Wisconsin Association of Meat Processors – Middleton, WI

September 12-15, 2021 – Food Automation and Manufacturing – Miami, FL

September 22-24, 2021 – Pet Food Forum – Kansas City, MO

September 27-29, 2021 – Pack Expo – Las Vegas, NV

November 2-5, 2021 – Process Expo – Chicago, IL

January 25-27, 2022 – International Production and Processing Expo – Atlanta, GA

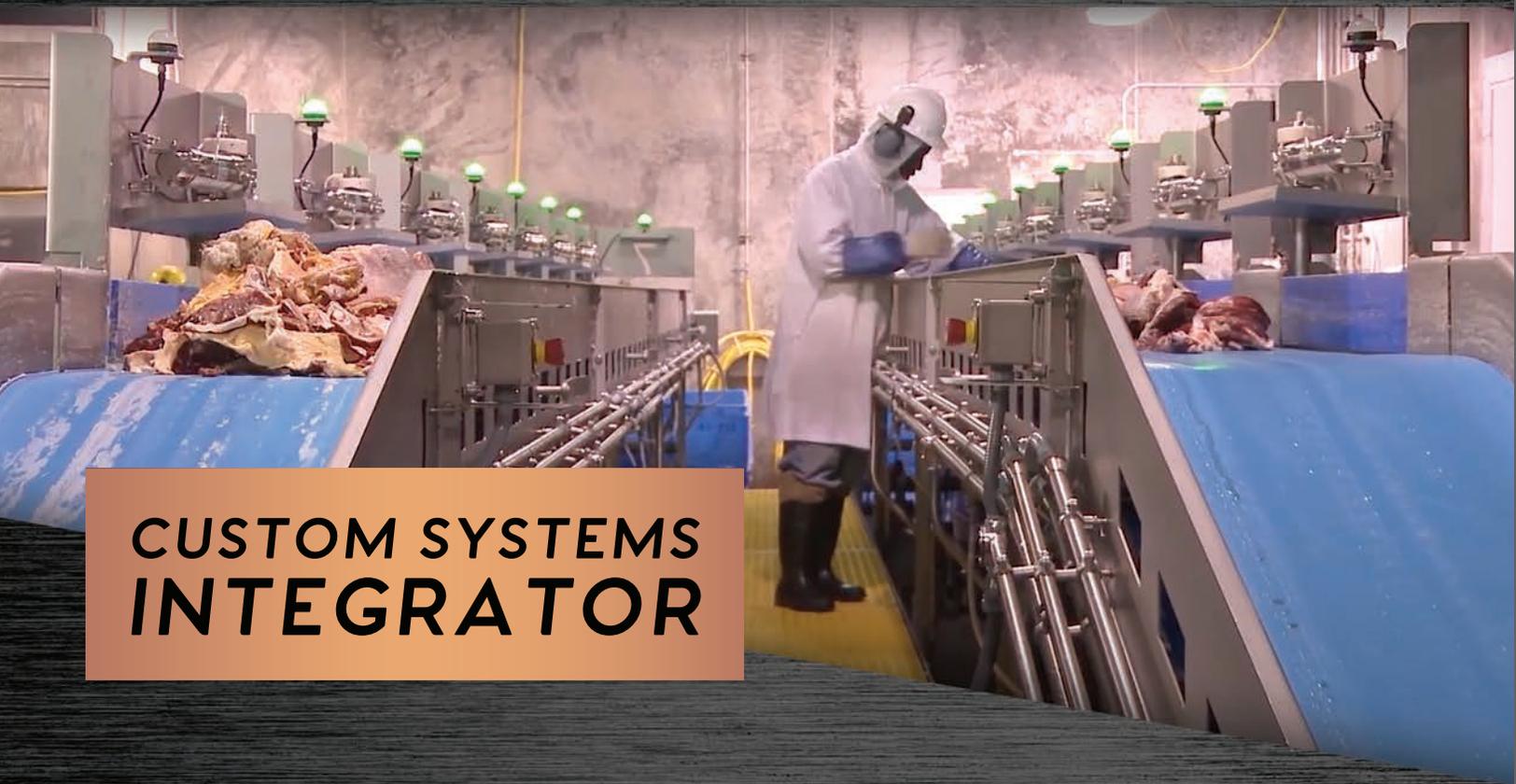
February 16-19, 2022 – National Turkey Federation – Tampa, FL

OUR VIRTUAL EVENT

March 2021 – Detroit Lakes, MN – Friesen’s launched their first virtual event in coordination with FOSS. The event, so far, has attracted 25 unique companies with over 150 individual customers in attendance. The presentation held a live demonstration of a functioning trim management system that was built and displayed on our factory floor. It focused on how Friesen’s and FOSS can provide opportunities for trim yield improvement. Friesen’s has emerged as an industry leader by developing a unique algorithm that can automatically sort lean meat and fat into combos. These combos will then have exact lean percentages (e.g. 50% / 85% / 95% / etc.) within 1.75% accuracy. The Return On Investment for our customers is impressive and it’s cutting edge technology for the industry.

Stay tuned in the coming months for a second virtual event that will focus on Friesen’s offerings of bacon technologies and system solutions.

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**CUSTOM SYSTEMS
INTEGRATOR**

EMPLOYEE APPRECIATION

February 26th – Friesen’s held our annual Employee Appreciation Party for 2020. We enjoyed a fun afternoon filled with prizes and games. The party continued the following day out on Detroit Lake with fishing, ice bowling, and an assortment of delicious hors d’oeuvres.

The initiation fun continues – pictured below, team members with less than a year at Friesen’s were asked to sing Proud Mary by Creedence Clearwater Revival.



SALESMAN OF THE YEAR



Brett Friesen and Jason Green present the 2020 Salesman of the Year Award to Shane Peterson for his achievements and excellence in customer care.



WORK HARD
PLAY HARD

GIVING BACK



Sportlight SnowCross Racing

Friesen's is proud to sponsor Jordan Tucker, age 17. In the ERX – Eagle River races, he placed 1st and 3rd in first weekend of races, 1st in the second weekend of races, and got 1st and 2nd in the third weekend of races. In the Brainerd Regional races, he placed 1st the first week. In the Sportlight SnowCross Junior 16 and 17 classes, he races ovals reaching speeds of 65 mph. Some races are 100 miles.

Jordan got into racing when he was 4 years old with 4 wheel racing and dirt bikes, then into go-carts at 5 years old.

His goal is to make it to Sport Nationals and be in the middle of the pack. Sportlight Nationals would be next for his goals, which is the top 15 in the country.



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VEGETABLES



CHEMICAL



MAIL & LOGISTICS



COSMETICS



CUSTOM SYSTEMS INTEGRATOR

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 - Auto-Zero
 - Equipment Feedback Capabilities
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BEST WISHES

Congratulations on your retirement Pete Greisen

DL: Pete, you've had an illustrious career. Can you talk a little about your career and some of your high points?

Pete Greisen: I began my career as a Plant Engineer in Poultry Processing with Swift and Co. in Frazee, MN in the early 80's. When that plant closed I went to the Swift Plant in Detroit Lakes. As the talk began on closing that plant as well I was offered a Plant Engineer position at West Central Turkeys in Pelican Rapids focusing mainly on the further process and RTE operations along with the kill/evis and boning. Hormel/Jennie-O purchased that plant in 1990 and I stayed on there until retiring in 2005 from the food processing industry. All in all it was a very rewarding career and I was involved and influential in some major additions and remodels throughout my entire time as a Plant Engineer.



DL: You've been a valuable asset at Friesen's and very well respected. Can you talk about your time at Friesen's and how you've seen them grow / evolve?

Pete Greisen: I began working with Friesen's while at Swift in Frazee in the early 80's. At that time Paul Friesen was at the helm of the company prior to Brett and Dan coming on board and eventually purchasing their Dads interest in the business. Brett and Dan have grown the business from what can be best described as a Blacksmith shop out on Highway 59 in the mid 80's to what it is today and are very well respected in the Food Processing and Pet Food Markets and with the entire Friesen's Team.

DL: What are your hobbies and what do you plan on doing in retirement?

Pete Greisen: Well my honey- do list never seems to get any smaller so I might just have to come back to rest up!! My wife and I plan to make quite a few motorcycle trips during the summer to visit the kids and grandkids. Of course I just can't just put on the brakes to this career in food processing so I have offered to help where my experience may be useful and helpful in the design and implementation of new projects. I am just a phone call away.

DL: Thank you for your time and support at Friesen's. We wish you the best. Will you be staying in Detroit Lakes?

Pete Greisen: My wife and I live just 9 miles East of DL in Frazee, MN. and plan to enjoy our retirement years there.



BE ON THE LOOKOUT....

Watch for information on Friesen's built in-motion scales and checkweighers in our next newsletter!



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