HORIZON SOLUTIONS

UNGUARDED MACHINERY AND SYSTEM RE-ENGINEERED TO MEET SAFETY STANDARDS

Increasing plant and employee safety, product quality, and decreased downtime.

Case Study

Client

This client is a multinational food and beverage company, specializing in producing processed vegetables. Their multiple (11) North American production sites are used to freeze and can vegetables and a variety of other products, as well as process vegetables for retail markets.

Opportunity

Food and beverage production is one of the most difficult and demanding environments for workplace safety products and identification. The opportunity for this client was to implement a safer guarding system by combining both the physical guarding (AKA "guard fencing" or "hard guards") and the electrical safety elements (AKA "control panels").

Solution

Horizon Solutions has Safety Specialists that focus on light curtains (a type of automated electrical presence sensor) and guard fencing, and engineers who integrate all of the sub-systems into a control panel. The Horizon Solutions team performed a comprehensive review of all aspects of the client's machinery and manufacturing environment and created a Scope of Work. Our Safety Specialists compiled all the required components and pre-built and pre-mounted assemblies for quick installation. This included the physical barrier guarding, door switches, light curtains, and e-stops and it was done to fit within the client's narrow window of time for actual on-site installation. Our team also took into consideration the electrical design requirements needed to integrate all of the new safety devices into the client's existing plant systems – this required the addition of safety relays, power supplies, and wiring changes.

Benefit

Through a detailed review and analysis of machine and safety practices, the client was able to address and integrate a safer guarding system. Raw materials (in this case vegetables) are secure and safeguarded at each stage of the manufacturing process and batches now have additional security from accidental contamination. Workers are protected from automated machinery hazards such as pinch, crush, and entanglement hazards. The solution delivered measurable results by minimizing downtime and combining the right techniques with industry-leading products.