

Patti Engineering Serves Up System for Texas Food Plant

Patti Engineering and Texas-based Mitsubishi Automation distributor Womack Machine Supply Co. have teamed up to help a Japanese firm make noodles.

The Auburn Hills-based Patti Engineering, a maker of control systems integration systems, made the connection through personnel at its Austin, Texas, office.

Together, the organizations will provide a turnkey process control system for noodle maker Maruchan Inc. as it opens its new 509,000-square-foot factory currently being constructed near San Antonio, Texas.

"We're proud to be part of continued manufacturing growth in the U.S.," said Sam Hoff, vice president of Patti's Sales and Marketing.

"Dynamic Systems Inc. (DSI) is handling the new factory project for Maruchan, and hired Patti Engineering for our experience and expertise in utilizing the power and versatility of Mitsubishi's automation technology."

Patti Engineering will fabricate, program and commission several control panels to control water quality and temperature, in addition to the blending of water and oil in the operations, said Patti spokesperson Georgia Whalen.

These control panels, she said, will incorporate Mitsubishi programmable logic controllers, human machine interfaces and variable frequency drives programmed to carry out process functions according to

Maruchan's unique recipes.

Patti Engineering will supervise installation and field wiring to Maruchan's peripheral equipment and then commission, debug and test operations of all control panels. Upon completion, training will be provided on the operations of each type of system.

The food factory - equivalent to 11 acres - sits on a 55-acre complex. It is the third Maruchan plant in the U.S. with roughly 75 percent of its production shipping to Mexico. It will produce three million units at full capacity.

Maruchan's other two U.S.-based factories are located in Irvine, Calif., and Richmond, Va. Growth in sales and pressure on current plant capacity led to the Texas expansion and is reported to be bringing 600 new jobs to the region.

Whalen said that because Patti Engineering is a certified control systems integration company that offers engineering and software development services, working with a company like Womack Machine Supply is a natural fit.

Patti Engineering's technical expertise in electrical control and information systems provides turnkey control systems integration for design/build, upgrade/retrofit and asset/energy management projects.

Customer satisfaction and project success have earned the company *Control Engineering Magazine's* 2013 System Integrator of the Year, Whalen said.

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