

# Major Newspaper Integrates Packaging Facility

To integrate a newly built 117,000-square-foot Sunday edition packaging facility, a major Midwestern newspaper publisher\* sought a complete software control solution. The solution required a seamless interface with warehouse management, palletizing, collator control and polywrapping systems.

## Main Objective

The publisher needed a software control solution that would encompass machine controls, barcode labelers, barcode scanners, marquees and data integration to / from the partner systems which satisfied the specific product requirements.

## Customer Results

MAVERICK met the client's time and budgetary restrictions, and provided best-in-class operability and data integration. In addition to the integration requirements, the solution significantly minimized errors and downtime, and maximized accountability, reporting capability and system availability.

## Application Description

■ **Data Management System (DMS):** Features a clustered server with resident SQL database, database management tool and MES-level interfaces to planning system, warehouse management system and each of the ICCS supervisory processes.

Work orders are scheduled in the planning system, and then downloaded to the DMS via TCP / IP sockets messaging interface. A TCP / IP sockets interface is also utilized to transfer information from the DMS to the warehouse management system.

The pre- and post-production data, downtime data and manpower data resident in the DMS provides:

- The information necessary to verify the FSI accuracy of the collated packages
- FSI coverage accountability for advertisers
- Manpower efficiency statistics
- Machine downtime with correlation to hoppers, FSIs and manpower
- Production efficiency statistics
- FSI performance statistics

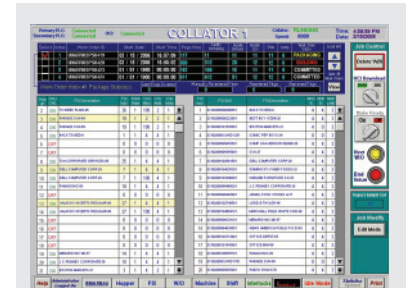
■ **Control Platform:** Hierarchical control employs a supervisory SoftLogix controller, with second-tier control using ControlLogix for servo / motion control, and SLC processors for hopper control.

■ **ICCS Data Integration:** Combines the extensibility of the SoftLogix platform with MAVERICK Technologies' SharedMemory data portal to:

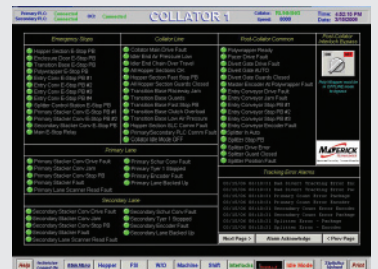
- Download the production plan (work orders) with make-ready and FSI quality settings included to the work cell and, subsequently, upload machine, hopper and FSI performance statistics, as well as downtime tracing and manpower planning / tracking data
- Transfer bundle label data (barcode and text) to the Labeler Control Interface
- Read barcode data from the Laser Scanner Control Interface to assure bundle accuracy
- Transmit work order data to the palletizing system

■ **ICCS Work Cell Operation:** The ICCS work cell consists of the collator controls with control interfaces to the polywrapper, package conveyors, stackers, strappers, bundle conveyors, palletizers and marquees.

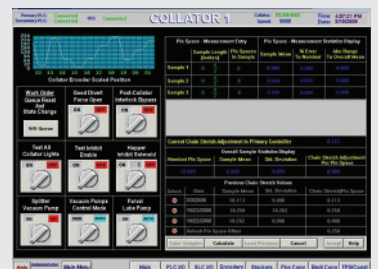
Executes work orders, producing and tracking each package from the first collator hopper through the polywrapper, the sausage and bad package diverts, the custodial conveyors and the stackers. Bundles are tracked to a palletizer "hand-off" position.



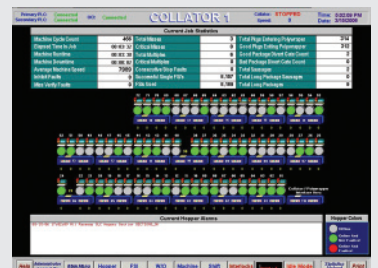
Work Order Execution



Work Cell Interlocks



Machine Diagnostics Main



Collator overview

\*Sunday circulation: 955,000

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