

RECIPE FOR SUCCESS

How automated batching and recipe-management solutions have helped food and beverage companies.

By Michael Schalk, Matrix Technologies, Inc.

» Companies in the food and beverage industries need high-quality, expandable batching and recipe management systems for their processes. You want solid technology that helps you deliver critical manufacturing information in a timely manner. These systems must meet or exceed Food and Drug Administration (FDA) traceability and quality requirements.

As a Rockwell Automation authorized Solution Provider, we've experienced many successful solution implementations that help food and beverage companies stay ahead of the competition. This article provides an overview of some of the key technologies that have helped manufacturers like you.

Key Solutions

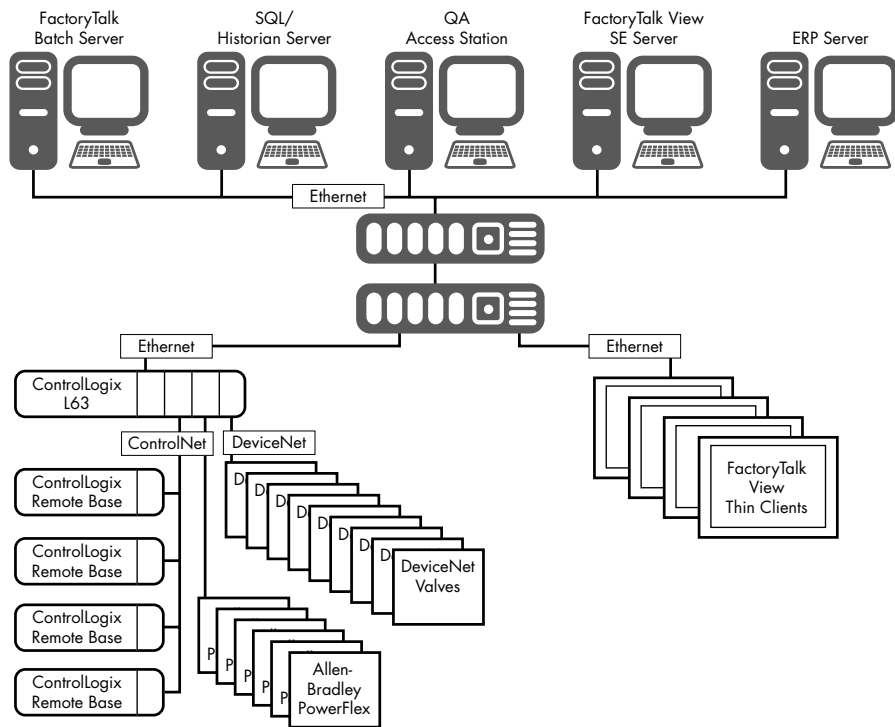
Today's systems are composed of off-the-shelf components that integrate well with each other and with components from other suppliers. Systems are easily updated without abandoning legacy technology. They must be systematically applied throughout your company, and applied in multiple plants so that tools, training and spare costs can be optimized. They're designed to fulfill requirements such as safety, regulatory compliance, flexible batch and recipe management, trace-

ability, and legacy compatibility.

The heart of these systems for many companies we've worked with is the Allen-Bradley® L6X-series ControlLogix® programmable automation controller (PAC) from Rockwell Automation. It has the processor speed and memory to handle large systems. The tag-based pro-

gramming language and user-defined structures make it versatile and flexible.

It also allows for quick duplication of repeating sections of code, such as motor or valve control. Backwards compatibility is incorporated in hardware and communications with many of the Rockwell Automation legacy platforms.



These key technologies have helped many food and beverage companies maintain flexible batch and recipe management, safety, traceability and regulatory compliance.

Rockwell Software® FactoryTalk® Batch from Rockwell Automation is used as the main batch engine. This open batch software package can be used with several controllers. However, it's most effective when coupled with the ControlLogix PAC and its PhaseManager™ option. PhaseManager is a tool within both ControlLogix and FactoryTalk Batch that allows users to more easily configure the batch system. FactoryTalk Batch also incorporates standard data collection and reporting to meet industry and regulatory demands right out of the box.

FactoryTalk View SE supplies the operator interface for these applications. It can be used to program and configure the primary PC-based human-machine interfaces (HMIs) and the family of Allen-Bradley PanelView™ HMIs.

In addition, FactoryTalk View SE can use the ActiveX controls that come standard with FactoryTalk Batch. This means you can control the batches with canned FactoryTalk Batch controls that can be added to a custom HMI interface.

ControlNet connects the remote I/O racks to the main processor racks. It also controls Allen-Bradley PowerFlex® variable-frequency drives (VFD). Eth-

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erNet/IP also is available for communications to VFDs and other devices.

DeviceNet connects Rockwell Automation field control devices and third-party devices, providing shorter installation time. If plans change during the installation, DeviceNet allows you to easily add more devices. The open protocol creates an array of products that can be quickly and easily connected to the network. □

Mike Schalk is a Project Manager at Rockwell Automation Solution Provider Matrix Technologies, Inc. Headquartered in Maumee, Ohio, Matrix Technologies offers control system integration, multi-

discipline engineering, and engineering, procurement and construction services.

The company was recently named Integrator of the Year. Visit www.matrixti.com for more information.

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Rockwell Software

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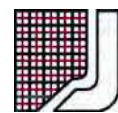
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