

What's Happening At Wecon Services



October 2007

Volume 2, Number 4

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Contact Us

whaws@weconservices.com

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Welcome

To the next edition of our What's happening at Wecon Services "WHAWS" newsletter. The Summer season was fantastic for us, we had a couple of corporate events, celebrated a special anniversary and still were able to have one of our busiest summers ever adding a record number of new customers to our ever growing list, welcome aboard to all of you, don't hesitate to get a hold of us at any time to help with any of your conveyor requirements.

What's Happening At Wecon Services

Our Annual BBQ

Our annual BBQ was held on July 19th. this year and what a great day it was. Possibly the best turnout yet, the food was incredible and plenty of it. This is the first year we were threatened with a storm but Mother Nature showed some patience and waited until we were almost finished until the skies opened up, fortunately we were already in clean up mode by then. Thanks again to all of you that were able to attend.

Our Annual Golf Tournament

This year we took over Granite Ridge on August 15th. Registration was up by almost 50% over last year, the course was in great shape and the weather was perfect for golf. The staff at the club as always took care of all our needs and made the day a great success. If you were able to attend we hope you enjoyed yourselves as much as we did, if not, keep your eye on the next few newsletters and mark your calendars for next August, we would love to have you attend.

10 Year Anniversary

We would like to acknowledge a very special anniversary. This past September Douglas Jones celebrated his 10 year anniversary with us. Douglas has been a very important part of Wecon Services Ltd and continues to demonstrate a level of loyalty and dedication that any organization would be proud of. Douglas is responsible for most of the production that comes from our shop, so if you have any of our equipment in your facility he would have been part of its manufacturing. Douglas can be reached anytime at djones@weconservices.com



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Instaveyor Program
Made Simple

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On going and completed Projects

- Your favorite cookies and snack products are now being handled by new conveyor equipment in the West coast distribution center and soon in the Quebec distribution center of a popular baked goods manufacturer.
- A new pick and put to light system is underway here in Mississauga along with an automatic staging system that is expected to increase picking productivity by over 200%! If all goes well more projects are expected from coast to coast.
- A local nursery is just in the process of installing new conveyors to help with the increased volume in the potted plants business
- Manufacturing is under way for a new RFID system that will be used for a new training facility in Western Canada, installation will be in the fall.
- Equipment will soon be ready for a new automatic packaging system for a large book distributor, this will need to be retrofitted into an existing system over the course of a weekend so as not to disrupt any shipping schedules.
- A new three level picking system is up and running for an international house wares supplier. All the equipment involved was installed, commissioned and turned over on time and on budget.
- A new trash handling system is being manufactured and is set to install over the next couple of weeks. This system will complement the newly installed multi-million dollar printing system now in full production.
- An automotive parts supplier in Western Ontario will soon have some new equipment installed in an existing Robotic assembly cell, then we are on to a new overhead transportation system to get the parts off to the shipping department all automatically.
- A local automation company is again using some of our standard sliderbed equipment and integrating it into a fully automatic system.
- We are now in the final stages of tying in a new high speed sorter to an existing manual system, when the new sorter is up and running productivity should be way up and labour costs way down, a winning combination by anyone's standards.
- Our service department is busy keeping up with all your requests for upgrades and changes, keep them coming, we love the challenge.



What is Instaveyor?

Our Instaveyor program is a quick delivery program we have developed to assist with some quick delivery projects you may come across in your project implementation. We have tried to identify some of the more popular styles and sizes of product and will attempt to get these shipped in 1 week. Make sure you contact us to find out what products and sizes are available at sales@weconservices.com

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Case Study Baked Goods Provider

The Customer

The customer's remarkable growth dictated the addition of another site in the adjacent lot. Production was to remain in the existing building and new production lines were to be added into the new facility. All products had to be stored in a large freezer located in the new facility. With production rates of 2300 cases per hour, the customer had to get all the product into the freezer as soon as possible. Transporting pallets into waiting trucks and shunting them over to the new site was costly, slow and inefficient. Tracking production rates and counts were difficult thus creating overages or low stock.

The Challenge

The challenge was to design a system to convey all product from all the manufacturing lines, count them and have them palletized right in front of the freezer. We had to have all lines out of the way of pedestrian and fork-truck traffic. We had to provide a conveyor link between the two buildings. Design the system around an ever-changing manufacturing footprint.

The Solution

In the existing building we supplied new line shaft conveyor with powered merges to transport the sealed case right from each manufacturing line. We installed new incline slider bed conveyors to quickly elevate the cases 18' up. Accumulation conveyor was used to stage products as they merged together from three separate induction areas. All over-head merges are electronically controlled to provide a jam free operation. A tunnel was created to link the two buildings and we ran a live roller line through it. The new facility received the same line shaft conveyor with powered merges off each manufacturing line. The products from the old site and the new site converged in the same area in front of the freezer. We created a palletizing loop with a recirculation feature. Prior to palletizing, each box was scanned and the identity of each item was registered and accounted for. If a box is re-circulated, the scanner will not recount it. We supplied a controls package to monitor the system and to track product on the overhead lines. A human interface module was provided so a production manager could see the hourly and daily production rates at the palletizing area.

Results

The new system increased throughput and decreased the amount of case handling. The customer's system now has the ability to meet the shipping rates required for the targeted business growth over the next few years.

The Next Step

The next step will be to install an automatic sortation and palletizing system, this will help to improve productivity and accuracy once again.

Next Issue

- We will look back on some of the events of 2007
- We will take a look at some new equipment available for you
- We will look at another case study of a recent system