



## CASE STUDY

# Pet Food Batch Process and Packaging Control New Manufacturing Facility

## PROJECT SUMMARY

Natura Pet Products/Natura Manufacturing was founded in 1989 by John and Ann Rademakers and Peter Atkins in Santa Clara, California, and produces some of the healthiest pet food products in the world. This commitment to quality and health is reflected in Natura's new state-of-the-art manufacturing facility in Fremont, Nebraska.

The company uses only top-quality, natural ingredients, avoiding artificial preservatives or additives to maintain the freshness and quality of its products. As a result, it is critical that Natura deliver its high-quality products with consistency. When Natura elected to automate the entire manufacturing plant and distribution center, it put its faith in Bachelor Controls to provide systems integration and Manufacturing Execution System (MES) services for the complex batching and packaging systems components.

## CHALLENGE

Building a new facility, Natura sought to automate their entire operation from the ground up.

## SOLUTION & BENEFITS

Bachelor Controls' comprehensive understanding of the relationship between the business/enterprise system and the plant floor operations allowed BCI to provide an integrated solution for Natura's entire process.

From the receiving ticket that inventories unloading grain trucks to the mechanized packaging and palleting operation that readies product for warehousing and delivery, BCI systems provide near real-time information tracking and exchange. Natura leaders can use these data and reporting tools to make critical inventory and production decisions. The result is a seamless exchange of ingredient history and information from grain truck to grocery store delivery truck.



I am impressed with both the design and the project management skills delivered by Bachelor Controls to create a highly functional, user-friendly, and extremely performant batching system for Natura Manufacturing. BCI personnel were very proactive in obtaining and developing the details necessary to advance the project, on time and within budget.

– DON SCOTT, VICE PRESIDENT OF MANUFACTURING





## RESULTS

- ▶ Flexible batching capabilities to enable optimum utilization of plant equipment
- ▶ Integration of manufacturing and business systems
- ▶ Process control and integration of the packaging systems
- ▶ Tools for monitoring, measuring and reporting process performance & quality, including lot tracking and genealogy



## TESTIMONIALS

"I am convinced that Bachelor Controls' value to the project — considering all aspects; from design concept through start-up and commissioning — is among the best in the industry. The next time I am involved in a complex, high-risk project, I would expect to look to BCI to provide the leadership and guidance needed to meet our objectives.."

— DON SCOTT, VICE PRESIDENT OF MANUFACTURING



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