

Cup Conveying System with Accumulator



Client:
Alto Manufacturing

Location:
Sydney, NSW
Australia

The Project

Alto Manufacturing are a leading manufacturer of packaging products, specializing in extrusion and thermoforming, blow moulding and injection moulding. Alto required an automated system for transporting plastic cups from the cup forming equipment, through to another room and on a different floor level, to a printing machine. The system also needed an accumulator system to hold 20 minutes of production capacity.

Australis Engineering was engaged to provide the following outcomes:

- Design, manufacture and install a Conveyor System to elevate slugs of plastic cups in a range of sizes to ceiling height and carry these slugs through a wall opening and into another building and deliver them in a controlled manner down into a printing machine.
- Design, manufacture and install an Accumulator System to hold up to 20 minutes of product. This Accumulator had to be automated to start accumulating when there was a stoppage downstream, plus be capable of feeding product back into the system when gaps in production allowed.
- Additional engineering advice to Alto's Project Manager to help maximise the materials handling solutions

Slat Conveyor System | Bespoke Accumulation System | Overhead Conveyors



The Result

Australis provided a turnkey solution that improves production throughput and eliminates a number of manual handling and forklift movements within the production line which thereby minimises OHS concerns. The use of an overhead slat conveyor system also permits Alto to maximise the use of their floor space for production and warehousing and reduces the need to expand the footprint of their building.

The fully customised Accumulation System allows for the smooth running of the production line and allows for alterations or maintenance to the equipment if required.

A key element of the Australis Engineering solution has been the design, testing, manufacture and installation of a *World's First* Conveyor and Accumulation System for the transport of slugs of plastic cups. This system allowed the controlled transport of these slugs in all planes; elevation to ceiling level; turning at 90 degrees, accumulation, transfer from conveyor to conveyor and a controlled descent into the next stage of production and results in increased production efficiency.

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