

Job Title: Production Automation Technician Dept: Maintenance Last modified on: 05/21/2025

Reports to: Josh Nix Supervises: none

FLSA Status: Non-Exempt Prepared by: K. Thomas Approved by: J. Nix

**Job Summary (Purpose):** The Production Automation Technician is responsible for the installation, troubleshooting, maintenance and optimization of automated systems and equipment used in processing and packaging. This role ensures the smooth and efficient operation of automated production lines and collaborates with the operations and maintenance teams to maximize plant uptime, productivity and product quality.

### **Duties & Responsibilities (Major):**

- Maintain, troubleshoot, and repair automated systems, sensors, and control networks.
- Monitor and support daily production automation processes to ensure continuous operation and efficiency.
- Conduct preventive and predictive maintenance on all automation-related equipment.
- Collaborate with maintenance, engineering, and production teams to resolve mechanical and control issues.
- Support the installation and commissioning of new automated equipment and system upgrades.
- Maintain accurate records of maintenance work, system changes, and technical documentation.
- Follow safety procedures and ensure compliance with OSHA, food safety, and plant operational standards.
- Identify opportunities for process improvement and assist in the implementation of automation projects.
- Additional responsibilities as assigned.

## **Education & Experience (Minimum Required):**

- High school diploma or GED required.
- Specializing technical training certificate or Associate degree (preferred).
- 2+ years of hands-on experience with automation and controls in a food manufacturing environment (rice or grain industry preferred).
- Experience with Allen-Bradley PLCs, PanelView HMIs, and industrial communication networks (EtherNet/IP, Modbus).

#### **Minimum Expectations:**

- Excellent observant and fast learner of industrial automated machinery.
- Excellent problem-solving skills and ability to think logically.
- Excellent attendance and reliability.
- Think out of the box, having an innovative mindset to simplify production processes.
- Willing to learn new technologies.
- Willing to participate in industrial training like PLC programming and robotic programming.

#### Knowledge, Skills & Abilities (Desired):

- Strong knowledge of programming and troubleshooting.
- Familiarity with PLC systems, industrial Ethernet, Device-net and Control-net networks.
- Understanding of electrical schematics, wiring diagrams, and instrumentation.
- Ability to work with mechanical and pneumatic systems related to automated equipment.
- Proficient in the use of diagnostic tools and software for automation equipment.
- Knowledge of industrial safety systems (e.g., lockout/tagout, arc flash)
- Program, modify, and update logic and interfaces as (preferred)
- Strong communication and teamwork abilities.
- Ability to work independently and manage multiple tasks in a fast-paced environment.

# **Physical Demands & Work Environment (Typical):**

- Must be able to work in a food production environment, including hot, cold, dusty, and humid conditions.
- Ability to lift 50lbs., bend, climb ladders, and stand or walk for extended periods.
- Willingness to work flexible hours, including weekends and holidays, as needed.
- Able to wear the required PPE.