



# **Top Communication Considerations in Food and Beverage**



When it comes to manufacturers in the Food and Beverage industry, machine uptime is directly proportional to profitability.

The trends in the Connected Enterprise, IIoT, and Industry 4.0 all help drive improvements with uptime through increased machine connectivity on the factory floor. Machine connectivity helps overcome the challenges often seen in the food and beverage industry, such as the complex processes, product traceability, and quality control. Machine builders for the Food and Beverage industry are tasked with these challenges.

Food and Beverage manufacturers are increasingly deploying OT and IT technologies to reduce both technical and business risk. As machine builders implement these technologies into their solutions, it is important for this new infrastructure to be robust and flexible so it may reliably and easily be integrated into the infrastructure of their various customers. As OT technologies are increasingly being deployed in the industry, food and beverage manufacturers are now able to increase their asset utilization with lower downtime, resulting in increased yield. This improvement in efficiency lowers the lifecycle costs of the machines while simplifying the process and maintaining the high quality standards required in the industry.

As manufacturers are relying on a standardized control system across their operations, ProSoft is their preferred connectivity partner. With increasing connectivity of OT technologies, industrial 802.11 wireless is often used. ProSoft's RLX2-IHNF wireless LAN radios are ideal for these applications.



# Industrial Wireless Ethernet

Need to connect your equipment to the factory Ethernet network?

- IEEE802.11n functionality for reliable wireless Ethernet transmission in both the 2.4 and 5GHz bands
- Industry leading fast roaming of <10ms to avoid communication loss in mobile applications
- User friendly configuration and diagnostics for quick and easy deployment
- IP20 and IP67 variants for flexible application use.

With this increased connectivity, machine builders are able to provide better services to their customers. Historically, these services would simply be troubleshooting and fixing their equipment reactively. With increased connectivity, preventative and remote maintenance is easier than ever. ProSoft's Secure Remote Access provides machine OEMs scalable and flexible options through Belden Horizon<sup>™</sup>.

# Industrial Cellular Gateway

Need to monitor and troubleshoot equipment in a hard-to-reach spot? This cellular solution:

- Supports 4G LTE, increasing longevity for your application and ensuring clear communications; and is fully backward compatible with 3G where it exists
- Your EtherNet/IP™ and Modbus® TCP/IP controllers can transmit and receive SMS messages through the gateway
- Global carrier support including Verizon, AT&T, and many LTE networks
  around the world
- Secure remote connectivity via Belden Horizon
- Highly secure: Supports OpenVPN, IPsec/L2TP with AES-256 bit encryption
- Supports Layer 2 connections, making it easier to remotely connect



# Wired Network Bridge

The Network Bridge is ideal for applications where a wired connection is feasible for remote access.

- Can be enabled/disabled via an EtherNet/IP™ message from an HMI or PLC; integrated Modbus protocol support
- 2 isolated Ethernet ports separate your IT and OT networks
- Remote access via Belden Horizon
- Highly secure: Supports OpenVPN, IPsec/L2TP with AES-256 bit encryption

## **Data Loggers**

Need to collect data from remote equipment? The Data Logger does just that without requiring a network infrastructure – ideal for applications that don't have a constant connection. This solution:

- Allows you to store, review, and graph information on your equipment's historical performance, providing insight before you head out to the field to troubleshoot.
- Store 16 million time-stamped records
- OEMs can review machine operational data to determine if a warranty claim is valid
- Can help you improve Overall Equipment Effectiveness (OEE) in future designs via the analysis of historical data

#### DL+

- Features support for JSON interface, enabling easy exporting of logged data to business CRM systems
- $\cdot\;$  Features an integrated webserver to trend variables and upload logged data



With these solutions from ProSoft Technology, OEMs and manufacturers in the Food and Beverage industry can now have reliable connectivity for their machines. This enables machine connectivity to the factory network to increase safety, reliability and production flexibility.

Connectivity through Belden Horizon enables remote connectivity for preventive maintenance and commissioning. The result is increased yield, and decreased risk for the customer.

# Support and expertise for your projects

ProSoft provides a variety of resources and services for wireless applications from initial system design to site surveys to launch support and configuration support.

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