

## Manufacturing Roundtable Identifies Key Issues Users Want OMAC to Address

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### Keywords

OMAC, OPW, Machine Safety Standards, ANSI/PMMI B155.1-2006, Pack ML, Make2Pack

### Summary

Through the efforts of the Packaging Machinery and Machine Tool working groups, OMAC is becoming a major force in the development of standards for CNC, packaging machines and line operations. However, OMAC is also putting effort into other user manufacturing operations issues. At the ARC Advisory Group Forum in Orlando, OMAC sponsored and lead a

OMAC led a manufacturing user roundtable to address manufacturing operation issues at the recent ARC Forum. The three most important issues identified were manufacturing network architecture guidelines; how companies resolve conflicting goals of manufacturing and IT; and strategies for equipment compliance to worldwide electrical and safety regulations.

manufacturing user roundtable to discuss a broad range of common user manufacturing issues. Participants identified nine important common issues they would like to address, of which the three most important were manufacturing network architecture guidelines; how companies resolve conflicting goals of manufacturing and IT; and strategies for equipment compliance to

worldwide electrical and safety regulations. The first two issues fall under the charter of the existing OMAC Manufacturing Infrastructure user-working group that, similar to the Packaging Machinery and Machine Tool working groups, can be expected to ensure OMAC will continue to be a major force in the development of standards and best practice for manufacturing operations.

### Analysis

OMAC has three working groups: Packaging Machinery, Manufacturing Infrastructure, and Machine Tool. The Manufacturing Infrastructure working group's stated aim is to become the leading advocacy group for



<b>User Manufacturing Issues</b>
Manufacturing network architecture guidelines
Strategies for equipment compliance to worldwide electrical and safety regulations
How companies resolve conflicting goals of manufacturing and IT
Enhancing the OPW (OMAC Packaging Workgroup) guidelines to include visualization
Certification guidelines
Identifying and addressing future skill set requirements for automation technicians and engineers
How to determine the appropriate level of automation to support a global manufacturing strategy
Examples of where each of the 6 IEC1131 languages are most applicable in packaging automation
Modular hardware and software design examples

#### **Manufacturing User Issues Identified by OMAC Roundtable**

resolving manufacturing system implementation and integration issues and defining common manufacturing architecture and software usage guidelines, resulting in business benefits to end users, technology suppliers, and machine builders. At the recent ARC Advisory Group Forum in Orlando, over thirty users from discrete and process manufacturing, the Automation Federation, PMMI (Packaging Machinery Manufacturers Institute), machine builders and systems integrators participated in an OMAC sponsored manufacturing user roundtable. The roundtable identified nine important common issues they would like to address. .

#### **Manufacturing Network Architecture Guidelines**

The most important issue addressed by the group was the need for manufacturing network architecture guidelines for both hardware and software. The group tentatively agreed that this issue includes security, safety, interoperability, reliability, robustness, and patch management. Representatives from SABMiller, Kraft, Procter & Gamble, and B&R Automation agreed

to further define this issue with the expressed purpose of defining some actionable items for the OMAC working groups. Representatives from OMAC, SABMiller, and B&R Automation held a follow up meeting where they attempted to further define security, safety, and reliability. In addition, this group agreed that patch management did not fit under the scope of this network architecture issue because it is a software management issue that is being addressed by OMAC's MS MUG (Microsoft Manufacturing User Group) sub-working group.

#### **Conflicting Goals of Manufacturing and IT**

Most attendees indicated that they still had difficulty working in an environment where their operations and IT organizations still had conflicting goals. Representatives from Cargill, Procter & Gamble, Kraft, and ARC Advisory Group agreed to look for examples of how some companies have overcome this issue and the benefits they have derived from the success. It was noted that ARC Advisory Group could provide some information on

this subject and that Nestle Purina had spoken at a recent ARC Forum on how they had successfully overcome this common issue.

### **Compliance to Worldwide Electrical and Safety Standards**

The increased competition and pressure on manufacturing facilities for equipment compliance to worldwide electrical and safety regulations was also a major issue. Representatives from PMMI (Packaging Machinery Manufacturers Institute), Procter & Gamble, Frito-Lay and B&R Automation agreed to further define strategies for equipment compliance to international electrical and safety regulations into actionable items, which includes the ANSI/PMMI B155.1-2006 safety standard for packaging and packaging-related converting machinery. This revision of the safety standard is harmonized with the international (ISO) and European (EN) standards by the introduction of hazard identification and risk assessment as the principal method for analyzing hazards to personnel and achieving a tolerable risk level. This applies to new, modified or rebuilt industrial and commercial machinery that performs packaging functions for primary, secondary, and tertiary packaging. This standard is available from [www.pmmi.org](http://www.pmmi.org).



### **OMAC, WBF, PMMI, and the Automation Federation**

Issues faced by manufacturers extend horizontally from processing to packaging and vertically from production operations to business operations. Many user groups are attempting to address various aspects of manufacturing issues. OMAC has a history of working closely with other groups to effect change, which includes WBF (formerly World Batch Forum), PMMI, ISA, and the Automation Federation. The Make2Pack initiative and the Automation Federation are examples of this effort.

Make2Pack is a joint working group of the WBF, the OMAC Packaging Users Group, and the ISA SP88 committee. The Make2Pack working group is using the ISA-88 batch standard principles and the OMAC PackML state model and tags to develop a new ANSI/ISA-88.00.05 automation standard to better integrate "making" and "packaging." OMAC is also a charter member of the new Automation Federation, along with WBF and ISA. The Automation Federation's purpose is to coordinate the efforts of the individual member organizations and facilitate the sharing of skills, knowledge,

and resources. Anyone wishing to participate in any of these activities can contact Dave Bauman at [dbauman@omac.org](mailto:dbauman@omac.org).

### **Recommendations**

- Manufacturers should actively participate in OMAC activities and working groups to ensure they are in a position to actively provide input and influence in the development of standards and best practice for their manufacturing operations.
- Manufacturers who continue to have difficulty with an environment where their operations and IT organizations still have conflicting goals should consult ARC for guidance regarding information and case studies that can provide assistance

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