

Gefran Inc.

Industrial Automation and Process Control Systems



Gefran Inc. has a long history when it comes to industrial automation. The company's first manufacturing facility was set up in Italy 1969 to produce electric control panels for machines used in manufacturing plastics. Today, Gefran Inc. in Winchester, Mass., houses manufacturing, inventory, customer service and engineering.

In the 1970s, Gefran introduced itself to the international market with the creation of the Adamello controller (later called the 1000 model). In the 1980s, the company expanded production to include sensors. Currently, this IHEA member has 750 employees and 17 sales offices around the world. The company operates in three business areas (automation, sensors and motion control) and specializes in power controls, IR control and process control.

Gefran has a high level of expertise in the heat-treatment industry. It also serves a wide variety of other industries and has a diverse product portfolio as a result. The company's temperature controllers feature: quick and easy configuration, customizable LCD display, on-board recipe storage, fast sampling times and more. Gefran's power controllers include on-board diagnostics and temperature monitoring, preventive-maintenance features, embedded PID control, configurable firing modes and more.

One product that stands out above the rest, however, is Gefran's Xtra series. These power controllers offer exclusive, patented solutions

for electric heating systems that minimize or even eliminate machine downtimes due to transient over-currents or short circuits, thereby safeguarding the system, saving costs and ensuring product integrity. They can sustain infinite short-circuit cycles without damage. Xtra series performs system checks to determine whether a problem persists and automatically resets to resume the programmed thermal cycle. If the problem is transient (for example, electric arcs), the controller can do all of this in just a few seconds and without operator intervention.

The GFX4, meanwhile, is a unique, all-in-one controls solution designed to manage electrical power. It consists of a power management unit, analog and digital inputs, analog and digital outputs, standard digital communication, integrated solid-state relays and optional fuses holder.

Gefran's production departments have full control of the manufacturing processes in all of its plants. The company builds every product in-house, which translates to higher quality. It also permits Gefran to offer tailor-made, custom and unique application solutions to its customers.

The company has made a couple of significant announcements so far in 2017. In April, Gefran launched a new family of PID controllers including three models: 850/1650/1850. Accurate regulation, numerous options and exclusive functions make the devices so intelligent that the system regulating and controlling a production process can be simplified, installing one single device instead of several. In addition, its GFW and GTF series power controllers are now SCCR 100KA approved 600V according to UL 508. This approval is confirmation of the safety level Gefran devices guarantee for users, and it also significantly simplifies UL certification for electrical panels that use Gefran power controllers in North America.

And Gefran doesn't plan on slowing down. The company is going to continue to develop innovative product solutions, and it plans on expanding its presence within its focus markets and becoming long-term partners with OEMs and end users within these markets.

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