Lenz Engineering, Germany

Retrofitting for the future

Modernization of control equipment in injection molding machines lowers maintenance requirements and extends functionality. Now TIA Portal and Simatic S7-1500 control systems provide even higher performance and flexibility.

Often the replacement parts needed for injection molding machines equipped with an older generation of electronic control systems are no longer available or are prohibitively expensive. The mechanical components themselves may still be in good condition and capable of production. In another scenario, installation of a cascade control system, a tool change system, or an integrated hot runner control system may be necessary but not possible with the given control system. Yet another possibility is that the hydraulic equipment needs to be converted to a servo pump system to improve the energy balance.

High availability and flexibility

In all these cases, a control system retrofit represents an economical option. Retrofit specialist Lenz Engineering has been equipping and converting injection molding machines with high-availability and high-deliverability Simatic control systems for more than 20 years now. Jürgen Lenz puts his trust in the Simatic Injection Motion Hydraulics IMH 3300 software package, which has proven its worth in numerous different machines. For standard thermoplastic machines, multicomponent machines, or special-purpose machines, in combination with standard Simatic modules and the Simatic Step 7 and WinCC flexible software tools, it allows machine adjustments to be made in a minimum of time.

Lenz Engineering has topped that with its latest version, using the popular and especially user-friendly TIA Portal engineering framework, in which the IHM 3300 software package is also integrated, as well as Simatic HMI comfort panels with widescreen displays that can optionally be switched to portrait mode for more demanding operator tasks in newer systems, and CPUs of the new Simatic S7-1500 controller generation. This results in maximum performance, flexibility, and efficiency at a reduced cost.

Efficient complete package

For hydraulic injection molding machines, the retrofit specialist prefers to use the proven, semifinished and flexible IMH 3300 automation solution to save both time and money. With existing machine plans as a basis, Lenz Engineering prepares for the retrofit, selects the control components, and creates a new circuit diagram. The engineering office then retrofits the machines at the customer’s site, customizes the software for the machine, commissions the system, and then supports the customer during initial commissioning.

INFO AND CONTACT:
siemens.com/plastics
stefan.lemmermann@siemens.com