

3M Automation Enables Processes Beyond the Plant Floor

Continuing its more than 30 years of leadership in packaging line automation, 3M has formed the 3M Automation Center of Excellence, a group within the company's Industrial Services and Solutions Division. The Automation Center of Excellence supports the growth of solutions offered through the division, as well as other parts of the company, to deliver and manage automation and automated services for their industrial customers. 3M's automation solutions can increase efficiencies across a wide range of industries, including food and beverage, life sciences, chemicals, and consumer packaged goods.

The 3M Automation Center of Excellence also will work to develop expanded offerings, including automation solutions for processes that use other 3M products. "Many manufacturers can benefit from increased use of automation in their processes," said Mike Faust, business manager, Automation Center of Excellence. "For example, we plan to develop standard, automated workstations that will seamlessly integrate 3M's world-leading abrasive, adhesive and tape solutions into our customer's workflow. Our goal is to help our customers increase productivity, speed throughput and manage costs in ways they've never had available from a single source before."

Initially, 3M customers will benefit from expanded packaging design, engineering and technical support services, particularly in packaging line design, integration, installation, training and technical support. The group also offers additional package engineering services, such as new package design, damage mitigation and package optimization. Building upon its unique systems approach to packaging automation, 3M's expertise enables complete end-of-the-line solutions that now expand beyond the factory floor by augmenting other customer processes, project by project.

"3M is a recognized leader in packaging line automation and equipment, and we are committed to improving and expanding our solutions to meet ever-changing customer and market needs," said Faust. "We have the ability to develop, acquire and support automation solutions and services that extend into the engineering group and other key process areas. Our extensive industry knowledge and our world-class products can help reduce costs and improve processes in many areas."

About 3M Industrial Services and Solutions Division

3M Industrial Services and Solutions Division develops total services and solutions to help customers optimize industrial processes through expertise in Global Packaging Services, Global Materials Management and Abrasives Solutions and Services. 3M, in collaboration with its partners, offers industry-leading automation equipment including case erectors, packers, sealers and labelers. 3M is the market leader in case-sealing equipment and has installed more than 60,000 3M-Matic Case Sealers in the U.S. alone. 3M also provides global support with highly trained technicians and customer service representatives with more than 4,800 stocked service parts for 3M equipment. For more information about 3M Industrial Services and Solutions Division, call 1-866-585-9945 or visit www.3M.com/industrialservices. For more information about the 3M Automation Center of Excellence, call 1-888-421-0044 or visit www.3M.com/automationpackexpo.

About 3M -- A Global, Diversified Technology Company

Every day, 3M people find new ways to make amazing things happen. Wherever they are, whatever they do, the company's customers know they can rely on 3M to help make their lives better. 3M's brands include icons such as Scotch, Post-it, Scotchgard, Thinsulate, Scotch-Brite, Filtrete, Dyneon and O-Cel-O. Serving customers in

more than 200 countries around the world, the company's 70,000 people use their expertise, technologies and global strength to lead in major markets including consumer and office; display and graphics; electronics and telecommunications; safety, security and protection services; health care; industrial and transportation. For more information, including the latest product and technology news, visit www.3M.com or send e-mail to www.3M.com/profile/pressbox/media_contacts.jhtml.

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