

Retrofits and Upgrades



GCU-8 Upgrade

Future-Proof Equipment

Remove obsolete PLC and VFD from controls system and install upgraded hardware for integrating newer technology

Increases Security

Controller-based change detection, logging and encrypted firmware

Maximizes Efficiency

Reduce unscheduled downtime and optimize existing assets through access to real-time diagnostics

Improves Performance

Ethernet communication capability with faster PLC processor, bigger storage and latest AB software (Studio 5000)

GCU-8 PLC + VFD Upgrade



Programmable Logic Controllers (PLC) and Variable Frequency Drives (VFD) are instrumental in improving the performance of your strapping equipment. However, with how rapidly modern technology advances, these systems can become obsolete and impair efficiency rather than improve it. Sourcing hardware for these legacy systems in the aftermarket can also be incredibly difficult. In order to reduce these inefficiencies and improve strapping operations, the specialists at Signode recommend the following upgrades to PLC, VFD and auto latch conversion systems on GCU-8 strapping equipment.

Benefits of retrofit

■ Faster and easier access

Improvements also include easier access to go online with the PLC controller, as there's no need to open the cabinet or put on ARC flash gear. The ability to leverage ethernet communication also provides a future benefit for interlocks.

■ Modular remote IO rack design

Implementing a new, modular design improves the mobility of the IO rack to fit to your panel for easier wiring. This also simplifies the implementation of new IO cards, as there's no need for a bigger rack.

■ Advanced security and improved integration

Controller-based change detection, logging and encrypted firmware also contribute to increased security measures. In total, these upgrades maximize the capability of the GCU-8 to integrate with newer Signode unitizing equipment.

Retrofit options

■ PLC upgrade - CompactLogix 5380 Controller

Featuring the latest AB Studio 5000 Software, this upgrade is available for obsolete Siemens and AB controlled machines.

■ VFD upgrade - Altivar Machine ATV320

Featuring advanced motor control and access to real-time diagnostics, this upgrade allows for better control of platen operation and reduces unplanned downtime.

■ Auto latch conversion

Featuring one button operation, these electrically-actuated latches are operator friendly and provide ease of LOTO for clearing strap jams. *Always follow your company's LOTO procedures.*



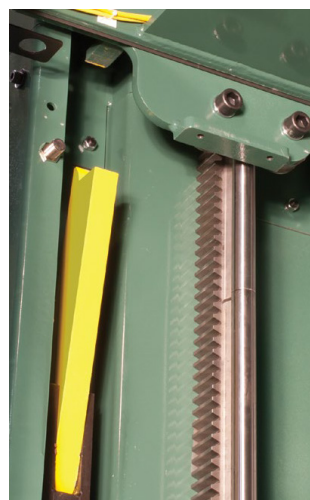
PLC upgrade



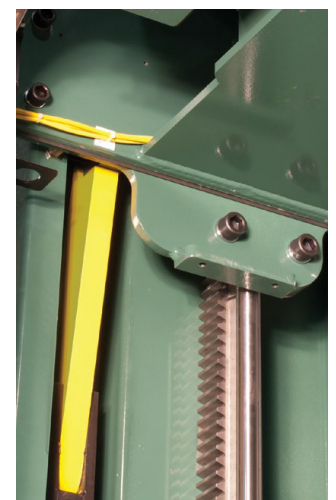
PLC upgrade



VFD upgrade



Auto latch conversion:
Automatic platen latch
activated and extended



Auto latch conversion:
Platen on the latches