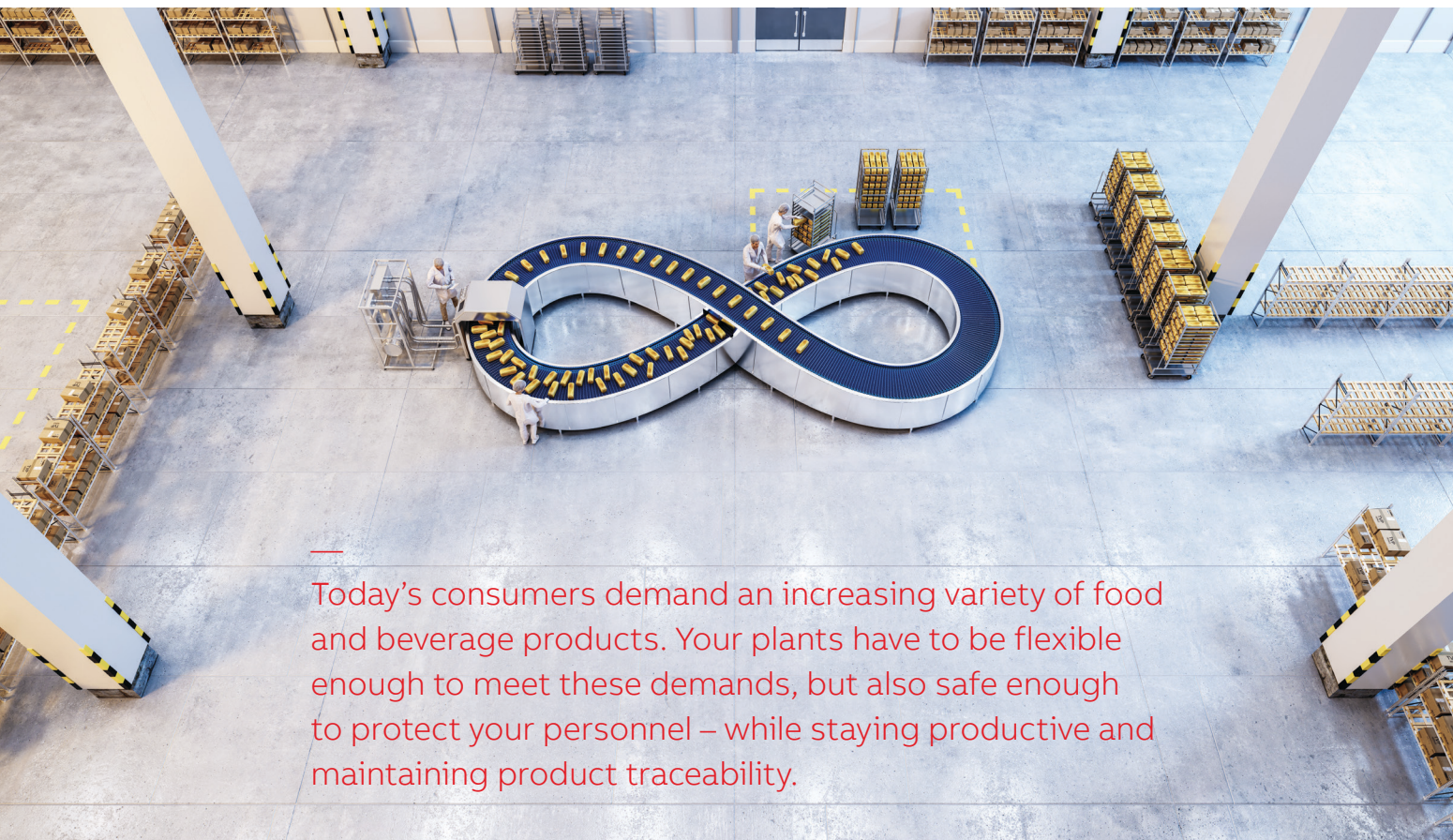

Robotic Automation Assessment service

Optimize your plant's end-of-line efficiency and flexibility.



Today's consumers demand an increasing variety of food and beverage products. Your plants have to be flexible enough to meet these demands, but also safe enough to protect your personnel – while staying productive and maintaining product traceability.

We understand the challenges you face. To help you solve them, we offer a Robotic Automation Assessment service. This assessment will identify opportunities for you to introduce robotics to your packaging end of line, and to improve productivity and reliability while reducing labor costs.

Why do you need this service?

High-speed, repetitive operations in modern day food processing and packaging present a number of challenges for human operators. Depending on the food and beverage plant, conditions may be hot, cold, dusty or otherwise uncomfortable for people. Spending a lot of time doing repetitive tasks can lead to bodily injury. And human performance (both physical and mental) degrades as fatigue sets in over the course of a long shift.

If you want to improve the safety, flexibility and cost-effectiveness of your plant's end-of-line processes, talk to us.

All this affects the overall performance efficiency of a plant's production. Human error also increases the risk of quality or sanitation problems with the plant's output.

At ABB, we understand the critical concerns you have for your food and beverage plant's picking, packaging and palletizing:

- Reduce personnel health and safety risks due to repetitive motion requirements
- Increase production line speed and capacity
- Quickly adapt to new product lines and packaging configurations
- Enhance product traceability
- Ensure packing quality and consistency

What happens during an assessment?

We understand that each plant's needs are different. We take the time to get to know your business and unique challenges before providing our recommendations.

This service consists of an onsite visit to your plant to perform an assessment of the production line, with focus on packaging end of line. ABB's food and beverage experts will collect data and information from the lines, including pictures and videos of the line running. The application areas that will be analyzed are:

- Material handling
- Packing
- Palletizing

The ABB team will consolidate this information into a report that will be presented at a feedback meeting. During this meeting, we will work with you to score project priorities and determine an action plan. Based on this plan, we will prepare a robot simulation, layout study and budgetary quotation.

Some of the solutions that could be included in your report include:

- Palletizing cells
- Case packer
- Picking lines
- Material handling robot cells

The onsite visit will take a day, with no systems impacted or work stoppage needed. The report and feedback meeting would take a day and a half, with the final simulation, study and quotation available about three weeks later.

What happens next?

How you choose to follow up on the assessment findings is up to you. Based on your needs and the priority ranking you establish for the proposed equipment, we can implement the proposed solution as soon as you are ready to make the investment.

To help you plan out your investment, each equipment solution will be scored with priorities based on:

- Safety
- Ergonomics and health
- Production increase
- Innovation
- Return on investment

Adding robotic automation to your plant can quickly pay for itself through improved production and quality, and reduced labor costs. One food and beverage plant has reported 20% improved cycle times and 50% improved payload from an automated picking and stacking solution at its factory, with its investment paid back in less than a year.

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If you want to improve personnel safety in your packing area, and you want to increase your end-of-line productivity, talk to us to schedule your own robotic automation assessment.