

PARTNERSHIP RESULTS IN AUTOMATED SAFETY SYSTEM DEPLOYMENT AT MONTANA GAS BLENDING COMPANY

ABOUT MCDANTIM GAS BLENDING TECHNOLOGIES. Since 1988, McDantim Gas Blending Technologies has been manufacturing gas blenders for a variety of mixed gas applications, including industrial welding, food packaging, and beer distribution in bars and restaurants. An employee-owned company based in Helena, Montana, McDantim employs 20 skilled craftspeople who produce well-established standard products as well as custom-designed, hand-assembled systems to meet specific client needs. More than 200,000 of the company's patented Trumix® gas blender systems have been sold and installed worldwide.

THE CHALLENGE. McDantim aimed to expand its product line by developing a carbon monoxide (CO) blending device and bringing it to market. The company planned to install a CO system for the blender at the facility. Historically, McDantim had only used inert gases; however, the new system would include a toxic gas, making it crucial to ensure the safety of all personnel and prevent any harmful gas releases into the environment.

MEP CENTER'S ROLE. McDantim contacted the Montana Manufacturing Extension Center (MMEC) for help reviewing the CO system's design to ensure proper safety processes and systems were in place. Business Advisor Brian Sullivan suggested installing an automated system to shut down the CO system if CO is detected in the facility. Brian connected McDantim with technology provider Archenergy and helped secure a state automation grant to assist with funding the implementation. The collaboration among McDantim, MMEC, and Archenergy resulted in the successful design, construction, and installation of an automated system for detecting CO gas, activating visual and audible alerts, and opening solenoid valves to stop CO gas flow before it enters the building. This primarily ensures a safe work environment for all personnel and visitors in the facility. Additionally, McDantim has expanded its production capabilities, supporting current growth plans and future opportunities.

"[MMEC Business Advisor] Brian Sullivan was great to work with. His extensive knowledge and experience with process design and safety reviews were extremely helpful. His involvement adds a very tangible element of legitimacy to process safety requirements. MMEC continues to provide great value for the money spent on their services."

-David Allard, CEO McDantim Gas Blending Technologies

RESULTS



\$65,000 increased/retained sales



\$60,100 in new investment



2 increased/retained jobs

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