

Thomas Broadbent: Major machine retrofit for centrifuge manufacturer in the UK



Thomas Broadbent & Sons Ltd

Thomas Broadbent is an established global manufacturer of industrial centrifuges.

CT Systems is a technology integration specialist and has been supporting operational technology at Thomas Broadbent for many years.



Challenges

- Thomas Broadbent wants to upgrade its Waldrich Coburg VTF3500 portal milling centre to upgrade productivity and digital capabilities.
- However, a new replacement would cost millions, and a traditional retrofit would take the machine out of operation for 3-4 months.
- Neither option is operationally or financially viable.

Solution

- CT Systems, an integrator, proposed a full retrofit for the Waldrich Coburg.
- Using Siemens' simulation and digital twin software, CT Systems will be able to develop the retrofit over some 18 months – all in the virtual world, all off-site.
- Actual installation and final live testing could be compressed into three to four weeks.
- Up front access to the software is enabled through a flexible financing solution from Siemens Financial Services (SFS).
- SFS is making staged payments to match the project implementation from CT Systems, through a tailored flexible funding solution which optimises the company cash flow.

Benefits

- 📄 Thomas Broadbent will be able to upgrade productivity through a vital machine upgrade without a commercially unviable period of downtime.
- 📄 Sustainability goals will also be met through the retrofit option. New digital capabilities mean that maintenance and service is all now remote.
- 📄 Smart financing from SFS will make the project affordable and cash-flow friendly.

“Flexible financing from SFS is critical to make this project work financially as well as technically. The tailored solution that suits our cash flow and working capital requirements is symptomatic of the way all parties – ourselves, CT systems, Siemens and SFS – are working in close capacity. We expect to achieve commercial, operational, financial and sustainability goals – all at the same time.”

Matthew Durkin-Jones,
Finance Director, Thomas
Broadbent & Sons Ltd