

December 10th, 2019

To whom it may concern,

I worked with Michael LaCourse from 2013 to 2015 during the design, build, startup and prove in of the custom automation used by RJ Reynolds to build the disposable portion of the Vuse electronic cigarette at our facility. Mike developed the design for the second generation production line, referred to as Gen 1.1. While multiple lines were being constructed in parallel, Mike helped develop the code used to run the line and consequently the robots that assembled the product. During the startup, prove in, and ramp up phases he helped troubleshoot issues which were limiting our output and efficiencies. Through his efforts, he was able to optimize the mechanical elements and electrical control on one line which were then transferred to the rest of the lines. These improvements allowed us to significantly improve our output and yield, along with harmonizing the operating code used in all lines. Mike spent untold hours developing creative solutions which were then implemented to meet the customers rapid go to market plan.

If you have specific questions, I have included my contact information below.

Best regards,



Pat McKinzie

Managing Partner

EC Manufacturing, LLC (2012 – 2016)

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