

# SMELTZER ORCHARD COMPANY



## Location:

Frankfort, Michigan

## Contract Budget:

\$35,000

## Start Date:

February 2023

## Completion Date:

March 2024

## Services:

Automation

## Summary:

Smeltzer Orchard Co. is a six-generation agri-business based in Frankfort, Michigan that specializes in producing and distributing high-quality fruit including cherries, blueberries, and cranberries. Windemuller completed a significant upgrade project for Smeltzer, focusing on their pasteurization controls. Challenges arose from having to wait until the system was down for the season in order to perform the upgrade, requiring strategic planning and coordination. The system was a manual operation with no PLC and was completed by having a new backplate installed along with new controls, instrumentation, and programming, aiming to improve operational efficiency and reliability for Smeltzer.

Smeltzer has consistently chosen Windemuller as their trusted partner, marking this our third successful collaboration together. Our relationship began in August 2020 focusing on a design-build initiative to upgrade their facility controls with a new PLC and HMI system. Following this accomplishment, we began a second project in November 2020, with a multi-phase effort aimed at enhancing their automation system to ensure product consistency. Throughout each project, our team demonstrated efficiency and effectiveness, delivering successful project outcomes that have generated positive feedback and repeat business from satisfied clients.

