Why automation failures often start upstream — not on the production line

As automation becomes more capable, many manufacturers are surprised to find that downtime, wastage and rework still persist.

In our experience, the causes are rarely the machine, the adhesive, or the operator. They reside upstream.

Small smart decisions made early — around how components are engineered, cut, positioned on the feed roll, how liners behave at speed, or how waste is removed — can have an outsized impact once a process is running at volume.

By the time these issues surface on the line, they're already expensive to fix.

We see this particularly clearly in regulated, high-volume environments such as drainable ostomy pouch manufacture, where automated self-adhesive component application has to operate with extreme consistency.

Over time, we've found that automation reliability is increasingly defined by presentation accuracy and upstream decision discipline, rather than chemistry or equipment alone.

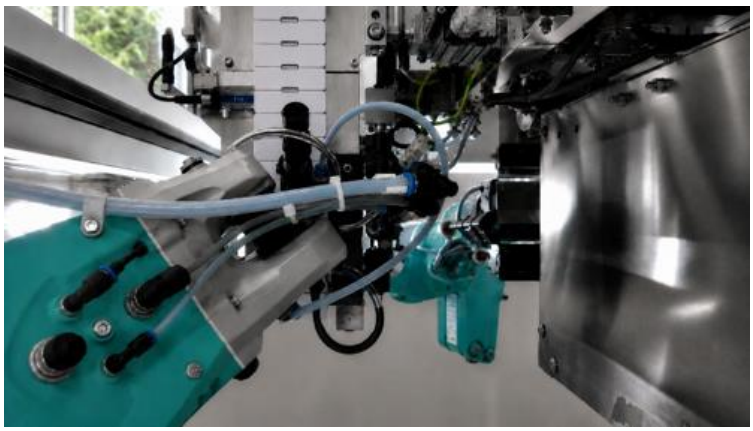
That thinking led us to formalize ACCURiX™ by Suretech — a 'class' designation, applied only to products engineered specifically for automated application.

Not as a product launch.
Not as a marketing label.

Making upstream decisions, visible, intentional and repeatable.

Because when automation matters, the real work often happens long before production begins.

ACCURiX™ by Suretech = Engineered Self-Adhesive Components for Process Capability, Not Just Function



The economics of automation are increasingly determined by variables that traditional component specifications rarely measure.

Most adhesive components are designed to satisfy a functional requirement. They adhere, seal, fasten, protect or identify. Yet in highly automated manufacturing environments, functional performance alone is no longer sufficient.

The component must also behave predictably as part of a dynamic production system.

Automated equipment does not compensate well for variation. It amplifies it.

A variation in part position. A slight inconsistency in release force. Incomplete matrix removal. Liner instability. Variable die-cut penetration. Static charge accumulation. Each may appear insignificant in isolation, yet each has the potential to reduce overall equipment effectiveness, increase reject rates, trigger operator intervention or create unplanned downtime.

These costs are rarely considered on a component drawing or procurement requisition.

They appear in labour utilisation, production throughput, machine availability, scrap rates and missed output targets.

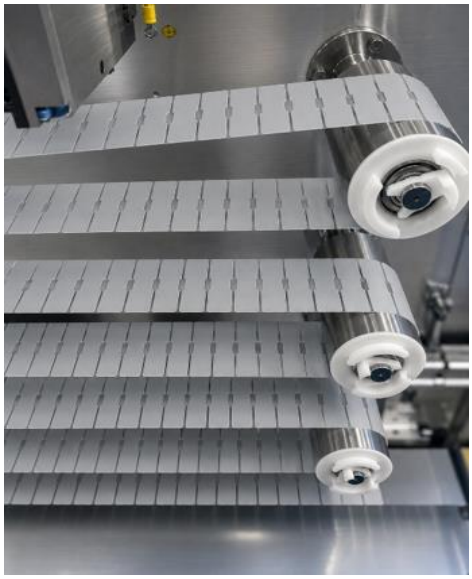
ACCURiX™ was established by Suretech to address these upstream causes of automation inefficiency.

Rather than defining what a component does, ACCURiX defines how consistently it can be presented to an automated process.

Products carrying the ACCURiX designation are manufactured using enhanced process controls focused specifically on automation performance. These controls may include precision management of die-cut depth to minimise liner fracture and adhesive seepage, tighter dimensional tolerances, enhanced positional accuracy on the carrier web, controlled release characteristics, optimised matrix extraction and near-zero missing component rates.

The objective is not simply improved component quality. The objective is improved process capability.

In practical terms, this means reducing sources of variation before they enter production. Automated application systems can operate at higher confidence levels when component presentation is predictable, repeatable and stable. Machine settings remain optimised for longer periods. Changeovers become more repeatable. Inspection systems experience fewer false rejects. Production teams spend less time reacting to intermittent faults and more time achieving target output.



For operations leaders, the result is improved overall equipment effectiveness and greater manufacturing predictability.

For quality teams, it means reduced process variation and enhanced repeatability.

For finance leaders, it means lower total manufacturing cost through reduced waste, fewer stoppages, improved labour efficiency and greater utilisation of capital equipment.

As automation speeds continue to increase and production tolerances become more demanding, the distinction between a component that functions and a component that also enables reliable automation becomes increasingly important.

ACCURiX represents that distinction.

ACCURiX

Because in modern manufacturing, component performance should be measured not only by what happens after application, but by everything that happens before and during.

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