



INDUSTRIAL COMMERCIAL

# PLANT MANAGERS AND OPERATORS KNOW THAT DOWNTIME IS MORE THAN AN INCONVENIENCE

Downtime costs companies thousands—even tens of thousands—of dollars in lost production and revenues. Plant and component failures also pose significant safety hazards for crews.

Automation systems from NKH Controls gives industrial plant professionals the confidence

and knowledge that their operations are working as efficiently and safely as possible.

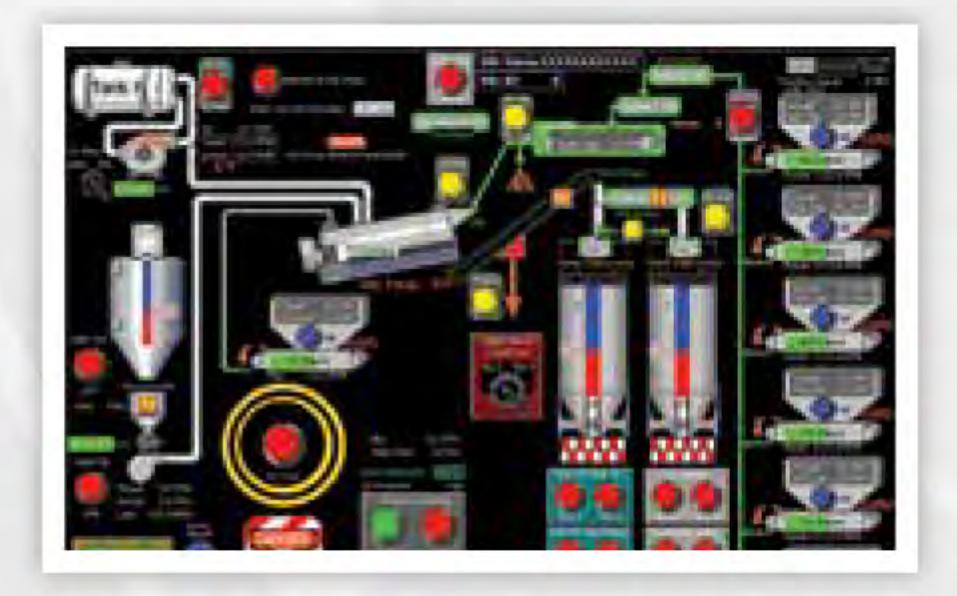
Our systems are fully customizable based on the unique needs of all types of industrial operations including crusher systems, asphalt plants and grain elevators.



Mullinax has three crushing operations and our largest runs 4,000 tons a day. The interlocking capability of the NKH system has been big for us. It's something we didn't have before and I don't know how any company can run well without it.

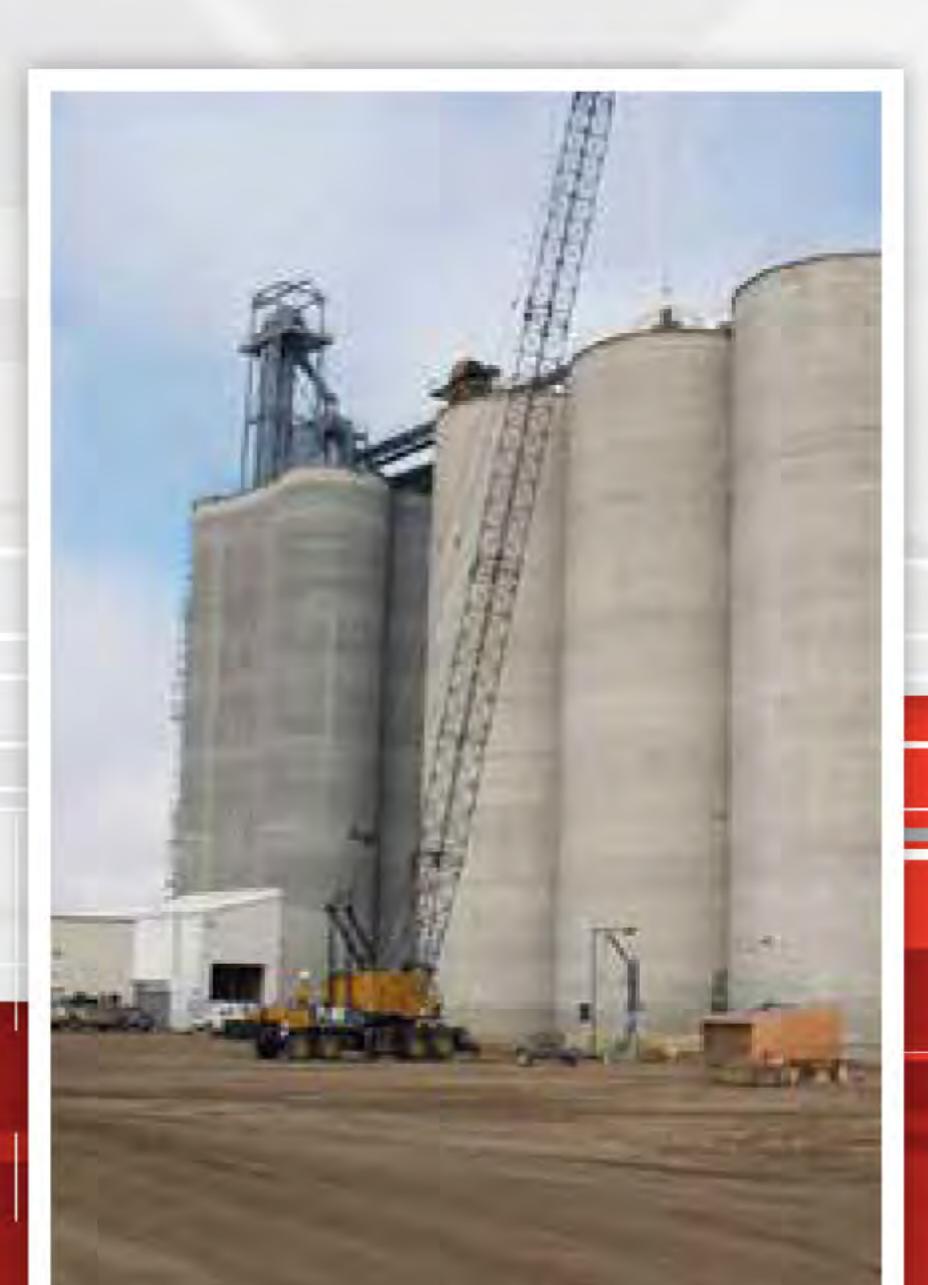


Nathan Mullinax
OWNER
MULLINAX, INC.



## EASE OF OPERATION

With a customized automated system from NKH Controls, equipment starts with the touch of a button when, where and how you specify. Unlike outdated push-button or first generation systems, once sequencing is initiated operators have the ability to leave the booth and spend time inspecting and maintaining components.



## IMPROVED SAFETY AND TROUBLESHOOTING

Our control systems monitor equipment and production around the clock. It will alert the operator if there are any problems and, if necessary, quickly and safely shut down the equipment until the issue has been resolved. Our unique reporting system also provides a minute-by-minute snapshot showing how, when and where equipment failure occurred for your internal review.



## GET ACCESS TO COMPLETE REPORTING

Would you rather have an estimate of your plant's production or know precisely what your production levels are today, yesterday and a year ago? With NKH Controls, you have the ability to log in securely from wherever you might be—next door or halfway around the world—and instantly know what is happening in your industrial operation.

Nels has worked in crushing and asphalt production, and knows it inside and out from the mechanical and engineering end. It's nice to know he's not just a computer tech-he's been out there with the wrenches and welding rods in his hands. He understands what it takes to do what we do.

Our previous system was always broken down, and we were on the phone to their tech people trying to keep it going. Since we put in this system, we have had essentially zero downtime.



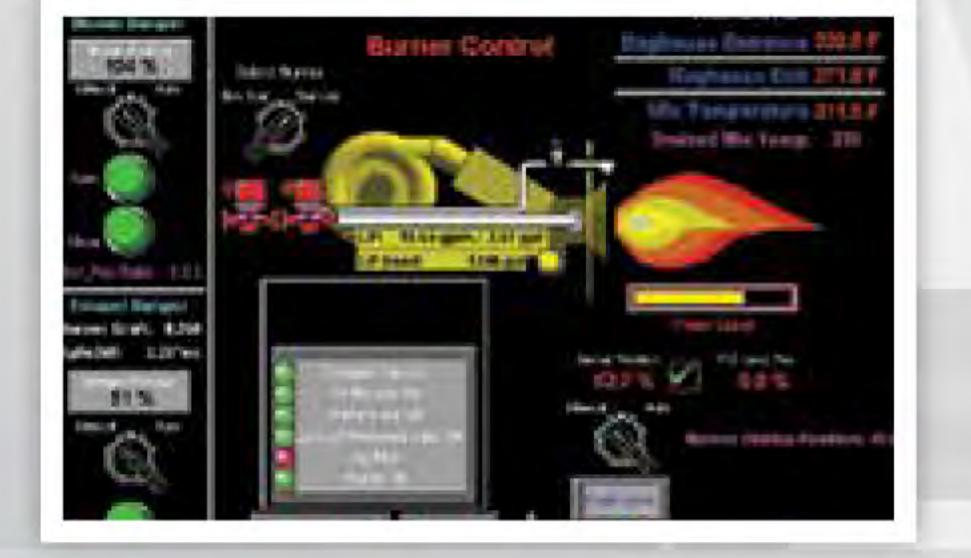
Bob Berland

MISSOULA PLANT MANAGER
KNIFE RIVER CORPORATION



### RECEIVE UNMATCHED LEVELS OF SERVICE

When you have a question, you want and need it answered quickly. With NKH Controls, you get local service in a single call. No phone centers or transfers from one tech to another. Your call will be handled quickly to ensure your plant, system or elevator is operating at capacity as often as possible, for as long as possible.



#### FULLY CUSTOMIZABLE

Our control systems are designed to reflect the unique operating needs of each of our customers. This allows almost unrestricted flexibility in interlocking equipment and ensures extreme process precision. The design of NKH Controls systems work in both fixed and mobile settings and can be adapted and expanded to accommodate even miles-long operations via secure, wireless transmission.

Before this system was installed, we had a lot of down time and problems. The interlocking ability we have now allows us to avoid breakdowns, and the system largely takes care of itself.



Brian Dunning
BELGRADE PLANT MANAGER
KNIFE RIVER CORPORATION





## THE NKH STORY

Nels Houghton worked in the asphalt and crusher industry for more than 20 years before creating NKH Controls. A skilled equipment operator himself, he experienced firsthand the inefficiency of the push button systems then in place.

When his research showed that there was no existing system on the market addressing the limitations he encountered in his day-to-day work, Nels decided the best solution was to build one himself. The result was a button-driven system that later evolved to a touch screen system that reduced the number of individualized sequencing tasks he'd been required to complete, allowed for easier training of back-up personnel and improved efficiency. In addition, changing interlocks or setups no longer required rewiring to be completed onsite—it could all be done electronically.

More than a decade later, asphalt plants, crusher operations and grain elevators working with NKH Controls have highly efficient, state-of-the-art systems backed by the best service in the industry.



406.534.1032 | 5873 Summerwood Circle | Billings, MT 59106 W W W . N K H C O N T R O L S . C O M

I appreciate the approach Nels takes with us. He listens to what we've done in the past and what we want to accomplish, then creates something customized to our company. There wasn't just a boilerplate he expected us to fit into.

Being able to have a standardized feel for our equipment is also important. Once you run one piece of our equipment on the system, you get a feel for the next one you may operate. There is a familiarity there.

Mullinax has three crushing operations and our largest runs 4,000 tons a day. The interlocking capability of the NKH system has been big for us. It's something we didn't have before and I don't know how any company can run well without it.

As the owner of our company, I also like the level of reporting the system can provide. I can track information and instantly know what our day-to-day operations are costing. It allows me the freedom to make better decisions for our organization.

Nathan Mullinax, Owner Mullinax, Inc.

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We installed NKH Controls in our mobile hot plant in Forsyth, Montana. It is simple to operate and there is no comparison between it and the old button system. It has helped with both productivity and efficiency.

The service Nels provides is excellent. If I've got a question or problem, He's right on it. He can hook up to our computers in the hot plant from wherever he is and see what's happening. He's a sharp guy, keeps things working and really gets the job done.

Mike Weiand, Asphalt Plant Operator Prince. Inc.

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I think most people in our industry are slowly making the change to automation, but we've been using the NKH Controls system in both our asphalt plant and on our crusher for over 10 years. It has been a good system for us, and Nels has been great. If we need him he's available right away.

Before this system was installed, we had a lot of down time and problems. The interlocking ability we have now allows us to avoid breakdowns, and the system largely takes care of itself. There is less risk of user error and it makes troubleshooting faster and easier.

Brian Dunning, Belgrade Plant Manager Knife River Corporation

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In our asphalt plant we've been running the NKH system for more than 10 years. Our previous system was always broken down, and we were on the phone to their tech people trying to keep it going. Since we put in this system, we have had essentially zero downtime.

This system is highly configurable. You think up how you want it to interlock or react, and Nels makes it do it. If you need to change it, he'll do it offsite, upload it when your machine is scheduled for downtime and when you come in the next morning it works the way it's supposed to.

It is also great from a troubleshooting point of view. If a sensor fails, he can log in from wherever he might be and diagnose what's happening quickly. It's just a matter of changing it, and we're back running.

Nels has worked in crushing and asphalt production, and knows it inside and out from the mechanical and engineering end. It's nice to know he's not just a computer tech-- he's been out there with the wrenches and welding rods in his hands. He understands what it takes to do what we do.

Bob Berland, Missoula Plant Manager Knife River Corporation