

Patti Perspective

January 2015

Greetings!

Upgrading legacy Siemens S5 PLCs to Siemens S7 is not an easy undertaking. Patti Engineering has expert Siemens Certified engineers who can work alongside your team to alleviate much of the pain involved in an upgrade project. We thank our friends at Oetiker for allowing us the opportunity to do a video case study on the Siemens S5 to S7 upgrade projects performed at the Oetiker plant in Marlette, MI. Check out the video below to learn the process for a Siemens upgrade, and the value you can expect in return.

We are also happy to shine the Patti Personnel spotlight on Senior Sales Engineer, Wayne McNeil. His extensive technical background from many generations of controls technology provided great insight for the Oetiker project. In addition to being a great asset to Patti Engineering's sales team, we can always count on Wayne to put a smile on our faces with his quick wit and funny stories!

Video Case Study of Siemens S5 Conversion to Siemens S7 at Oetiker



Siemens S5 to S7 Conversion

Ever wonder how Patti Engineering upgrades Siemens S5 PLCs to Siemens S7? We've published articles, press releases and blog posts before on the conversion, but we realize that this is a common issue many companies face and a project many engineers take on. That's why we developed this short video at our customer, Oetiker's, site in Marlette, Michigan.

The engineers at Oetiker are driven to always put their customer's needs at the top of their priority list, and this means keeping their facility running at peak efficiency. Knowing the S5s were discontinued years ago, Oetiker's Production Engineer Jeremy Roberts and his team knew the older equipment with the S5 control system would become cumbersome in terms of cost and maintenance, with downtime potentially compromising production and adversely effecting Oetiker's ability to service its customers' needs in a timely fashion. Relying on Patti Engineering's expertise in Siemens technology and control system upgrades, Oetiker's team established a plan to upgrade their equipment's legacy S5 control system to the more advanced and powerful Siemens S7.

Watch [here](#) for an inside look at the equipment, the enhancements Patti Engineering was part of, and the benefits of the project.

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Patti Personnel - Wayne McNeil

The Patti Personnel Spotlight for January 2015 is on Senior Sales Engineer Wayne McNeil. With nearly 30 years of experience in engineering and sales within the automation industry, Wayne is an unparalleled asset to our sales team. His responsibilities include developing partnerships with manufacturers and end users that rely on automation technology to meet the demands of their day to day operations. In addition to his sales contributions, we can always count on Wayne for his quick wit, humorous stories and fun nature - a great cultural fit for Patti Engineering!



A Michigan native, Wayne covers the majority of Michigan, north of Patti Engineering's Auburn Hills corporate office, with a few customers beyond state lines when they have some affiliation with his Michigan-based customers. Wayne lightheartedly refers to himself as "the Patti Engineering gateway to Northern Michigan."

"In his sales role, Wayne provides exceptional value to our current and potential clients with his deep technical insight and perspective, which comes from his extensive technical background from years of working with Siemens and Mitsubishi," said Sam Hoff, CEO, Patti Engineering.

Wayne has a long history with Patti Engineering. While Wayne officially started working at Patti Engineering in January of 2010, his connection to the company began long before that. He previously worked for Industrial Logic, where Wayne had Patti Engineering as one of his automation component customers for nearly 20 years.

Early in his career, Wayne's work programming a variety of legacy PLC-based control systems gave him great insight as to how to help customers through the process of upgrading to newer and more powerful control platforms. See our feature article to learn about a recent upgrade project.

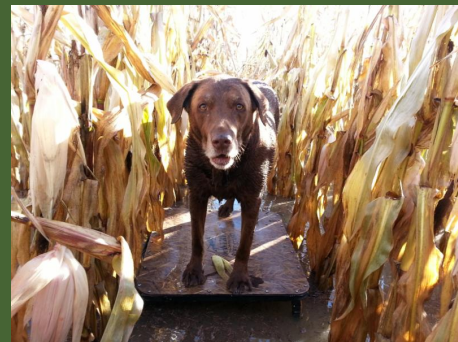


When asked what he likes best about working for Patti Engineering, Wayne says, "I enjoy the variety of applications and wide range of customers that we come in contact with. Patti Engineering provides resources available for most any application. We are not so much a specialist in one field as we are specialists with products, namely Mitsubishi and Siemens. This allows us to have a wider customer base and much more opportunities. We are really in a position to help end-users, OEMs and other control system integrators."

Wayne was born and raised in Saginaw, MI. Wayne earned two Associates of Science degrees, one in Robotics and a second in

Electrical Engineering Technologies at Delta College. He also earned a Bachelor of Science degree in Electrical Engineering from Saginaw Valley State University.

In 1993, Wayne and his wife Lisa returned to Saginaw to raise their family. Wayne and Lisa have four/five children; Elizabeth and Emily are the oldest and identical twins, and then there is Ellyn and Eric. So what about the fifth? Wayne says, "Our fifth child is Brody, our 110lb. Chocolate Lab. Through uncalculated attention and adoration, Brody has come to believe he is human!"



For fun, Wayne is an avid outdoor enthusiast. He explains this passion, "My love of video games has never managed to keep me from the outdoors. I love to hunt, fish, hike, snowmobile and even cut wood - although the family does not share that passion!" Wayne has managed to get all four of his children into the sports he loves. They are all accomplished at fishing and hunting, even waterfowl hunting - a rather large feat considering three of them are girls! We just had to smile when Wayne told us, "Duck hunting is typically a very hard hunt, dirty, wet and rarely warm. Not typically the place you expect to see teenage girls; however, it has become much more

popular in the last six years - I credit myself with starting that trend!"



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We work as partners with our clients. When you need an expert to help solve automation challenges, we are here to add value to your solution - enhance efficiency, increase productivity, and work with your team as a trusted resource. Visit our **website** for more information on our areas of expertise, or call us (248)364-3200 for a free initial consultation.

Thank you for your interest in Patti Engineering.

Best regards,

Georgia H. Whalen
Director of Marketing
Patti Engineering



On January 26th, Patti Engineering sent a team of engineers to the

Engineering Society of Detroit (ESD) Regional [Future City Competition](#) which took place at Suburban Collection Showplace in Novi, MI. We congratulate St. Valentine Catholic School from Redford, MI, for winning Patti Engineering's "Best Use of Automation Technology" award, and for placing third in the overall competition!

This is Patti Engineering's 5th consecutive year supporting ESD's Regional Future City Competition. Future City is a national, project-based learning experience where students in 6th, 7th, and 8th grade



imagine, design, and build cities of the future. Students work as a team with an educator and engineer mentor to plan cities using SimCity™ software; research and write solutions to an engineering problem; build scale models with recycled materials; and present their ideas before judges at Regional Competitions in January. Regional winners represent their region at the National Finals in Washington, DC in February.

"The Future City Competition is an important educational tool for developing student interest in technology and engineering," said Sam Hoff, CEO of Patti Engineering. "We applaud the Engineering Society of Detroit's efforts to inspire the next generation of engineers. It is a great opportunity for us to give back to our community in a meaningful way."