

Optimized Motion for Food Processing Equipment Advancing high-productivity applications with expertise and technology





Application. Design. Performance. Thomson optimizes every step in the creation of dependable and durable food processing equipment.

Thomson has decades of experience in supplying technologically superior components that allow application flexibility while pushing production efficiency. We also streamline the sourcing process for components that can be trusted for longevity, washability, corrosion-resistance and performance.

Today we optimize motion for the food-processing industry through:

Superior products. We have the broadest selection and readily provide standard, modified standard and full custom solutions. Thomson supplies and optimizes:

- Rodded and rodless actuators
- Linear bearings
- Ball and lead screws
- Linear guides (round and square rail)
- Micron[®] planetary gearheads
- Linear slides and systems
- Deltran clutches, spring-set brakes and resolvers

Superior technology. Our products perform as promised and over-deliver on quality and longevity. Thomson components can:

- Withstand caustic cleaning and demanding use without corrosion through use of 300-grade (303, 304, 316) stainless, UHMW coatings, Armalloy and many more options
- Provide 120 psi (8.3 bar) spray-rated washdown compliance
- Offer food-grade Lube-for-Life lubrication

Unbiased design solutions. Our unmatched product line breadth encourages designs that don't compromise. Our commitment to fully agnostic solutions ensures this. We have the capability to test your application load and movement profiles to develop optimal solutions. Plus, we bring 70 years of experience in product solutions. We also specialize in:

- Zero-setup products for speed-to-market and optimal installed cost
- Electric actuator conversion from hydraulic or pneumatic
- Easy-to-use online sizing and selection tools at www.thomsonlinear.com

Call on Thomson as a partner early in the design process to help you find the optimized motion solution for your application.

Integrate Our Expertise Into Your Design Process.

When experienced Thomson engineers contribute early in your design process, you optimize machine performance, life and cost. Leverage our capacity for analysis, modifications and white sheet solutions. Take advantage of smart standardization that gives you more flexibility and improved speed to market. Rest easy knowing that the results will be predictably excellent. Here are some of the keys:

WE DEVELOP standard platforms that make any design easily customizable.

WE PRODUCE zero set-up products to get our clients to market faster and more cost-effectively. **WE TEST** extensively on your equipment to enable evaluation of our products in your application.

Couple these process advancements with our highly proven, highly engineered components and pre-assembled systems, and you've optimized your food processing machine project.

We Participate in a Wide Range of Food Processing Applications

Through world-class components and systems, decades of motioncontrol expertise and a global footprint that includes more than 2000 distributors, we contribute to a very wide array of food processing applications:

Accumulators Bag fillers Blenders Capsule fillers Choppers Conveyors Cookers Cup fillers Cutters Deboners Dumpers Elevators Extruders Fillers Form, fill and seal Heat exchanges Injectors Loaders Material handling/palletizers Meat processing Mixers Ovens Patty formers Pick and place Pouch machines Presses/cutters Scales Separators Slicers



Leverage our capacity for analysis, modifications and white paper solutions.



to optimize your product application

decisions.



Reach market faster with our zeroset-up products.

Bread robot

Two-axis packaging robots do considerable work in assembling and packing food items like baked goods, boxed cereal, boxed dairy products and mincemeat in trays. The system involves picking, placing, arranging and conveying individual items and the final packages. A wide range of Thomson components contribute to this vital food processing function, including ball screws, guides, full linear motion systems, and planetary gears and servo motors – all meeting strict washdown demands.





Skewer/Assembly

Thomson's components and solutions shine in high-throughput, multi-axis applications such as assembly lines with skewers. Skewer units employ gearheads and clutches, brakes and resolvers, and rodless actuators in optimal combinations. Skewer units can employ dual guides for raising and lowering, or these can be replaced with a single profile rail or two profile rails. These also employ clutches and gearboxes to complement the motor unit.

These multi-axis food-processing applications are tailor-made for Thomson's integrated solutions. Consult with us early in the design process to leverage our testing capacity, customized solutions, sourcing advantages and ability to collaborate with partner divisions. The result will be a better machine that is delivered more quickly.



Food Vending Machine

Actuators of multiple sizes, ball screws, gearheads and full linear motion systems combine to control the multiple stages in this application, where frozen dinner boxes are placed in a microwave and heated before being delivered to a hatch for the customer. Here, as with a food packaging robot, ball screws can replace actuators in many cases to provide more customizability at reasonable cost.





Food Press

Food press applications can employ numerous Thomson components and fully engineered solutions. The press mechanism can make use of a high-load, rodded actuator with a friction break and feedback element. The stop block can be raised and lowered with the help of a linear actuator, and the slicer can employ a planetary gearbox and round rail linear guides – all resistant to corrosion and caustic cleaning elements. Underneath, a wrap-spring clutch helps index the motor driving the conveyor belt.



Deboner

These heavy-duty positioning machines promote safety by handling the hard work of positioning carcasses for deboning. In this application, round rail linear guides are employed in an elevator that brings product to an overhead monorail crane system. Horizontal motion is driven by a zero-setup linear motion assembly with a stainless steel Micron gearhead. These components must be extremely durable and withstand high-pressure, caustic washdowns to ensure food safety.





Employ Superior Thomson Components

Leading-edge food-processing technology is built on leading-edge motion components, starting with minute engineering details we've mastered over decades of intense work. From patented anti-backlash technology for lead nuts to proprietary processing for roll-forming, our components are built to over-deliver.





OPTIONAL

Stainless Steel Protection
Wash-Down or/and Chemical Protection
Customization

PROFILE RAIL

With sizes ranging from our ultra compact 5 mm MicroGuide[™] to the robust 65 mm 500 Series roller, as well as compliancy ranging from our self-aligning T-Series (transport profile rail) to the extremely rigid, machinetool-grade roller profile rail, Thomson is your one-stop source for all profile rail.



ROUNDRAIL LINEAR GUIDES

While shafts may appear the

performance differences due

to the manufacturer's selected

standards and the manufacturing

processes used to achieve them.

Combine Thomson's unique design

advantages with our tremendous

on-hand stock, and you will

have the tools to deliver the

difference

same, there are significant

& COMPONENTS



LEAD, BALL & GLIDE SCREWS

Thomson lead screws are the "just right" solution for many applications, and the patented zero-backlash nut technology provides excellent repeatability with high stiffness and extremely low drag torque.

For more demanding applications, we offer the most complete line of industrial ball screws in the industry. Our broad product offering and years of application expertise allow us to provide the right solution to meet your unique application requirements.

Part linear bearing, part lead screw, the unique Glide Screw™ combines the best features of these products into an easy-to-install, one-part solution. In addition, the Glide Screw eliminates alignment issues and comes standard with Thomson's patented Lube-for-Life technology for zero maintenance.



LINEAR ACTUATORS & MOTORIZED LEAD SCREWS

Our linear actuators are designed for rugged, reliable linear motion applications. Numerous choices in stroke, load, motor type, feedback, limits and control options make them very versatile. If you can't find the actuator to meet your application needs, call us for an actuator built to your specifications. We build more custom actuators than anyone in the world.

Our motorized lead screws combine a hybrid stepper motor and a precision lead screw in one compact envelope. Patentpending Taper-Lock technology allows quick decoupling and secure, properly aligned connections. The result is a smaller, simpler and more precise overall design.

Leverage Our Ability To Modify or Customize

Our application expertise is deep, and our product portfolio is very broad. The result: we can modify our standard products to any degree in a short timeframe. Similarly, we have the design and engineering expertise and technical knowledge to quickly deliver white sheet solutions for virtually any need. From standard products to modified standard to custom products, we can deliver what you conceive.





LINEAR MOTION SYSTEMS & LIFTING COLUMNS

Our linear motion systems can be used virtually anywhere. They can support and move a range of loads and provide high precision and tight tolerances. Pre-engineered, pre-assembled, ready to install, our systems support loads with ball guides, slide guides or wheel guides and actuation with either ball screw, lead screw or belt drive. Easy to use sizing and selection tools as well as 3D models are available at www.linearmotioneering.com.

Thomson lifting columns provide modern design, high performance, and safe operation. Along with maintenance free life, easy installation, and light weight, these lifting columns are a first choice for domestic, medical, and work place applications.

GEARHEADS

Planetary gearheads are used on high-precision, motion control applications that require a high torque-to-volume ratio, high torsional stiffness and low backlash. Thomson offers these precision planetary gearheads for all duty cycles and all with RediMount-compliant mounting systems. Web-based sizing, selection, pricing and 3D models of Micron gearheads are available at www.micronmotioneering.com.



PRECISION LINEAR ACTUATORS

The compact design and the high load, accuracy and speed capacities of our precision linear actuators make them ideal for flexible integration in tight areas. These high-performance actuators come in several models and sizes with a broad range of options and accessories to meet the requirements of your application.

The EC and ECT Series are designed for heavier loads and are perfect for hydraulic replacement in the toughest environments.

The smaller PC Series is designed for drop-in replacement of pneumatic cylinders making, the shift to electrical actuation and control easy and fast.



CLUTCHES AND BRAKES

Our brake and clutch products are working in a wide range of applications specific to the food and beverage packaging industries. These products set the solid foundation for the broad range of standard and custom products currently available to our customers.

USA, CANADA and MEXICO

Thomson 203A West Rock Road Radford, VA 24141, USA Phone: 1-540-633-3549 Fax: 1-540-633-0294 E-mail: thomson@thomsonlinear.com Literature: literature.thomsonlinear.com

EUROPE

United Kingdom Thomson Office 9, The Barns Caddsdown Business Park Bideford Devon, EX39 3BT Phone: +44 (0) 1271 334 500 E-mail: sales.uk@thomsonlinear.com

Germany

Thomson Nürtinger Straße 70 72649 Wolfschlugen Phone: +49 (0) 7022 504 0 Fax: +49 (0) 7022 504 405 E-mail: sales.germany@thomsonlinear.com

France

Thomson Phone: +33 (0) 243 50 03 30 Fax: +33 (0) 243 50 03 39 E-mail: sales.france@thomsonlinear.com

Italy

Thomson Largo Brughetti 20030 Bovisio Masciago Phone: +39 0362 594260 Fax: +39 0362 594263 E-mail: info@thomsonlinear.it

Spain

Thomson E-mail: sales.esm@thomsonlinear.com

Sweden

Thomson Estridsväg 10 29109 Kristianstad Phone: +46 (0) 44 24 67 00 Fax: +46 (0) 44 24 40 85 E-mail: sales.scandinavia@thomsonlinear.com

ASIA

Asia Pacific Thomson E-mail: sales.apac@thomsonlinear.com

China

Thomson Rm 2205, Scitech Tower 22 Jianguomen Wai Street Beijing 100004 Phone: +86 400 6661 802 Fax: +86 10 6515 0263 E-mail: sales.china@thomsonlinear.com

India

Thomson c/o Fluke Technologies Pvt. Ltd. #424, Deodhar Center, Marol Maroshi Road, Andheri – E, Mumbai – 400059 India Phone: +91 22 29207641 E-mail: sales.india@thomsonlinear.com

Japan

Thomson Minami-Kaneden 2-12-23, Suita Osaka 564-0044 Japan Phone: +81-6-6386-8001 Fax: +81-6-6386-5022 E-mail: csjapan@scgap.com

Korea

Thomson F7 Ilsong Bldg, 157-37 Samsung-dong, Kangnam-gu, Seoul, Korea (135-090) Phone: +82 2 6917 5049 Fax: +82 2 528 1456 E-mail: sales.korea@thomsonlinear.com

SOUTH AMERICA

Brazil Thomson Av. Tamboré, 1077 Barueri, SP – 06460-000 Phone: +55 (11) 3616-0191 Fax: +55 (11) 3611-1982 E-mail: sales.brasil@thomsonlinear.com

www.thomsonlinear.com

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