

**IMPORTANT NOTICE REGARDING YOUR ROTARY CUTOFF DRIVE***For Immediate Release (March 20, 2008)**(originally released June 6, 2005)***Obsolescence of Unico 240 V DC PWM Drive (Lucas Amplifier)**

This letter is to inform you that Unico is ***no longer able*** to service or repair the 240 V DC PWM drive commonly known as the “Lucas” amplifier due to our inability to source critical components such as power transistors and IC chips. Although these units have been very reliable (many of them have been in service for at least fifteen years), replacement is strongly urged.

The recommended replacement is Unico’s 2450 DC PWM drive. The 2450 is a DSP-based digital drive that can be engineered into your existing drive enclosure by our Converting Group without replacing the entire system. Installation can be handled by our Field Service Department.

The intent of this replacement is to extend the life of older direct-drive cutoffs that may not be candidates for a complete upgrade due to a limited mechanical life span.

**Benefits of DC drive replacement**

- The upgrade replaces the Lucas amplifier only
- All other components within the drive enclosure (DC bus rectifier, capacitor banks, bus discharge circuits, contactors, and the like) are not replaced on most systems
- Along with the drive upgrade, the System VIIIE processor module (CPU) will be upgraded and an internal clock module (RTC) added
- Estimated downtime per level is typically only two days (one day to install and wire and one day to set up, tune, and relaunch the system)

**AC upgrades are also available and recommended**

Newer rotary cutoffs that are mechanically sound can also benefit from Unico’s AC motor and drive upgrade solution. Upgrading to AC will:

- Increase production throughout the speed range
- Enable higher speeds on corrugator systems where knife speed is the limiting factor
- Achieve better electrical accuracy for both cut-to-length and cut-to-mark/pattern-recognition operations
- Provide better diagnostics from the new drive and from the new System VIIIE software that uses advanced fault recognition and fiber-optic serial communications

Doing the AC upgrade can also be a strategic move to improve your plant’s production output, which may be suffering due to electronic drive packages that are no longer supportable or have reduced performance. Unico has also performed AC drive replacements on machines from different RCO manufacturers, including Marquip, MHI, and others.

For further details or to discuss the upgrade path that is best for your plant, please contact Unico’s Field Service Department or contact me directly.

Sincerely,

Mike M. Mrkonjic  
Corrugated Converting Manager  
Regional Manager

Phone: 905.602.4677  
Fax: 905.602.4765  
Mobile: 416.417.2859  
mike.mrkonjic@unicous.com  
www.unicous.com

Nick Campolo  
Field Service Engineer  
Field Service Department

Phone: 262.504.7201  
Fax: 262.504.8396  
nick.campolo@unicous.com



3 7 2 5

Nicholson Rd.

P. O. Box 0505

Franksville, WI

53126-0505

U S A

voice

262.886.5678

fax

262.504.7396