



# CASE STUDY

## PET FOOD MANUFACTURER



*Bindicator's comprehensive application solution helps an engineering firm establish high standards of quality and inventory control at a new [pet food manufacturing plant](#).*

### Problem:

A leading pet food manufacturer constructed a new plant in the Midwest.

Pet owners are becoming more and more aware of the ingredients that make up their companion's kibble. Today, it is more common for pet owners to have higher standards around the quality of pet food ingredients. Also, specialty ingredients are now in demand – such as those supporting weight, allergy or fur ball control.

As a result of these new trends, pet food manufacturers are realizing higher costs on more selective dry bulk raw materials making [inventory management and control](#) a greater priority than ever before. They are also being challenged to achieve higher production standards in order to meet consumers' quality expectations. These evolving priorities are triggering many pet food manufacturers to add more sophisticated inventory management systems to their plants and upgrade their equipment and sensors to meet food grade standards.

The design and engineering firm assigned to the project understood the priorities of quality and inventory control and selected Bindicator, who they had past experience with.

### Solution:

Bindicator and the engineering firm determined that a combination of [point level](#) and [continuous level](#) sensors would be utilized to monitor the dry bulk materials moving through the Customer's production process.

The devices installed are:

- Roto-Bin-Dicator®: A paddle wheel level device
- VRF® II Series: A capacitance probe level sensor with adjustable sensitivity
- TDR-2000: A continuous level sensor using guided wave radar technology

These point and continuous level sensors are installed in the material handling bins at each stage of the pet food production process. Most of the plant's bins incorporate high level devices such as the Roto-Bin-Dicator® or [VRF® II](#). These point level devices are critical since bin overflow is always a concern; spills are not only costly, they create potential hazards and are time-consuming to clean-up. [Roto-Bin-Dicator®](#) and [VRF® II](#) products are also used as low level sensors to prevent material outages which could cause production downtime. Point level sensors protect facilities from overflow spills and material outage situations by sending a signal to stop filling or emptying once the desired level in the bin is achieved.

In addition to point level products, the [TDR-2000](#) is used in the plant's material handling bins for continuous level monitoring. Continuous level sensing provides the plant with a steady stream of information regarding dry bulk material inventory and consumption. This data is particularly important during the production stage when bins are constantly feeding one another. The appropriate amount of material must be maintained in each bin to ensure recipe consistency and production up-time.

**Benefits:**

The Bindicator level devices not only met the functional and quality expectations, they were also easy to install and required little maintenance while in operation. This allowed the engineering firm to easily design a system that allowed the Customer to have better control over their inventory while maintaining high quality standards.

***Contact Bindicator today for your dry bulk and in-process inventory needs.***

**[Bindicator: The Leader in Dry Bulk Level Measurement](#)**

**Bindicator®**  
**150 Venture Blvd.**  
**Spartanburg, SC 29306 USA**  
**1.800.778.9242**  
**[www.Bindicator.com](http://www.Bindicator.com)**