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## new machinery

# Fruits meats tray sealer

A tray sealer designed for fast production lines such as meat products and fresh fruit has been introduced by Proseal.

Incorporating a variety of features designed to maximise throughput and minimise downtime, including a three dimensional tray positioning system, the new GT3 offers a top speed in excess of 180 trays a minute.

The GT3's three axis servo drive tray transfer system helps to maximise tray throughput by automatically adjusting for different tray heights. This eliminates the need for tray height specific changeparts and means that all height settings can be programmed through the touch screen.

Speeds are further increased for the GT3 Twin with a true twin lane feed control which enables products to be fed independently down each lane.

As well as providing remote diagnostics and remedial action, the system can also compile machine condition running data such as packs per minute, temperature settings, seal time and air pressure, all of which can be exported directly into customers' production monitoring screens.

A further advantage is that software updates can be performed with no action required by the customer.

The GT3's construction is manufactured to food

industry approved hygiene standards with full washdown protection.

Downtime is also minimised by the use of quick-change conveyor belts, and an auto-lock film reel holder. "Speed is a critical issue for many companies and the GT3 responds to this need while ensuring that efficiencies and pack quality are not compromised," says Proseal director Rob Hargreaves.

01625 856600

www.prosealuk.com



*The GT3 is designed for fast production lines such as meat products and fresh fruit*

# Weighcells give improved throughput with accuracy

Mettler Toledo Garvens has launched two new electro magnetic force restoration (EMFR) weighcells for improved diagnosis and accuracy of both static and dynamic weighing processes during food and pharmaceutical production.

These two new weighcells, TF10 and TF20, include productivity and accuracy enhancing features and comply with stringent industry standards. They can both be easily integrated into the checkweigher family from the company and production lines.

Increased speed is a key benefit of the new weighcells, facilitating higher throughput

while ensuring rigorous quality assurance. This increased efficiency is achieved by the fast reaction time of the TF10 and TF20, which allows for shorter weigh cycles. In fact, the weighcells can weigh up to 1000 pieces a minute at line speeds of up to 180m a minute.

"Compared with existing technology, the new weighcells can produce more accurate weighing results over a wider weighing range and for a larger variety of products," says Dirk Bettels, product manager at Mettler Toledo Garvens. This flexibility eliminates the need for multiple checkweighers on a given production line. Additional flexibility is achieved

through the compact size of the TF10 and TF20, allowing for maximum use of limited plant space.

Both systems feature a robust housing to protect against dust and water and comply with the IP69k standard, so weighing results are not influenced by the environment.

"With food and pharmaceutical manufacturers' ongoing focus on quality and productivity, we focused our R&D efforts in further enhancing our weighcells in these areas," says Bettels.

0116 235 7070

www.mt.com

# Slender robots combine strength and accuracy

Kuka is launching a lighter, faster and more energy efficient range of robots in October at an open house event designed to show the greater accuracy that can now be achieved.

Called Quantec, the series will be available early next year and covers an entire high payload range from 90-300kg with reaches from 2,500 – 3,100mm.

The company says these robots are up to 160kg lighter and 25% smaller, making them the most compact and powerful in their class. The range comprises four models: Ultra for payloads up to 300kg; Prime for payloads of up to 240kg; Extra for payloads up to 210kg and Pro for up to 120kg payloads.

Lighter components are designed to improve performance as well as achieving greater accuracy from



*The Quantec series of robots are lighter, faster and more energy efficient than previous models*

a new streamlined design and more slender robot wrist for repeatability of +/- 0.06mm.

“The Quantec range represents a major step change in automation,” says Jeff Nowill, Kuka’s UK general sales manager. “Making systems more powerful by way of adding more or larger components is now a thing of the past.

“The trend is towards maximum availability by means of intelligent reduction of assemblies and replacement of proprietary hardware with flexible software,” explains Nowill.

All models are based on common parts with just four motor and gear unit variants, identical tool flange on the wrist and a universal hole pattern for the mounting base in line with Kuka’s previous 2000 range. This ensures the new robots are fully compatible with existing cell layouts.

0121 585 0800  
www.kuka.co.uk

## Fill and seal boxes quick

Compact, convenient and versatile is how Linkx Systems describes the new SIAT PS50, a system that combines box filling and sealing in a single machine, and so saves valuable factory floor space as well as achieving maximum efficiency. And the design of the machine leaves the operator with both hands free to carry out the filling operations.

When the box is filled, a case pusher transfers it to the sealing station where adhesive tape is automatically applied to the top and bottom.

Linkx offers the new PS50 machine in two versions. The PS50-B has a single drive belt below the box and is suitable for standard applications, while the PS50-TB has drive belts above and below the box so it can be used for heavy or unstable goods.

01502 713777  
www.linkx.co.uk

# Automatic integrated system

Bradman Lake has designed and built a new fully automatic tray loader shrink wrapper (TLSW) system designed to do the job of two machines in tight floor spaces. The company says the TLSW is the new benchmark in integrated packaging solutions with the flexibility to easily and quickly change product configuration.

This stand alone machine has a compact footprint and is a fully automatic combined tray wraparound loader and shrink wrapper with an efficient low energy heat tunnel. All major product control devices are servo driven delivering smooth and consistent high speed operation.

It allows cartons to be collated into the preferred format then transferred onto a tray blank that is erected snugly around the collation.

Pack variations include: tray



*The TLSW is designed to do the job of two machines in tight floor spaces*

pack only, tray pack & shrink wrap and shrink wrap only.

Although the TLSW is a stand alone machine, it can also form part of a fully integrated packaging system

including fully automatic flow wrappers and cartoners manufactured by the Bradman Lake Group.

01502 470500  
www.bradmanlake.com

## Thermoformers

Mecaplastic has developed three new models of thermoforming machines – the FS910, 930 and 950 – which are suitable for a variety of packaging lines including flexible and/or rigid films with or without a protective atmosphere, all types of food processing as well as industrial and pharmaceutical applications.

Fast and simple format changes can be accommodated on the machinery including rapid changing of moulds and sealing plates with less than 5 minutes downtime, and a complete change of format is possible in a time comparable to that of a sealing machine.

Operating rates of up to 20 cycles a minute can be achieved.

02476 351300  
www.mecaplastic.co.uk

## Invisible belt

To further improve contaminant detection in glass jars and bottles, Mettler Toledo Safeline has introduced an x-ray invisible conveyor belt.

Available with its GlassChek Quad x-ray inspection system, the belt features a slat band modular design to facilitate high speed handling of glass containers of various sizes.

Due to the variation in the thickness of glass walls and bases, the identification of foreign bodies in glass jars is challenging, but the GlassChek systems have overcome these difficulties and offer fast and reliable detection of contaminants regardless of their shape or location within the glass container.

0161 848 8636  
www.mt.com

## Portable unit

Ishida Europe has launched a portable version of its strip pack applicator system which produces ready to display hanging strips of pillow packs for retail display.

The portable version – the P-SPA – is a compact, space saving and value for money model which can be used by contract packers and retail operations as well as snack, confectionery and other food manufacturers.

0121 607 7700  
info@ishidaeurope.com

# X-ray goes extra large

An x-ray system designed for comprehensive inspection of larger products has been developed by Loma Systems.

The X4 800XL x-ray inspection system utilises Loma's proven technology while incorporating a large aperture infeed system that can handle large products such as bulk meat in film or Euro crates and meat boxes.

It has been designed to meet the changing needs of the food and general packaging industry in seeking to reduce interim primary packaging by upsizing raw materials to the legal limits of product handling. This presents a series of new challenges, particularly to food processors who handle meat, large sacks of food ingredients or any other solid or semi solid foodstuff such as large unprocessed blocks of cheese.

It is in the first stage of product handling when a



The X4 800XL x-ray system from Loma inspects larger products

product reaches the processing halls that traditional inspection is carried out. According to Loma, the challenge incurred by all producers from larger sizes is ensuring the same quality of accuracy as before.

The end user for the X4 800XL is likely to be a 24 hour operation and so the system has been designed to survive by meeting IP66 environment specifications.

The company has set up a dedicated manufacturing and assembly line at its Farnborough HQ to handle this new machine which says Simon Spencer, md of Loma "will allow us to offer greatly reduced build times and to keep abreast of any sudden changes in the way our customers' start to receive their raw materials".

01252 893300  
www.loma.com

## Versatile space option is easy to operate

The Nordson fulfill retrofit system delivers a host of product features and benefits of automatic adhesive filling plus the capability of attaching to any existing Nordson melter.

Fitting into virtually any production space or environment, the kit is not only versatile in storage space, but is

easy to operate. And, because it contains preset, preassembled components, only minimal fine tuning is ever needed.

The unit delivers uninterrupted production and saves operator time, says Nordson.

01296 610140  
www.nordson.com



The Nordson fulfill retrofit

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