



Background

Tesco Wine is an award winning online wine retailer which allows customers to order mixed case deals and champagnes. Servicing the entire country, Tesco wine is led out of a dedicated warehouse facility.

Scenario

Tesco was looking to automate the online wine operation. They needed an automated solution which would be suitable for the constricted space, ergonomically friendly to meet health and safety regulations, while meeting a desired level of output.

Solution

Endoline designed and built the entire production line on a mezzanine floor. A case erector forms the cases before travelling along a conveyor system, to a packing operation where 22 manual operators, take down a box and fill it with wine to meet each customer's specifications. Endoline built the conveyor system on an incline to run at head level for the packers not only meeting the mezzanine's space constraints but ensuring it was ergonomically friendly to the packers with minimum twist and turn effort. Individual manufacturer's wine boxes are stored within a cage behind each packing bench. A control system was integrated into the conveyor to accumulate and control the in-feed of the empty boxes to work in tandem with the pace of the manual operators. A second conveyor system was fitted to run directly below the first conveyor for the filled wine boxes and also the empty manufacturer's wine boxes. A sensor was integrated on the second conveyor system to identify the filled supermarket's wine boxes from the empty manufacturer's. Once the sensor identifies the empty box it is automatically pushed off the conveyor onto a high level spiral conveyor leading to a hole in the wall of the distribution centre which leads to the chute and eventually the baler. Simultaneously the filled wine box continues along the second conveyor to an Endoline case sealer where the formed, filled and sealed boxes are taken to a palletiser ready for distribution.



Results

-  16,250 cases weekly output
-  Guaranteed next day delivery
-  Ergonomically designed to meet health and safety standards
-  Compact solution

"The installation of Endoline's equipment has ensured that we can adhere to our next day delivery promise. The system has dramatically improved the overall performance of this operation while increasing our output and removing any unnecessary waste." **Tesco representative**