



Case Study

Bennett Potatoes



Background

Lincolnshire based Bennett Potatoes both export their potato crop and supply leading UK wholesalers and food services with a wide variety of potatoes, including Maris Piper and Saxon, which are packed into bags or sacks and delivered to customers throughout the UK.

Scenario

Bennett's baker sized potatoes, which are predominantly supplied to various foodservices, wholesale and export customers are boxed into cartons. Each filled carton weighs 15 kilos so Bennett's required durable boxes to sustain this weight. Manually forming, filling and sealing these boxes was a laborious and time consuming task.

Solution

To sustain the weight of the filled boxes Bennett's required twin walled boxes which can be difficult to form on an automatic case erecting system as there is a high risk of failure due to the heavy board that needs to be opened and folded. Consequently Endoline installed their fully automatic 221 case erector incorporating its dual opposing vacuum technology which uses two vacuum systems for consistent, positive opening of the case. The machine also includes pneumatic rockets which open the outer case flaps before the inner case flaps, overcoming issues with folding the case flaps that more conventional case erectors regularly have. Once the boxes are formed they are transported via an automated conveyor system which feeds six separate filling lines. The filling process is controlled via a PC and its software to accurately fill the product to its desired weight before running through Endoline's fully automatic 607 case sealer. Capable of speeds of up to 30 same sized cases per minute Bennett Potatoes are able to leave the sealing system running 24/7 if required.

Results

-  Annual output of 600,000 cartons per year
-  Overcomes bottlenecks in forming twin wall cases
-  24/7 operation

"The line consistently produces accurately sealed boxes and requires very little manual operation. While we have increased our output capabilities Endoline have simplified a previously lengthy task. Our team have found the line extremely easy to use and it has meant that fewer are needed to man the line resulting in a more efficient production". Ian Bennett, owner of Bennett's Potatoes

