

## Carton closer

Kliklok demonstrated its new Smart-3 carton closer at Gulfood in Dubai in March. This compact machine is ideal for automatic hot melt sealing of hinge cover, 3 flap cartons at speeds of up to 120 cartons a minute to offer an economical and space saving solution.

The in-line carton pivot turning bed ensures simple and reliable carton handling in minimum length.

A simplified lugless design eliminates carton-carrying lugs, driven chains, mechanical transfers and timing flaps. Instead, reliable VFD motors directly drive durable, easy replaceable high-friction belts to quietly convey cartons through the machine to effectively reduce any carton marking and product damage.

01275 836131  
www.kliklok-int.com

## Hygiene probe

Sick has developed a new fluid level probe which is designed for use in hygienic environments in the food and beverage, pharmaceutical and cosmetics industries.

The new liquid level sensor features a level display, level measuring and overflow/demand indicator in a cost effective, durable and highly flexible device, says Sick.

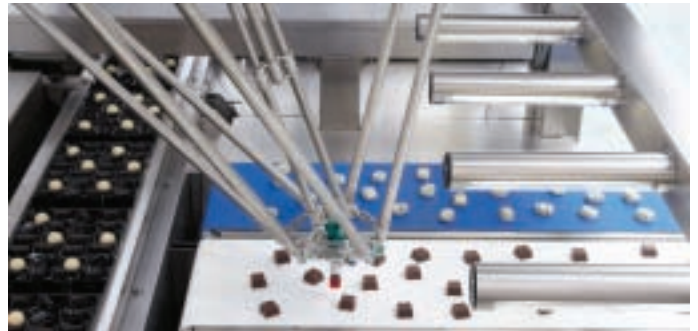
01727 831121  
www.sick.co.uk

# Robot cell handles food products at safe speeds

Tekpak is introducing the new Packman Vision robot cell configured specifically for high speed pick and place of confectionery, bars, biscuits and bakery products.

The company has worked with Elau/Schneider to integrate its P4 delta manipulator into its Packman Vision cells. It is manufactured entirely from stainless steel and has an IP67 option available to make it suitable for washdown environments.

The robots can track and pick moving objects and place them onto another conveyor, tray or carton. Proprietary software is used to address many of the



Robots track and pick moving objects such as confectionery, bars, biscuits and a variety of bakery products

practical problems that arise in typical food plants such as products picked from existing conveyors which can lead to issues such as varying belt track positions.

Tekpak has therefore

developed a system that manipulates the data from the vision cameras to compensate for the natural belt tracking variations that might exist.

0845 053 7622

www.tekpakautomation.com

## Flexible single file accumulation conveyor

Sidel has launched a single file accumulation solution designed as a flexible and ergonomic system for all types of applications.

The AQ-File conveyor can be used for the accumulation of a wide range of containers, both filled and empty, regardless of the material used, particularly those with complex shapes that are not suitable for mass accumulation. It can be used on bottling lines with speeds of less than 30,000 bottles an hour and



Conveyor can handle a wide range of containers

for all types of industries.

Developed with a simple operating principle and an open

design, the AQ-File is composed of a horizontal chain that winds around a wheel mounted on a mobile carriage. Accumulation is done by varying the length of the accumulation chain: the carriage moves back to create accumulation and advances to discharge the containers. The simple design offers optimal accessibility for all of its components at chest height, and with limited maintenance.

01480 455919

www.cermexuk.com

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# Empty and open cans

Manufacturers of solid and pulp food products can now install an automatic can opening machine being introduced to the UK market by Glenvale Packaging which overcomes many of the accepted drawbacks associated with using products in larger volumes.

The Kaltenbach (k-ma process) system brings the benefits of accuracy, speed of throughput and versatility to a wide range of processors using bulk food ingredients, says exclusive UK supplier Glenvale.

"Importantly, the k-ma process unit enables processors to take full advantage of ingredients supplied in canned format with its ability to handle cans from 2-10kg in weight," explains Garry Coleman, partner at Glenvale. "This method of ingredient supply is regarded as the optimum approach by an increasing



*Empty cans are transferred to a can compression facility before being ejected from the unit for disposal off-site*

element of the food production and processing industry, particularly those involved in shorter run or lower volume operations," he says.

It can replace, for example, conventional 1,000 litre tanks as the new system combines handling, opening and disposal of cans in a single self-contained operation.

With a footprint of just 1.6 x 1 metre – including a 400mm feed chute – the design can be

installed within or adjacent to a production facility, and only requires connection to standard power, water and air supplies.

The unit receives cans via a roller conveyor feed into a dedicated can opening station for lid removal. This is followed immediately by a tilting operation where a combined compressed air and water blast process ensures all contents are removed. Empty cans are transferred to a can compression facility before being ejected from the unit for disposal off-site, while the emptied ingredients are discharged through an outlet for onward handling and processing.

"Because the operation ensures that the can is fully open and tilted, and with the removal of all residue then by the combination of water and compressed air, can emptying can be achieved to a level of 99%," says Coleman.

01933 673677  
www.glenvale-pkg.co.uk



*The tilting operation combines with compressed air and a water blast process to ensure all contents are removed from the cans*

## Form, fill and seal with ease

Oystar Hassia has expanded its range with the introduction of the THL 24/28 which forms, fills and seals a diverse range of cup forms and sizes with minimum space requirements and maximum ease of operation.

Only 6 metres in length and approximately 2.3 metres high,

the machine not only saves space, but can also be integrated into any production hall very easily.

The thermoformed bottom web runs at an easy to use height of one metre to give good visual control of the working processes while the lid material feed is mounted at a

low working height as well, so that rolls can be changed both quickly and easily.

The new machine can be flexibly deployed for a wide variety of packaging forms and sizes of portion cups with a forming depth of up to 40mm.

00 49 6041 810  
www.oystar.hassia.de

## Detect metal in foodstuffs

To help food manufacturers respond to shorter production runs for a variety of products, Mettler Toledo Safeline has expanded its Profile range of metal detection systems.

The new Profile systems focus on rectangular apertures to facilitate inspection of products on conveyerised lines. Their ability to be formatted with fixed and multiple frequency configurations provides food producers the freedom to select a platform that best fits their needs and applications.

A selection of optional software suites are offered on the Profile LS model while its standard software packages focus on improved HACCP reporting, increased due diligence functionality, enhanced process supervision and analysis of product composition and working environments.

A key advance of the new Profile systems is a new software algorithm that boosts detection sensitivity "to previously unattainable levels." 0161 848 8636  
www.mt.com

## Tubular drag conveyors

Following the acquisition of US-based Dynamet last year, combined with a concurrent in-house development, two types of tubular drag conveyors have been added to Spiroflow's portfolio.

The Dynaflow tubular chain drag conveyor is a mechanical drag conveyor system operating within the confines of a pipe. However, the discs that move material along the pipe are robust, heavy duty versions connected by chains.

01200 422525  
www.spiroflow.com