

CELEBRATING
1922
2012
YEARS

Yamato

PUTTING WEIGHT BEHIND YOUR SUCCESS

Yamato helps leading biscuit manufacturer to reduce product breakages and comply with strict weighing requirements

Customer's motivation for investment

A leading biscuit manufacturer was challenged to respond to strict weighing requirements in order to meet demands from retailers who needed calorific values to be printed upon the packaging. In addition, the company's existing multihead weighers used old technology, resulting in slow weighing speeds of only 45 weightments per minute per machine. Their requirements were two-fold: the first was to increase productivity while reducing the number of packing lines and the second was to ensure the correct weights matched the printed weight and therefore calorific values upon retailed packs.

Challenges identified

The manufacturer naturally experienced a high rate of breakages due to the fragile nature of their bakery products, which included a wide range of biscuits. They also experienced a high number of out-of-specification packs which considerably affected profitability.

Additionally, the chocolate on many of the biscuit products tended to build up on the contact parts which affected the speed of their existing multihead weighers. The customer also needed to meet specific requirements from retailers, regarding the weight of biscuits in relation to the total calorific value of the packs.

Yamato's solution

Yamato worked very closely with the biscuit manufacturer to understand all the issues and meet the very specific requirements. Yamato provided the customer with three new compact multihead weighing machines, which replaced the four older models. The new machines featured smaller drops and shallow angles as well as single opening doors and product stoppers to considerably reduce the number of product breakages.

As many of the products contained chocolate that was susceptible to fluctuations in warm environments, the new multihead weighers benefited from a temperature controlled environment to maintain temperatures below 19°C. This prevented the chocolate from melting and building up on the machine's contact parts.

To further satisfy the retailer's requirements for specific calorie and biscuit count in each pack, Yamato worked with the customer by programming the machine to count the number of pieces per combination; this prevented the possibility of the customer giving away an extra biscuit for given pack sizes and further controlling the calorie content per pack.

Benefits to the customer

Following the installation of three new multihead weighers, the customer experienced less breakages and an increase in throughput from 45 wpm to 70wpm per machine and yield which improved productivity significantly.

The customer experienced a reduction in breakages due to the improved and compact design of the machines, and the enclosure also helped to maintain a constant temperature, which resulted in less build-up of chocolate on the contact part and less cleans per shift.

Additionally, the Yamato multihead weighers were able to provide correct count and weight measures to correspond to the calorific values, so that demand and specific requests from retailers could be met successfully and efficiently.

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Industry

Biscuits and bakery



Testimonial

"When we first approached Yamato to resolve our weightment issues relating to biscuit counts and breakages they took the time to understand the process in order to provide the perfect solution. The installation of three new machines including bespoke programming not only improved production but also decreased operating costs."

Factory Manager of leading bakery production company in the UK.

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Benefits to the customer

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The customer was able to increase outputs through better production speeds and efficiency despite decreasing the number of lines from four to three machines. The investment in the new multihead weighers ensured lower energy consumption, smaller machine footprint in the factory and a reduction in line operation costs which lead to positive economic savings for the company.

After sales support

Yamato's weighing machines are robust and constructed specifically for the products they will be weighing. However, to ensure optimum performance at all times, a regular programme of servicing is recommended. The After Sales team is on hand to respond to problems or queries regarding the operation of all their machines and endeavours to respond to all breakdowns within 24 hours, on working days. Yamato understands the importance of responding to customers' breakdown and maintenance calls in order to keep downtime to a minimum.

Yamato provides its customers with a comprehensive spare parts support service with significant stock holding from their head office in Leeds. If parts are not readily available from the Leeds office the company will call upon its Global Network system to fulfil orders.

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