

ACP ERGON case packer with pick & place system

One case packer... Multiple applications

The increasing attention to the market needs makes it necessary to search for innovative technical solutions allowing to reduce costs, save energy, increase competitiveness and improve the market positioning.

Every day in the world billions of doses of beverages, food and hygiene and cleaning products are consumed. They are marketed in containers with thousand shapes and countless features, that need adequate protection during handling and captivating look in order to draw consumers' attention.

For this reason, packaging is a key factor to be taken into account in business strategies aimed at boosting sales.

SMI offers cutting-edge solutions inspired by the concepts of Industry 4.0 and Internet of Things (IoT) that are increasingly efficient,

flexible, eco-friendly, ergonomic, easy to control and to check.

Cardboard boxes are an example of packaging with a simple but effective design, optimized depending on the size of the product to be packed and ideal for maximizing the visibility of the pack on retail shelves thanks to the possibility of graphic customization.

SMI's experience in the field of secondary packaging has allowed the company to develop a wide range of applications that can be achieved with the pick & place case packers of the ACP (American Carton Packer) ERGON series.

Thanks to its solid monobloc structure, the ACP case packers can pack various types of containers in multiple types of packages. The "pick & place" system of the ACP case packer is a flexible solution with the possibility of placing the bulk product in cardboard box-

es or plastic crates. The machine can also be equipped with the PID device for inserting pre-assembled cardboard separators.

In addition, the ACP ERGON can also be used for other applications, such as cardboard basket packaging presented at Brau Beviale 2023 (Stand 503 – Hall 7A).

Packs with a personal touch for Brau Beviale

On the occasion of the Brau Beviale trade fair (Nuremberg, 28-30 November 2023), SMI will exhibit an ACP 20 S ERGON case packer to pack 66 cl beer glass bottles in cardboard baskets in the 3x2 format, with adhesive tape closure, at a maximum speed of 20 packs/minute.

The automatic case packers with pick & place system of the ACP ERGON series allow user companies to obtain a simple, effective packaging suitable for maximising the visibility of the package on the shelves at the points of sale.

The cardboard basket presented at the fair is, in fact, the ideal solution to create a micro-wave cardboard multipack, which guarantees easy graphic customisation of the packaging used for easy handling by consumers, thanks to the integrated handle, of beer bottles (but also cans, PET bottles, etc.).

THE ADVANTAGES OF ACP SERIES

Operational versatility

The ACP series is able to pack multiple types of containers, such as glass bottles, bags and boxes of pasta, rice and coffee,





oval containers or briks, simply by changing the gripper / suction cup. This range of machines is particularly suitable for packaging even very delicate and exclusive products such as wines, sparkling wines and liqueurs, without damaging the labels of glass bottles during the packaging process.

Compactness

The ACP case packers feature a solid monobloc structure that combines all the machine functions: product separation, product insertion with top loading system, carton magazine, box sealing.

The packaging process is alternate (stop & go) by means of a pick & place system capable of making RSC packs at the maximum speed of 20 packs per minute (depending on the format).

Product protection

Thanks to the extreme versatility of ACP series, the products to be packed can also be stacked inside RSC boxes, that, furthermore, are very robust and resistant (high top load).

Ergonomics and ease of use

The carton magazine of the ACP range, located next to the machine, allows the loading of pre-folded cut-outs in an easy and ergonomic way.

Advanced automation

ACP ERGON case packers are equipped with Sercos fieldbus-based MotorNet System® automation and control technology, which ensures full compatibility with Industry 4.0 and Internet of Things (IoT) platforms within the plant.

Technical features of ACP ERGON series

- Alternate packaging process (stop & go) through pick & place system capable of making packages at the maximum speed of 20 packs/minute (depending on the format)
- Grouping of products in an alternating cycle, through a pneumatic separation system
- Carton magazine placed next to the machine with easy and ergonomic loading of the pre-folded blanks

- Packaging in American style cardboard boxes (RSC) with loose product top loading
- Possibility of stacking the product in the box during its insertion
- Possibility of packaging several types of products, such as bags as well as oval containers and briks, simply by changing the picking gripper;
- Possibility of processing delicate products, without damaging the label during processing in the machine;
- Easy machine access
- Reduced mechanical wear and maintenance
- MotorNet System® automation and control technology based on Sercos fieldbus
- Depending on the model chosen, the box is closed by means of adhesive tape or hot glue. The model with glue pack closure is equipped with a lower glue unit and an upper glue unit with double spray that ensure excellent pack sealing. At the machine outfeed, special lateral upper flap-folding devices driven by a semi-rotary cylinder keep the walls of the newly made box pressed.

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