

MULTIPOND



**„THERE‘S NOTHING
MORE ROBUST“:**



Mexican manufacturer goes for multihead
weighers from MULTIPOND

CASE STUDY



EMPACADORA

The history of Empacadora del Golfo de México dates back to the 1940's when a group of traders bought the small Mexican company. Today, the family-managed company with its 430 employees is among Mexico's leading food producers and enjoys great popularity all over the world. It is well known for its local chipotles, and 50% of all products are exported. The booming Mexican economy on the one hand, and the ongoing shortage of skilled workers in the region on the other, has forced the company to further automate its production facility. As a result, a new line for the fully automated weighing and packing of fresh or dried jalapenos has been procured.



The coastal region climate presents a huge challenge for implementing this kind of project: extremely high temperatures of up to 46°C prevail during production - and the salty sea air also plays a key role. When purchasing new systems, proprietor Rodrigo Sainz Trapaga therefore sets high standards of robustness for their individual components.

MULTIPOND was the obvious choice when it came to the multihead weigher. Rodrigo Sainz Trapaga is very impressed by the hygienic design and the robust construction

of the new J Generation: "The robust construction of the system is absolutely unique on the market, and no other manufacturer has been able to offer us this or anything like it." A type MP-22-1000-400-J weighing system is being used.

The weighing system is a multihead weigher of the latest machine generation. The key feature of this new generation is its hygienic design - down to the finest detail. The J Generation was developed specifically for use in areas involving extremely high hygiene requirements. All J Generation

multihead weighers have protection class IP69 as standard - without the need for an external compressed air supply. This was the main criterion in the purchase decision.

The weigher operates according to the combination of partial portions principle. The jalapenos, either fresh or dried, smoked and immersed in water, are conveyed to the platform by inclined conveyors. Once at the top, the product is fed to the weigher by a MULTIPOND cross head feeder. The cross head feeder has been designed with a liquid separation system for discharging

excessive liquid ahead of the weighing process.

Once on the weigher, the sticky chili peppers are conveyed by the radially arranged feed trays, first to the prefeed hopper, and then to the weigh hoppers beneath. A computer now determines, from the partial portions, the combination that comes closest to the 53 gram to 220 gram target weight.

All product-carrying parts have been precisely adapted to the production requirements and to the characteristics of the extremely sticky jalapenos. To be able to guarantee a smooth product flow, the surface finishes were created from textured plate and the patented stepped profile.

The weigher is controlled and operated by means of a convenient color touchscreen monitor. The fully automated calibration of the proprietary load cells ensures the highest accuracy and availability through the integrated calibration weight in each weighing cell. MULTIPOND is the only manufacturer of multihead weighers anywhere in the world to achieve this – fully automatically, continuously and during production. The 22-head weigher is equipped with a 2-way outlet. A pneumatic timing hopper installed beneath each of the outlets transfers the portions to the downstream product transfer system.

The product transfer system, with incorrect weight ejection

designed specifically for this application by MULTIPOND, is the interface between weigher and packaging machine. Swiveling funnels distribute the weighed portions to the 2x2 timing hopper for the product transfer system. The downstream format funnel unit ensures the portions can be correctly transferred into the cans of the downstream canning line and cleanly sealed.

The target weights of the end packaging are between 53 grams and 220 grams, though the piece weights of the chili peppers vary significantly due to their nature. The

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output is up to 140 weighings per minute. Proprietor Rodrigo Sainz Trapaga is extremely satisfied with the results: “MULTIPOND delivers what it promises. The company was on hand to assist and advise us through the entire project.”

The hygienic design of the weigher is the basis for fast and simple cleaning. The dried and smoked jalapenos are moistened by a special conveyor system ahead of the packing process. As a result, the weigher develops a red film and this is removed once a day by a complete wash down between two shifts.

During this process, the weigher is literally placed “under water”. The quick and tool-free removal of product contact parts effectively reduces the system’s standstill time for cleaning and maintenance work to an absolute minimum.

Rodrigo Sainz Trapaga is extremely pleased with how the project has been implemented: “The short routes and instances at MULTIPOND were extremely advantageous for project realization. The partnership has been a smooth one since day one, and MULTIPOND was able to draw on its long-standing experience to offer advice and support. The support from the company and its local agent are at the highest level.”





ENGINEERED AND MANUFACTURED IN GERMANY

MULTIPOND has been an owner-managed company since the very beginning. Drawing on more than 70 years' experience in industrial weighing technology, we are a pioneer in this sector. Our success is based on the high quality and excellent technical standard of our weighing systems. We consciously commit to a high level of vertical integration, as well as production exclusively in Germany. We have made the topic of customer orientation our corporate maxim. A team of more than 300 employees work worldwide to offer our customers from the food and non-food sectors optimized, unique solutions, tailored exactly to their requirements at all times. Sales, project planning and service are handled by the headquarters in Germany, and by the four subsidiaries in France, the Netherlands, UK and the USA, and by a worldwide network of agents.

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