

Intralox Switch Enables Canélia Dairy to Launch New Pallet Format

Company:

Canélia, part of the Lactalis Group, the largest dairy producer in Europe and the second largest dairy company in the world

Application:

Switching of milk packs prior to palletizing

Challenge:


To maintain the productivity of the line while accommodating new pallet formats

Results:

- Production throughput maximized
- Package damage eliminated
- Lateral side rails eliminated
- Market demands met

“What’s remarkable about the ARB switch is its simplicity as it continually, smoothly moves the products. This solution responded perfectly to our needs,” said Mr. Mathieu Agranier, head of production at the Canélia dairy.



 (Click picture to play video)

Background

Canélia is a milk producer based in Petit-Fayt, France, and a member of the world’s second largest dairy company, Lactalis Group.

At the Canélia bottling site, one-liter polyethylene bottles of milk are shrink-wrapped in groups of six, eight, or ten at a throughput rate of 15,000 bottles per hour. The eight-liter and ten-liter packs were being fed to the palletizer at the line’s maximum throughput rate. To meet new demands, the dairy needed to create a new pallet format as well as revise the arrangement of the bottles on each pallet layer—while maintaining throughput.

Problem

The dairy was using lateral side rail conveyance technology to feed the

palletizer via one line. To achieve the new pallet format, however, two lines were required. As siderail technology required time-consuming adjustments to accommodate the different pack sizes, it was no longer a viable conveyance solution. Additionally, it was to blame for frequent jams and damage to the package shrink-wrap. This led Canélia dairy to consult with the OEM integrator and Intralox for a better conveyance solution.

Solution

In a simulation, Intralox presented the Activated Roller Belt™ (ARB) switch, an automated conveyance solution to feed the palletizer via two lines, requiring no adjustments for varying package types.

Results

Side rails and the associated headaches have been eliminated. The Intralox switch has optimized production throughput and enabled Canélia to meet market demand for various pallet sizes and arrangements.

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INTRALOX, L.L.C. USA

New Orleans, LA
1-888-422-2358
+504-733-0463

INTRALOX LTD.

Birmingham, United Kingdom
+800-5445-5445
0800-894392

INTRALOX, L.L.C. EUROPE

Amsterdam, The Netherlands
+800-5445-5445
+31-(0)20-540 36 00

INTRALOX SHANGHAI LTD.

Shanghai, China
Northern: 10800-711-0100
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