Case Packer/Erector Combines High Speed with Compact Footprint

Quin Systems and Endoline have announced the availability of a compact case packing and erecting machine, capable of handling 100 picks and 20 cases per minute. Combining Quin Systems' revolutionary RTheta™ high-speed picking head with Endoline's 220 series of case erectors, the new Versapack provides a complete, versatile end-of-line packaging solution inside a small 1800 x 1750mm footprint. It provides new options for high-speed case packing where automation has not hitherto been possible or economic.

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The principle of Versapack is simple: an Endoline 220 series case erector frame is used to mount the Quin Casepacker picking head and a product feed conveyor, which results in the extremely compact footprint. Already installed in five production lines in the UK, Casepacker is proving the ideal choice for both single-player and more-demanding multi-layer applications. Its RTheta technology minimises inertia, enabling fast cycle speeds, whilst Quin's advanced motion control algorithms ensure smoother movement, resulting in less product damage, however fast the machine operates. More information is on the Casepacker web site.

Explained Endoline managing director Tony Hacker: "Bringing the functions of case erection and packing into one compact footprint has created one very fast machine. In fact we believe it's the smallest, fastest machine of its type on the market today."

Traditionally, bringing erecting and loading machines together has created compromises, either because the case erecting part has been designed by engineers more accustomed to case packing, or vice versa. Versapack is different because it unites the expertise from two of the leading companies in these fields to produce a system without compromise.

High speed operation allows automation with latest-generation primary packing machines.

Mike Webb, managing director of Quin Systems, believes that this synergy brings new benefits to end-of-line packaging - conventionally a bottleneck for manufacturers. He said: "Not only does Versapack operate at high-speed, but also it runs fully automated and unattended. Operators are only required for topping-up the machine's hopper with new flat cases. As a result, most lines will pay for themselves within about 12 months."

Versapack offers installers a flexible choice of layout options, from straight in-line, through 90-degree, to reverse case flow, with infeed module options available for rigid and flexible packs. Its versatile design allows a wide range of product types to be packed including shelf-ready packages. Applications range from roll-wrapped biscuits, through flow-wrapped wet-wipes to cartoned ready meals.
The Versapack is marketed in the UK directly by Quin and Endoline, with international sales handled through the companies' European and world-wide distribution networks.

About Quin Systems
Headquartered in Wokingham, UK, Quin Systems Ltd. was established in 1983 with the goal of bringing expert engineering skills to the field of machine automation. The company's approach brings together the disciplines of mechanical, electronics and software to achieve powerful machine design and control system implementation.

Leadership in this technology is centred on a powerful programming language, researched and developed by Quin to bring real time reliable flexible control to machines. With the ability to dynamically link and unlink many motor axes together via software lineshaft, flexible cam, index and triggers, Quin's programming architecture not only provides a powerful distributed control system, but also provides powerful remote diagnostics and interfaces to factory data systems.

As well as technology and products, the company has a strong track record in application engineering, offering support that extends throughout the life of a customer's machine. Quin also works with selected manufacturers of complementary products to provide a wide range of engineering services for the automation industry. These include LinMot linear motors, and HMI display panels as well as SBC motors and drives.

About Endoline
Endoline Machinery Ltd is the UK's leading manufacturer of end-of-line packaging machines, from semi-automatic case sealers, case erectors, case packers, packing stations and conveyor systems to fully automated packaging lines. Endoline specialises in the automation of packaging for standard cases, trays, crates and shelf-ready cases (SRP) for products including snacks, confectionery, ready-meals, healthcare, pharmaceutical and consumer goods.

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