

Custom Case Handling Automation

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Application

Provide case orienting, open flap detection, on-line case printing, bar code scanning and case sortation in a confined space, directly after a medium speed, 'large case', case packer. The application is unique in that there is a large case size range, requiring the need to optimize system flexibility and minimize set-up times.

Case Orientation

90° case turner required to turn a wide range of case sizes to 'length parallel to flow' orientation.

Solution: adjustable turning post, to optimize case turning for various case sizes in continuous motion.



Open Flap Detection

Cases with open side or top flaps cannot be allowed to enter primary case conveyor system.

Solution: hooped array of high sensitivity optical sensors detect open flaps as cases are conveyed in continuous motion through the sensor station.



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Case Printer

Cases require production ID and coding after case packing, to provide discreet ID tag.

Solution: provide an in-line, large character ink jet printer, with high volume ink reservoir to provide uninterrupted operation. ID codes are tied in with Edson Case Packer controller, using date/time/SKU data.



Bar Code Scanning / Pre-screening

Cases with pre-printed bar codes that cannot be properly scanned are not to be allowed into the main case conveyor system, to prevent jams, and conveyor disruption.

Solution: Pre-screen the case with a high resolution bar code scanner that will sense any mis-codes / mis-reads prior to conveyor induction. Cases that are acceptable will advise the central MIS that a case is enroute.



Case Reject Station

Cases with open flaps, miscodes, bar code mis-reads or improper case orientation need to be removed, before reaching the main case conveyor.

Solution: a positive, high speed right angle transfer device that will reject 'bad' cases to an off-line case accumulation lane. Operators can review the cases, fix them and re-induct, if possible, given the short distance to the case



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