

Lantech® supplies packaging solutions for Gousto home recipe boxes

Home recipe meal kits are popular. Home cooks can order fresh ingredients for meals online, and have them delivered straight to their doorstep. To meet the growing demand, UK-based Gousto has invested in automating its processes. Packaging machines from Lantech are part of the solution.

UK home recipe meal kit supplier Gousto has already purchased a number of Lantech packaging machines to support its growth. The company has also made a new investment in Lantech's packaging technology; working together in order to

greatly increase production capacity for erecting and sealing the shipping cartons that serve as thermally insulated containers for the meal kit's. Gousto turned to Lantech's Centre of Excellence in Malden, the Netherlands, for a comprehensive solution.

Machines process many types of cases

Lantech, which is one of the exhibitors at Packaging Innovations & Empack 2024, recommended the C-1000 and CI-1000 case erectors to the recipe box supplier, because of their flexibility in handling different types and sizes of case at high speeds. A major advantage of the machines is the simple and consistent way in which they always produce right-angled boxes.

90-degree right angles in all corners ensures that the cases are optimally suited to the logistics chain and have maximum stability. The different properties of the corrugated cardboard as well as environmental factors such as changing temperatures and humidity, also pose challenges. However, Lantech machines can easily cope with these, explain Mike Irving and Kieran Ford, UK sales managers at Lantech.

The case erecting process is fully controlled from the moment the blank is loaded into the magazine, to the moment it emerges as a fully formed box with a closed base; a specially designed

pick-up frame pulls the case out of the magazine on two sides and ensures it is consistently opened into a rectangular position. Before the case is conveyed further, the flaps are folded, making the case rigid and fixing it in its rectangular position.

A push bar progresses the case towards spring-loaded side belts that move inwards and outwards to compensate for width deviations, and transport the case over the closing device. The meal kit supplier can produce up to 30 cases per minute with the case erectors, the bottoms of which are sealed with adhesive tape or hot glue.

Secure sealing process

After ingredient filling, the recipe boxes are automatically sealed. The Lantech CS-1000 and CS-Random High Speed systems are used here. The rectangular shape of the cases is also maintained during this process. Automatically adjusted centering and feeding systems ensure that the cases are fed correctly, with sufficient space between them to avoid jams.

Rollers move the cartons to the spring-loaded side conveyor belts, which can adjust to the slightest variations in carton width. The belts hold the case while the flaps are folded down, during a completely controlled sequence, and sealed with adhesive tape.

The Lantech CS-1000 Random High Speed carton sealer can even automatically adjust to changing carton formats.



"Working together with Gousto to overcome their packaging challenges has been really exciting"

"It's always great to collaborate and create solutions that work perfectly; ensuring accuracy, reliability, and exceeding the required throughput speeds. We look forward to working on many more projects together"

– Kieran and Mike

About Lantech

Lantech is a global leader in stretch wrappers, and case & tray handling machines. Founded in 1972, the US family-owned company developed the world's first rotary stretch wrapper and has continuously optimised this technology ever since. Lantech employs around 750 people. The European headquarters are located in Malden, Netherlands.

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