



INDUSTRY

Handling Solutions

COMPANY

Deprez Handling Solutions

PRODUCT

Pallet box

CASE STUDY

CABKAs Pallet Box in fully automated plants of the food industry

Company

Family-owned Deprez was founded in 1984 by Johan Deprez, who has since been leading the company together with his wife Germa-na. The first machines developed by Deprez were for the careful handling of potatoes. Carrots, onions, bulk goods, and recyclable goods were only added later. Over the years, Deprez successfully developed an automatic box handling system in combination with an automated warehouse. This concept was introduced in 2008, and Deprez was able to double its capacity since then.

Requirements

Over the years, Deprez observed that potato packers increasingly needed intermediate storage for their products before packing them. In the past, there was hardly any classification, especially for potatoes. The new system was the result of the ever increasing demands of the customers in regards to retail food. Today, the harvest is sorted and sold based on quality or size, which requires that some of the product is temporarily stored during the packaging process. This storage must be hygienic and adhere to the classifications. This is why a storage solution with maximum filling volume and a material other than wood was required.

Solution

Together with his customers, Johan Deprez developed a fully automatic solution, in which the pallet box from CABKA plays a central role.

The Pallet Box has a capacity of 1,400 litres and is made of impact-resistant, chemical-resistant and food-safe HDPE. With a net weight of 69 kilograms in perforated and 72 kilograms in closed design, it is characterised by high payloads of up to 7,000 kilograms in the stack, dynamic and up to 1,000 kilograms when used in high-rack warehouses. Non-slip rubber profiles on the

Quick Facts

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| Company | Deprez Handling Solutions |
| Location | Kortemark, Belgium |
| Industry | Internal transport and storage solutions |
| Goods | Potatoes, carrots, onions |
| Previously | Wooden pallet boxes |
| Solution | Pallet Box |

Major Achievement

Installation of a fully automated solution for the handling and storage of potatoes



»Our solution would not exist in this form without the pallet box«

Johan Deprez — Founder and CEO



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upper edges of the pallet box ensure that up to seven boxes can be safely stacked on top of each other. The containers are designed for applications in the temperature range from minus 30 to plus 50 degrees Celsius.

After harvesting and washing, the potatoes are sorted by an optical sorting system according to their size and placed in the pallet boxes. The loaded boxes are then either fully-automatically stored in the high-bay or forwarded directly to the packaging line, depending on their use. With subsequent use, a system-integrated Orbiter Box Tipper can fully automatically empty the boxes onto the corresponding packaging lines. All handling from the arrival of the products to the dispatch of the finished goods takes place without a single manual work step.

Cooperation

When Deprez plans a process automation solution with a new customer, they recommend CABKA's Pallet Box. Deprez-Systems are so strongly interlocked with the use of pallet boxes, that when installing a new installation in cooperation with CABKA a smooth handling of the goods is guaranteed.

Result

The companies that use the Pallet Box in Deprez's integrated handling solutions are gaining a huge advantage over their competitors, as fully automated handling is rarely found so far.



The Pallet Box on the high rack



To be seen in the background: The orbiter turns and empties a pallet box into the processing line.

»We have already implemented about 30 installations with the pallet box, so we are in constant contact with CABKA to ensure optimum functionality«

Mattias Mergaert – Sales Manager