

Press release

August 26, 2010

New range Aidlin Eco: the cap feeder that consumes 10 times less electricity

With the Aidlin Eco, cap feeding now combines energy savings, high speeds and ergonomics.

Sidel launches the range Aidlin Eco, the new generation of Sidel cap feeders which takes aim at energy consumption and is definitively abandoning the use of air, not only for cap propulsion but also for ejection of off-spec caps. In contrast with the Aidlin Premier, which is intended for speeds lower than 25,000 caps per hour, the new range can be used at all production speeds even the highest ones. It can process flat caps at more than 120,000 caps per hour. Based on the same general principle as previous versions, the Aidlin Eco retains the qualities that have made the Aidlin range a success: process reliability, respect for the caps and lower dust emissions.

To meet their eco-design goal, the Cap Feeder R&D team kept what was best from the original Aidlin version. This includes the cap orientation principle, which has proven its effectiveness over time. Cleats linked together by an articulated chain carry the caps gently from a large storage hopper towards an adjustable speed bump, which inclines the cleats and causes poorly oriented caps to fall by simple gravity.

Redesigned for reliability at high speeds

Around this unchanged principle, the rest of the cap feeder was significantly redesigned and optimized in order to operate without air, while still guaranteeing optimal reliability at high speeds. The main new development is the innovative design of the cleat kinematics. The chain now has a lateral curvature, so that the properly oriented caps slide simply and naturally along the vertically positioned cleats (patent pending). They then enter a corridor that guides them to a wheel for sorting and elevation (patent pending). Caps that are poorly oriented or missing their tamper-proof ring are automatically ejected via a magnetic finger system. Caps that are on-spec and properly oriented are continuously conveyed by the wheel, which is equipped with a brushless motor, and then elevated in a vertical column to the required height and direction in order to feed the capper.

Tenfold drop in energy consumption

In terms of new features, eco-design is keeping its promises. The new range offers a significant decrease in energy bills. Its consumption, including the off-spec cap ejection system, was cut by a factor of more than 10, compared to the standard compressed-air cap feeder, and by a factor of 5, compared to the ventilated-air cap feeder. With an installed power of 0.7 kW, the Aidlin Eco offers unmatched TCO (total cost of ownership).



Hygiene and ergonomics guaranteed

This new operating principle, simple and air-free, is beneficial more than just electricity. Another direct consequence is to make it easier to preserve cap hygiene by eliminating the possibility of air contamination. The advances in terms of ergonomics are also notable. The novel design of the models Aidlin Eco-e5, -e20 or -e40 following hopper size, has the advantage of putting all of the cap feeder's essential components at chest height, making them easily and immediately accessible for maintenance and upkeep. The noise level is also kept below 80 dB (A). Finally, the absence of air simplifies maintenance, which now only involves the mechanical parts.

This revolution on the flat cap feeder market will be available in the sport cap version in early 2011.

About the Sidel Group

With more than 30,000 machines installed in 190 countries, the Sidel Group is one of the world's leaders in beverage packaging solutions: water, carbonated soft drinks, milk, sensitive beverages, oils, beer and alcoholic beverages. Sidel has production sites in 13 countries as well as sales and service offices in 30 countries. Around the world, the Group's 5,000 employees provide customers with complete bottling solutions, including package design, line engineering, packaging machines and related services. Innovation and Performance – the sustainable way.

To learn more about Sidel, come visit our Website: www.sidel.com.

Picture Caption

Aidlin Eco-e20, an Eco-friendly and ergonomic cap feeder

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