

Raising the bar

Harry London launches new product format with packaging line from Bosch Packaging Technology

Harry London Candies of North Canton, Ohio, USA, has been manufacturing high quality chocolates and other gourmet confectionery since 1922. The company recently developed a new product format called the “Baton Bar”, with a unique, long (175 mm), cylindrical shape. However, the company’s existing equipment was unable to process and package this new product at adequate speeds.

A multifaceted challenge

In searching for a packaging solution, Harry London’s chief concerns were speed and equipment that could handle the unusual shape of the Baton Bars. A flexible solution was also an important requirement. The company’s extremely broad product portfolio - from chocolate bars to peanut butter balls and candy clusters - necessitated equipment that

could easily shift between different product parameters.

Finding a solution

Harry London turned to Bosch Packaging Technology of New Richmond, Wisconsin, to obtain a customized solution to meet its needs. The company provided an infeed conveyor, a card sheeter, and a horizontal flow wrapper that accounted for Harry London’s requirements in one integrated line.

Speeding things up

Prior to the installation of the Bosch line, Harry London was manually feeding Baton Bars into an older wrapper at 60–65 products per minute (ppm). With the Bosch solution, speeds increased to 250 ppm for Baton Bars and up to 400 ppm for smaller products. The first step

in the line is the Low Pressure In-Line Three Belt Feeder, which is integrated directly with the molding line that forms the candy.

Card insertion module

Many of Harry London’s confectionery products include a backing card or “U” board, which gives the packaging a more stable structure. Bosch’s product portfolio includes a card sheeter for this very purpose. However, for this particular project, Bosch customized its standard in-line sheeter, switching from a 180 degree insertion angle to a 90 degree insertion angle. This alteration enhanced the control and efficiency of the module and allowed for higher speeds.

- 1 Low Pressure Inline 3 belt Feeder and inline card feed
- 2 *Linium 301* wrapper
- 3 Low Pressure Inline 3 belt Feeder with guards open
- 4 Inline card feed with cutting head mounted under the product belt



1



2



End of the line

The final step in the line is Bosch's **Linium 301** Horizontal Flow Wrapper. This sees products enter the wrapper from the infeed conveyor. The wrapper uses flat wound, roll stock film and creates a complete overwrap around the product.

This versatile wrapper can run various types of packaging material to account for different products: eye-spot, non-eye-spot, heat seal, and cold seal. Pre-programmable product set-up is available for up to 20 product recipes to

store parameters for packaging length, speed, crimper dwell, and product position. This, along with minimal change parts and adjustments, ensures quick changeovers, which are an especially important concern for Harry London given its diverse product line.

With the considerable emphasis on flexibility and changeover, uptime optimization was an additional performance parameter that had to be met. Bosch's wrapping equipment included software features designed to keep production running and diagnose problems in proc-

ess, reducing the chance of jams and speeding recovery if they occur.

For more information please contact:

Graham Nice

Phone +1 715 243 2340

graham.nice@bosch.com

