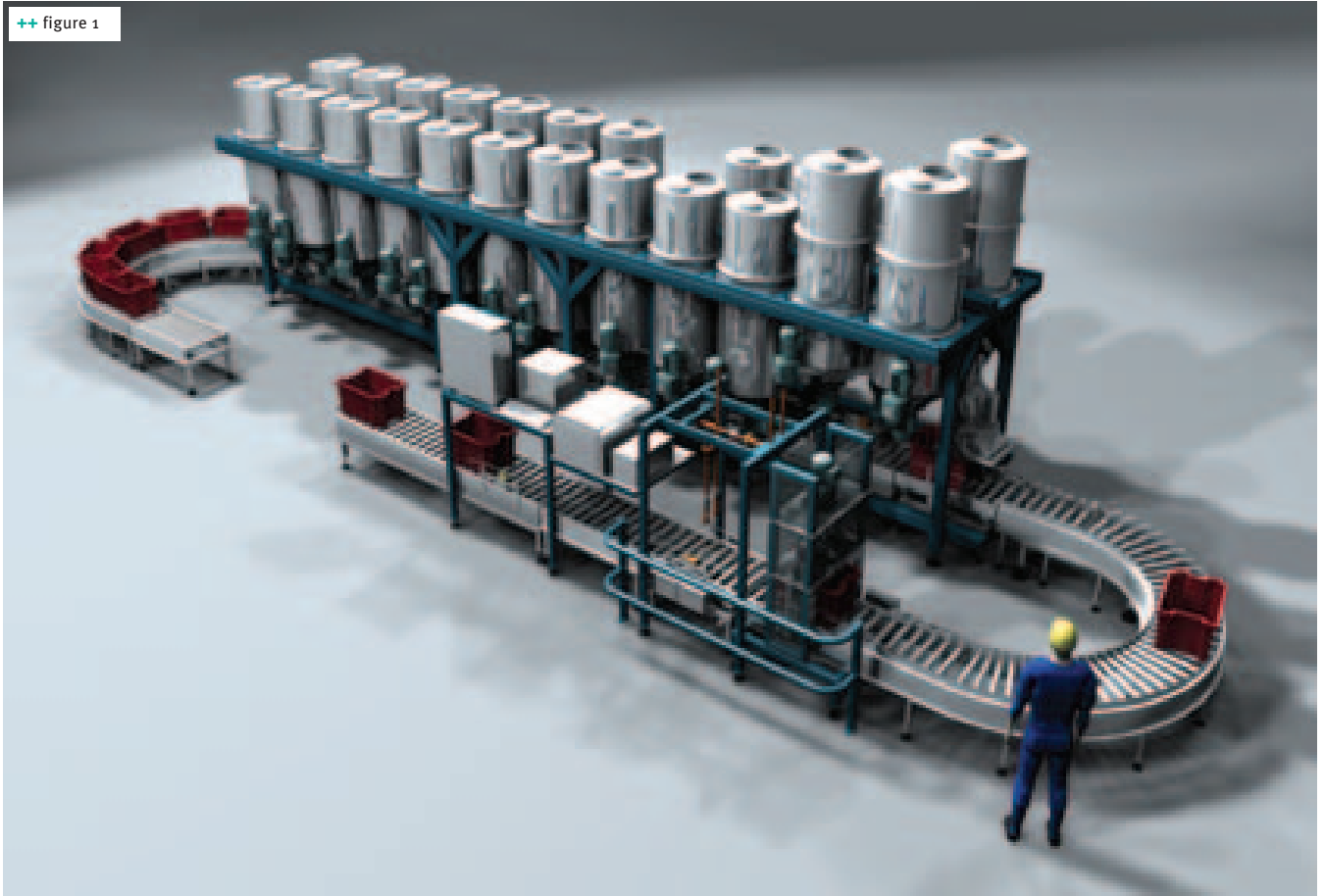




High-speed metering

FRENCH SILO MANUFACTURER ESTEVE S.A. WILL PRESENT A FULLY AUTOMATIC METERING PLANT FOR MINOR AND MEDIUM COMPONENTS

++ figure 1



++ figure 2



+ 24 product silos for minor and medium components are combined in one system which can be expanded at any time if needed. With this system up to 80 batches an hour with eight components each can be metered automatically, weighed and delivered for processing, including liquids such as liquid egg or oil. The silos are filled dust-free with the components delivered in bags or Big Bags. For safety reasons, the raw materials are passed through a sieve before storage in the silo. For the metering process, a plastic container moves underneath the hopper in which subsequently the different raw materials from the different silos are fed-in via screw conveyors. A scale underneath the filling station ensures the required preciseness for the minor and medium components. Micro-components are pre-dosed. Liquid egg or oil is added at the third station. Here a special tool pushes a "dimple" in the raw material in which the liquids can then be added.

Each container is automatically labeled and the data regarding its contents are transmitted to the control system for traceability purposes. According to Esteve, a large bakery near Lyon that operates a test plant was able to reduce the number of staff from six to two persons per shift and also to increase preciseness, safety, consistency and traceability of batches.

IBA 2006: Hall B4 – Stand 330 +++

Esteve S.A. – F 18220 Rians

++ Patrick Esteve



From the mid-50's of the last century, the first large silo systems were introduced in France. Jean Esteve, a young engineer from the structuring steel engineering sector, drew the right conclusions. He founded his own enterprise, Esteve S.A. today sees itself as no. 2 in Europe with a market share of 30–35%. The company with an annual turnover of 15–20m Euro and 110 employees is now managed by the second generation of the Estevefamily, the founder's sons Jacques and Patrick Esteve.

About 90% of the customers come from the industrial field, 10% are larger craft businesses. The main application sector for this silo, metering and conveying technology is the food industry, followed by the plastics, chemistry, and pharmaceutical industries. Two thirds of the turnover is realized in France, the export mainly goes to Central and Western Europe, with new markets in Russia and Asia.

The production schedule includes silo, metering and conveying technology and increasingly automated raw material handling. Furthermore, Esteve is well-known in France when it comes to modernizing or expanding existing plants and adapting them to new legal requirements. In general, the conveying is done pneumatically.

The controls for all plants are developed within the company. However, Esteve cooperates closely with Siemens in the form of a "solution partnership" which is a very intense cooperation but it does not mean however that other partners are excluded. "For us it is important to develop systems that are completely open", says Phillip Jallet, export manager at Esteve, "This way the systems can communicate in real time with ERP or other management tools". This is the field with the most development potential in terms of automation."

info@esteven.fr – www.esteven.fr +++

++ figure 1

The containers run underneath the silos, stop where needed and are filled with the proper amount of minor components

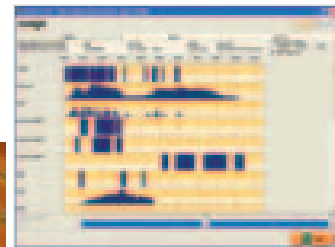
++ figure 2

Metering of minor components

Supply Chain

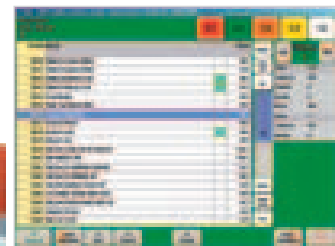
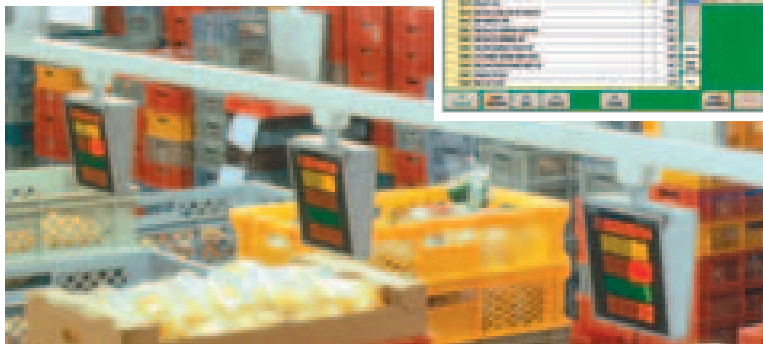
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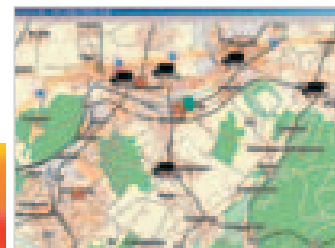
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