



Handling the pressures of equipment packing

EVERT VAN DE WEG VISITS ITALIAN COMPANY MOVIPACK SPECIALISTS IN THE INTERNATIONAL CAN MAKING MARKET FOR PALLETISERS, CASE PACKERS AND CONVEYORS

At the last CanTech The Grand Tour in Istanbul earlier this year, we met Lino Faiella, managing director of Movipack in Sarnico (Italy), near Milan. Together with his sales manager Danja Spahiu, he made a table-top presentation during the show and he made an enthusiastic and interesting presentation about their latest new technology during the conference. This was more than enough reason to dig a little deeper after the conference into the activities of the company, a relative newcomer to the can making scene.

“Our company was founded some 40 years ago by my father; I succeeded him and my brother is also already working in the company too,” explains Faiella. “My father started the company in the agro-food sector of southern Italy, supplying machinery for handling and processing food

products. “As a secondary activity, the company practised the re-sale of used machinery. In 2012 we launched Movipack in answer to the ever-increasing market demand to have state-of-the-art systems, with higher production, and a faster return on investment and with particular attention to the environment.”

Movipack has gained a lot of experience in the filling business, but at the same time they have learnt a lot about handling and conveying empty cans.

Movipack saw chances to do certain things better and its strong propensity for innovation and the application of the latest technologies pushed the company more and more in the direction of the can making business. Gradually Movipack took up the challenge to come up with its own solutions.

SUPPLY TO THE CAN MAKING SECTOR BECAME ITS CORE BUSINESS

In 2012 Movipack concentrated its activities for the can making sector in a new plant in Adro, in the North of Italy, as Danja Spahiu notes: “Setting up this new plant is a clear sign of our commitment to the can making business. We certainly did not abandon our business for customers that are filling products in cans or other packaging types, but since 2012 the can making sector has clearly become our spearhead.

“We supply equipment for the can making business not only in Italy, but also globally. For that reason, we do invest heavily in R&D efforts for this business. We can safely declare that more than 80 per cent of the machines we supply today are destined for the can making sector, in particular for producers of two-piece and three-piece cans for food and general line products.”

Movipack offers a broad range of handling and conveying machinery for medium to high speeds, often tailor-made according to the customer’s wishes. In the machinery as well, traditional solutions as hybrid solutions, in which robotic arms are used, are being applied.

“Our portfolio for the can making sector consists mainly of palletisers, case packers and conveyors in various capacities and configurations,” says Faiella. “All this equipment can handle packages in tinplate, aluminium, glass, and plastic. The shapes of the packages can be conical, cylindrical, square, rectangular, aerosol type, and many others. We listen to the customer’s needs and based on our know-how and experience we propose to the customer the best possible solution.

“I have to stress again that we put a lot of effort into our own R&D. In 2018 we invested about 22



Three generations of the Faiella family

per cent of our turnover into R&D. Continuous development and constant investment in R&D have led to the deposit of important industrial property rights. We know this is useful for having an important competitive advantage in the market in future.”

INNOVATIVE SOLUTIONS FOR CAN MAKERS

First of all, Movipack listens to the customer’s needs and then it tries to design tailor-made solutions that meet those needs, whether as a can filler or a can maker.

Spahiu takes up the narrative: “I daresay that ▷





our machines contain cutting-edge technology and are very user-friendly,” she says. “Our machines are quite versatile in the sense that the same machine can handle different packaging materials and different container formats.

“To give an example, one of our palletisers can even be installed both at a can maker and at a can filler, provided they get the appropriate configuration. Moreover, our machinery requires few spare parts and it has very long maintenance intervals.”

Faiella and Spahiu give some examples of special solutions Movipack has designed in the last few years. An important equipment provision for an eastern European can maker is the fully automatic palletising and packing machine that Movipack designed. The customer pointed out that there was only limited space, around 100m². Movipack workers studied the case and then designed the suitable machine.

“It’s a single machine that integrates four functions,” says Faiella. “First of all, it’s a layer palletiser. It’s a completely automatic system where the robot manages the layer, the cardboard inter-layer and the wooden frame, while an automatic pallet warehouse supplies the empty pallet when the full one is ready to leave the palletising area.

“Secondly, it’s a machine for stacking conical-type cans. At the same time, it has also the pick and place system for cans or jars and finally it is the palletiser for the filled boxes. The speed of palletising is no less than four layers per minute, which is about 1,200 cans a minute.

“You can say it’s an industry 4.0 solution with its high degree of versatility, but most of all it has

a 30 per cent shorter ROI period than the investment for the single machines would have had. We won Silver Awards with this solution!”

INTO EFFICIENT REALITY

Movipack is also proud of its hybrid palletisers, that it describes as “excellent solutions for can makers”. The robot allows high operating speeds, even though it is a bottom-up system. The company created with the use of robots, a pre-forming system for layers to be palletised for the layer structure of the layers of containers on pallets, which was a real innovation that was met with great enthusiasm in professional circles. Movipack has even designed a robotic system for the application of adhesive labels directly on the pallet strap.

Lino Faiella mentions another example how far Movipack acts with its customer to find the best solution.

“Not long ago we supplied five lines to a big Turkish filler of food products,” he says. “The lines were composed of machinery built by ourselves and machinery from trusted partners. We also provided the entire software system for the management of the plant, and also for the machines supplied by the various partners. The operator can manage by means of a simple tablet or through one of the various control panels the speed and the recipes of the different machines that make up the lines.”

Spahiu adds: “The plants where we supplied our machines are equipped with an innovative remote control via cloud that allows us to monitor and intervene from our headquarters in those plants located anywhere in the world. If it’s not possible to do it remotely, our technicians reach the client company within a few days to intervene and resolve any anomalies.” 

