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NOVA – The transformer in price labelling – Part 1

Transform your labelling process!

This slogan is set for the newest machine generation NOVA and describes modularity, flexibility and rethinking in the field of weighing and labelling of fresh packed products. Because classical performance parameters, e.g. machine speed and labelling accuracy are more and more becoming a standard. In the course of digitalization further factors are important. Machines with integrated preventive maintenance technologies or assistant systems that facilitate the machine operator and the production team in their daily work will be the future standard. Thanks to such technologies a maximum of machine reliability and a minimum of process downtime can be realized. Processes become better. Costs can be reduced. What happened if a price labelling machine would be easy to use as a smartphone? ESPERA realized this with the new machine generation NOVA and steps first with its new technologies into the digital world.

SMART HEAD. The smartest thermal head worldwide.

For users of labelling machines the thermal head is always a so called „black box“. Often dots along the thermal head are damaged spontaneously and unplanned. This leads to an immediate decrease of

printing quality on a label. Sometimes this stays undiscovered during the running production and poorly printed or not fully readable labels are sent to the retailers. For example, badly readable barcodes could be a no-go criteria for retailers, because with their scanner system they are no more able to scan the products. Also consumer relevant information, e.g. nutrition information or allergen information or the best before date of a product have to be clearly readable. In the worst case the retail industry starts a recall for badly labelled products and shifts the costs to the producer. The new **ESPERANOVA** machine concept prevents such failures and realizes with the unique **SmartHead** technology the full control of a thermal head. This guarantees quality control at its highest level. Via the machine terminal the operator has the possibility to control the real-time status of the thermal head including the remaining real-time runtime of the thermal head. As soon as destroyed or damaged dots occur and the printing quality starts to decrease, the machine is sending out a message to the operator and visualizes the defect on a real-time label image.

With the unique **SmartCorrection** function the operator can actively optimize the printing quality with the target, not to interrupt the daily production for time consuming changes of the thermal head. This **SmartCorrection** function is unique in the market and allows to increase the allover lifetime of a thermal head and reduces unplanned downtimes of the production.

Maintenance interruptions for changing the thermal head can be postponed to the end of the production instead of a time consuming and cost intensive interruption during the running production day. This unique technology is available now in combination with the new weighing and labelling machine generation **ESPERANOVA**.

SWITCH & GO. The unique applicator concept – for all applications always the perfect solution.

Independent if classical trays, skin packages, stretch- or shrink packages are being labelled or independent how various the product geometry and surface of a package is, with the new applicator concept **SWITCH & GO** customers can choose out of different applicator technologies, customized for their product requirements. Users can choose between various air blow applications or contact applications to bring a label on a package. Especially for sensitive products, e.g. stretch packages with strawberries the application via air blow can be selected. For classical tray

applicators users can chose the contact pendular application. Whether for sensitive applications or for high-speed applications or for a mix of both: The new machine generation NOVA offers unique technologies, customized for the requirements in fresh food industry with a maximum of individually and flexibility. ■



Food Industry 4.0

The next revolution has already started!

Since years, processing machines are able to be connected to the internet and allow to exchange processing-, production- or product-individual data at any time. In the meantime, this is state of the art in most production plants. With this technology also ESPERA's weigh price labelling systems are online connected and allow the digital exchange of production- and order data. With the target to handle orders and production data fully automatic. The next big step within the production environment is to link machines on a horizontal basis. This means that all machines along the production process are linked with each other and are able to communicate or exchange information with each other. With the target to optimize processes and to reduce machine downtime to a minimum. With this approach, machines become digital information systems that enable status messenger functions to the operator as well as a real-time control of machine components and machine modules.

ESPERA follows this approach with its new machine generation NOVA and the integrated machine software Think4Industry. This solution is a fully digital solution with a



user interface, easy to handle comparable with a smartphone. The intuitive screen design allows a 360° view of the entire price labelling process. The machine status, e.g. the remaining runtime of a machine component, is visualized in real-time on the machine screen or on any web based device. In this way the machine operator or the plant's maintenance team can control the actual wear of components at any time and plan their maintenance cases upon the status of the machine parts. With this preventive maintenance approach downtimes can be

reduced to a minimum. The maintenance team can act instead of react. This is the perfect future technology to optimize processes and save costs sustainably. By the combination of machines and software technology machines become intelligent cyber-physical systems that assist operators within the full process. As a side effect, such digital technologies can increase the complexity of the operation of machines. The more important it is, to use common and easy to understand elements on the user interface of the machine. Compared to the intuitive use

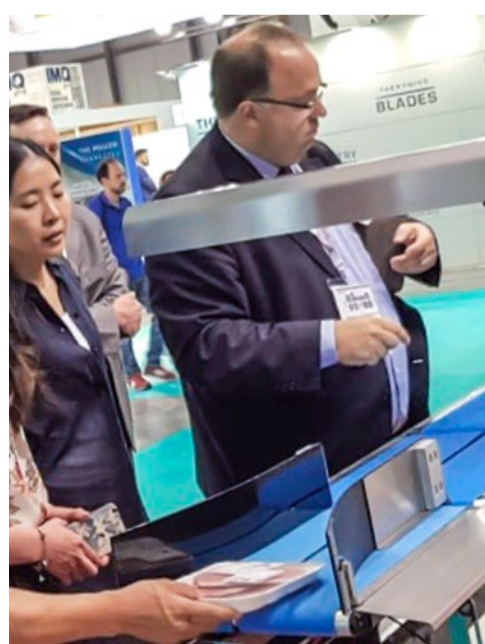
of a smartphone. Young or old, nowadays everybody is able to handle fully intuitively a smartphone or a tablet and understands the logic behind. ESPERA's machine software Think4Industry follows this approach. The Think4Industry software allows the machine operator to swipe in between different screens and selects from the apps the relevant functionality or the relevant product. This logic enables the operator to run and program a machine without having extended software trainings.

But not only digital machine technologies describe and generate the wording and meaning of Industry 4.0. Also changes within the consumer behavior significantly cause transformation within the production environment. Individual consumer information on packages are more important than ever. Consumers prefer more and more customized products with detailed information about the product itself. Nutrition facts, sugar level, country of origin information, and many more. Due to this batches are getting smaller until reaching (in some cases) the batch size 1. ESPERA machines and software solutions are designed to fulfill such requirements and enable the possibility to label products fully individually. Also small batch sizes or fast changing batches are easy to handle with ESPERA's machine portfolio. ■

Viva Italia – Espera Italia

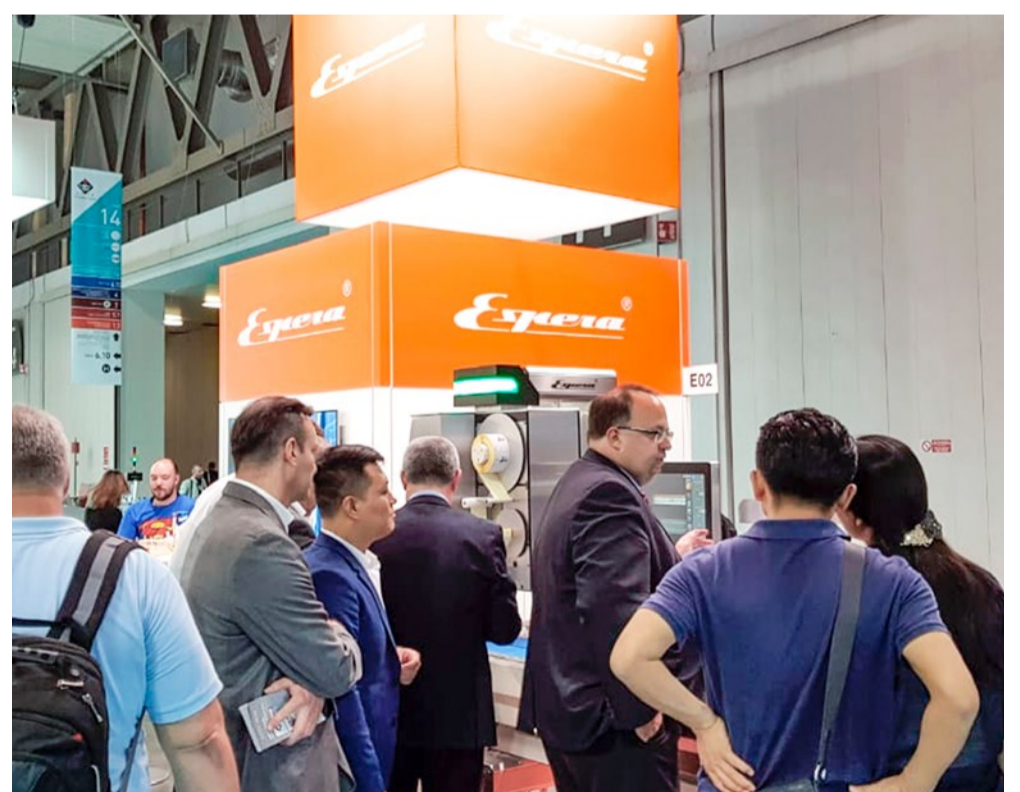
Milan – The city of fashion was in May 2018 exceptionally the focus of latest machine technologies.

On the occasion of the Ipacklma 2018 exhibition trends and technologies in packing and labelling of food- and consumer goods were presented at the Expo Center Milan. Since the last years Ipacklma grew from a local Italian exhibition



to an international technology platform with visitors from all over the world. Due to this enormous growth, also ESPERA Italia decided to exhibit its latest technologies & trends in weighing, labelling and inspection technology at Ipacklma. This year's overall slogan was the topic of Industry 4.0, digital transformation and the internet of things (IoT). For ESPERA Italia this was a perfect match, because this slogan fully meets the requirements of the recently launched new weigh price labelling machine NOVA. Visitors from all over the world had the possibility to test these digital features live on the ESPERA Italia exhibition booth. Beside new digital technologies also the topic of quality control and inspection technology is becoming globally more and more of interest.

And, last but not least, beside fully automatic and digital machine solutions also the request for compact machine solutions is required. Small and medium sized plants require special compact machines, ESPERA's 5000 series is made for such applications and convinced the visitors with its modularity and flexibility. Space saving, stainless steel,



automatic machine control. All of this and many more features are integrated within the compact ES 5000 series. With up to 3 printers in total this series can be customized fully according to small- and medium sized plant requirements in food industry. This is one factor of success of ESPERA. Serving solutions from high-speed lines with a throughput of up to 140 packages per minute to compact machines with

approx. 65 packages per minute. For all applications the perfect solution. ■





From left to right: C. Sostmann, D. Sostmann, M. Jansen (ESPERA)

Multi Roller Printer – The most innovative weigh price labelling technology worldwide

Maximum performance and space saving!

The unique Multi Roller Printer technology ES 7800 enables the weighing, printing and application of up to 5 different labels via only 1 central printer. The multi roller printer has 5 individual label cassettes which can be triggered fully individually, depending on which product is being transported on the belt. This means that with only one machine small batches or chaotically transported products can be weighed, printed and labelled fully individually. With common price labelling

machine solutions each product variation has to be handled with a separate line or the label roll has to be changed in very short cycles depending on which label has to be chosen for each package. This is extremely time consuming and the amount of downtime increases dramatically. The ES 7800 Multi Roller Printer solves exactly this issue with only one machine: Maximum flexibility in the variation of labels and space saving integration into full processing lines.

The meat processor Sostmann Fleischwaren has decided to go for this innovative

technology already in 2017. By taking this choice, they fully re-organized their production and processes. From manual weighing in separate lines they switched to a fully automatic labelling process with a chaotic product flow on only one central line. When they started this project in cooperation with ESPERA the major prerequisite was to handle the huge product variety on a minimum floor space. Independent if classical trays of meat, sausages, cold cuts or cups of salad are being labelled. With the Multi Roller Printer every product can be printed and labelled individually on one machine within a continuous product flow. For sure, also different variations of package sizes and package shapes can be handled with this solution. Both, the printer from the top and the printer from the bottom adjust fully automatically its position depending on the size or shape of the package. Also for chaotic product flows there is no limitation. This guarantees that the products are labelled always at the perfect position. The integrated product guides realize a perfect product guidance on the belts. Especially in combination with the unique „sausage groove“, which centralizes round shaped products always in the center of the belts. Order data at Sostmann are transferred fully online with ESPERA's ESPROM NG online integration. Product and order data are sent fully automatically to the machine. This guarantees that always the latest label information is printed on the products. After labelling the relevant order, data are

transferred back from the machine to the ERP system fully automatically. An additional challenge for the realization of this project at Sostmann was the minimum space within the product environment. With a length of approx. 2 meter the Multi Roller Printer offers a perfect solution for narrow and small production plants. Because on smallest shop floor space a product volume can be handled that requires with conventional price labelling machines minimum the space of 5 separate labelling lines. ■



About Sostmann Feinkost Fleischerei

General Manager:

Christian Sostmann

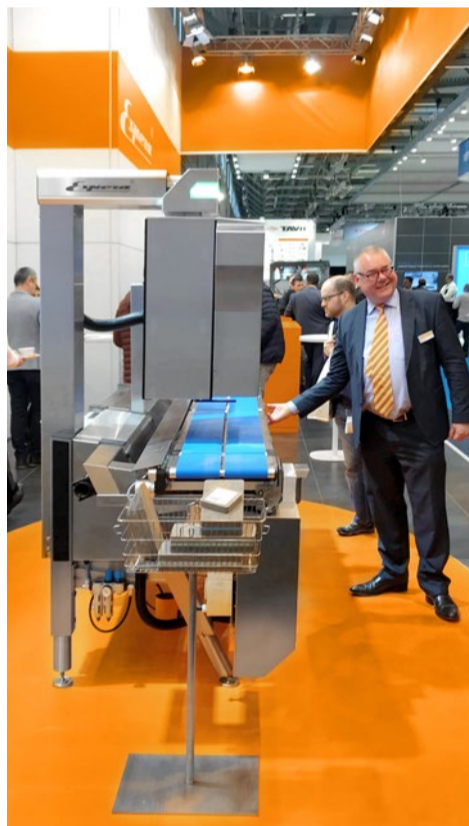
Number of employees

in production: 35

Product variations:

Sausages, sliced meat, salami, cold cuts, trays, salads. All products are exclusively hand-made within the modern, family owned meat slaughtering- and processing plant.





ESPERA Iberica

On the road to success

Full of energy the ESPERA Iberica team has established the brand ESPERA and its full high technology product portfolio since the last years on the Spanish market. With its sales and service team of 12 persons in total ESPERA Iberica supports its Spanish customers sustainably with the perfect service solutions as well as customer specific machine solutions. Due to this success and to further increase the visibility of the ESPERA brand on the Spanish market it was indispensable to participate at Hispack 2018, one of the biggest packaging exhibitions in Madrid, with full presence. With a huge success ESPERA presented on the one hand classical weigh price labelling technologies. But on the other hand, ESPERA also presented its latest series of checkweighing solutions to the Hispack visitors. With this solution ESPERA follows the trend of the market and meets also the requirements for controlling and handling of fixed weight products. The modular checkweigher ES-W 5000 is available in 3 different combinations, starting with a compact solution that can be handled as a standalone version up to a fully integrated solutions including metal detection technology. And for sure, with this checkweigher solutions packed and unpacked food products can be handled. The entire ESPERA Iberica team is happy with the contacts they generated at the exhibition and is looking forward to further establish leading technologies on the Spanish market. ■

**Hispack
2018**
PACKAGING, PROCESS
& LOGISTICS

ESPERA Goes Anuga Food Tec 2018

Innovative & International

After many years without participating at Anuga Food Tec ESPERA decided to come back and attend the exhibition in Cologne / Germany in May 2018. Since the last years Anuga Food Tec developed to a growing, technology driven exhibition with its focus in the food and beverage industry. The increasing number of national and international participants shows this trend, too. Based on this development ESPERA as a fully technology driven company decided to invest into this exhibition and presented its latest technologies in weighing, labelling

and inspection. And the feedback from the international visitors was gigantic: ESPERA had the possibility to present within live machine demonstrations its latest product release NOVA with a huge variation of digital features that meet exactly the global requirements of the visitors. Especially the innovative 3D camera for fully automatic package recognition and perfect label placement was seen as an improving tool for quality control in all plants with various product shapes. Furthermore, additional features, e.g. the unique preventive service concept which is integrated into the new NOVA machine attracted visitors like

a magnet. According to the slogan „transform your labelling process“ ESPERA has set and presented new standards in the labelling industry. Also for the upcoming Anuga Food Tec 2021 ESPERA will be present. For sure with further leading technologies and new product releases. ■



Exhibition overview

25.–27. September 2018
FachPack, Nuremberg, Germany
30. September – 4. October 2018
Meat Expo, Brussels, Belgium
30. September – 4. October 2018
Polagra Tech, Poznan, Poland
3.–4. October 2018
Empack, Brussels, Belgium
14.–17. October 2018
PackExpo, Chicago, USA
1.–3. November 2018
China Shop, Shanghai, China
28.–30. November 2018
Isra Food, Tel Aviv, Israel

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ONE STEP AHEAD.