

Integration for end-of-line optimisation

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The global FMCG sector is constantly under enormous pressure. Regulators and consumers demand full product traceability across the supply chain while retailers insist on quality stock on demand at profitable prices. For manufacturers, the focus is on ensuring that production environments are lean and highly efficient.

Two of the underpinning principles of lean manufacturing - a company's ability to produce more value through less work - include standardisation and flow. Standardisation removes the possibility of errors while flow ensures speed and optimised output.



Where there's human involvement on a production line, there's always a possibility of mistakes being made. Even if production lines boast automated machinery, many manufacturers rely on operators to manually input important data into the system. Negating the opportunity for human error, as well as reducing packaging costs, optimising product coding activities, and meeting industry regulatory requirements, can be ensured by integrating machinery networks.

Besides its vast portfolio of coders that are exclusively distributed by Pyrotec PackMark in South Africa, Markem-Imaje also supplies CoLOS® software applications that are engineered to complement its coding equipment.

"CoLOS® software allows our customers to integrate equipment networks throughout the production line into one central system. By standardising data input, human error is reduced. This saves time, improves production flow, and drastically reduces long-term costs," explains Brandon Pearce, Pyrotec PackMark's General Manager.

"CoLOS® consists of a number of software options to meet every end-of-line production requirement. These include options for packaging coding, message design, the management of complex labels and codes, and the ability to operate multiple printers from one platform," Pearce adds.

What's more, CoLOS® provides real-time data about production processes by linking production plans to individual printers on the line. It also monitors the productivity and efficiency of each machine, and automates the selection of data for printing, reducing the need for human intervention. In turn, this reduces the risk of operator errors and provides accurate performance reports.

There are many ways to create an efficient production line and operate a lean manufacturing environment. This seamless integration system from CoLOS® is an ideal option for diverse industries and it supports all production control systems.

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