

Tailored for pets!

Dried food professionally packed



Do you know how dog food is packed into bags under pressure? Pneumatic World has been watching how at Cetec Industrie a multiformat filling system operates using pneumatics. A ready made bag is filled with dried food and sealed – all ready to feed to your four legged friend.

Milk powder, fertiliser, cement, cat litter and pet food: Have you noticed that this imaginary shopping list contains powder or granulate-type products? For more than 15 years, Cetec Industrie, a French company based in Périgord, has been packing these products for manufacturers such as Colgate-Palmolive, Henkel, Beghin Say, Ducros as well as Tate and Lyle. Using a wide range of different systems

for weighing, filling, sealing, palletising and packaging, Cetec supplies the consumer goods industry the world over.

Similarly, Cetec Industrie has also taken on the task of automating packaging for the German subcontractor of Mars, Effem. Four production lines are already in operation in order to supply the dog food “Pedigree” in different sizes and flavours. The objective of the fifth system now is to increase production threefold and to simultaneously achieve even greater flexibility for retooling. Expressed in figures this means:

50 bags at 10 kg per minute, i.e. 30 tons per hour or 240 tons in single-shift operation.

The larder for your four-legged friend

The system is fed with compressed air and put into operation using drives from Festo. The task of opening the bags is performed by DSM and DSEU cylinders. With the immense output figures at stake, a maximum degree of automation is required. As far as the compressed air activation is con-

cerned, this is achieved by means of CPV 18 valve terminals with high flow rates of 1,600 l/min. Some of the lighter valve terminals are decentralised and fitted directly to the moving drive in order to achieve the high response times made possible by this “piggyback” assembly. The number of cable strings and distributor boxes is reduced by means of multipin connection and reduced installation expenditure is the result.

Packaging ideas are international. Cetec and Festo work together in many parts of the world. The paths between the two companies are short and therefore ideal for joint discussions about new application solutions – an advantage which also manifests itself in system planning. Since these systems exclusively deploy standard components, there are no problems with regard to availability and moreover reduced maintenance costs. ▢

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