



Advanced automation and complete traceability from Ishida

Customer description

Gastro Star AG produces 30 tons of fresh products every day, ranging from vegetables and salads to fruit, including ready to use salad mixes under the Betty Bossi and Weight Watchers brands.

What was the Challenge?

The company was an early adopter of automation in salad packing, and the new line is part of a wider series of measures Gastro Star has taken to increase capacity and efficiency in the face of steady demand for its products.

How Ishida helped the customer?

The new line has ensured that previously labour intensive elements to the weighing and packing of products have become more efficient. The stainless steel contact surfaces and sophisticated vibratory system of the 10-head Ishida RS-series weigher reduce the possibility of clumping or sticking of leaves, and the need to manually rectify potential product-in-seal problems is largely eliminated by a distribution system that delivers the leaves to the tray in a neat and discrete batch via a feeder tube and dipping funnel, that gently tamps them to below the tray edge.

The 30-40 packs per minute achieved with the new line is double that of the former fastest line at Gastro Star, with product giveaway as little as 1-2%, by comparison with 10%. Currently working no more than 2 shifts per day, Gastro Star calculates that the line will pay for itself within five years.

