



Conveyors fit like a glove

Careful planning results in glitch-free installation.

Nestled in the heartland in Eden, Wisconsin, manufacturing right on Main Street, Eden Pet Products produces high-quality canned pet food in a processing facility that meets the highest level of food safety.



Multi-Conveyor's low-pressure single filer moves cans from a depalletizer in bulk from the left or a single filer conveyor on the right, providing perfect gap between cans that feed into the x-ray machine for weight and precise fill-line management.

When faced with the task of adding a newer line of equipment, “**Multi-Conveyor (Booth C-1715)** was recommended by the equipment manufacturer we purchased the (original) line from,” says Pete Simon, director-EPP Operations at Eden Pet Products. He continues, “After the first project went so smoothly, we used . . . [Multi-Conveyor] for the second project.”

Multi-Conveyor was not new to this plant. A previous project involved Multi-Conveyor equipment to transport cans in bulk from a retort to accumulation where they are single filed, x-rayed and labeled. Simon was so pleased with the equipment, he invited Multi-Conveyor's George Packard, sales/accounting manager, and Tim Bori, project manager, to meet regarding a new endeavor.

Packard describes their visit to the plant, “We were met by one of the warmest smiles and handshakes of any customer. Pete had an idea to incorporate an existing top-load palletizer instead of manually palletizing his trays. In order to do this, we had to rotate his tray 90 degrees and feed it into an existing spiral elevator. Once it was overhead, the tray needed to be moved to the other side of the room to feed the palletizer. Since we had flexibility in the layout, we used a standard-length, dual-lane turner and made the overhead conveyor to Success Line* standards to keep cost and lead times down.”

The new project incorporated three items:

1. One mild steel Success line table-style-top conveyor to convey cases from an existing spiral conveyor to an existing top-load palletizer
2. One mild steel, dual-lane tray turner between tray loader and spiral conveyor to reorient loaded trays from wide-side-leading to narrow-side-leading
3. One stainless steel can chute to replace two existing can chutes.

Simon explains, “At our packaging line we made two changes where [we] added new equipment. The first was a change in the conveyors carrying full cans. The new system included a singulator and can-merging section to feed into a single row. The second was adding a conveyor system overhead to a case palletizer.”

When asked about the benefits Eden received by partnering with Multi-Conveyor, Simon recalls, “They came in, [and] looked at . . . what I wanted to accomplish. They measured the layout of the existing equipment that could not be relocated and came back with a design to fit our needs. When the conveyors arrived they fit into place like a glove. We were able to install in a couple of days, and we were up and running with no issues and no lost production time.”

After installation, Simon reports, “The new [conveyor] system added or replaced older, less-efficient equipment with much smoother running equipment. We have never had any issues . . . from day one.”

Looking to the future, he notes, Multi-Conveyor could do what was needed at a competitive price without any adjustments

at installation. He concludes, “The planning process and layout went very smoothly and very accurately. As with any operation, lines are always changing. We will have need for additional systems. We will use Multi-Conveyor for all our needs and recommend them to others.”

*Multi-Conveyor's Success Line of pre-engineered, pre-fabricated standard chain conveyor components can be shipped quickly to create value-driven modular conveyor systems.

For more information, visit www.multi-conveyor.com. **SD**



The tray packed wide-side-leading must be reoriented to narrow-side-leading, which was accomplished with a dual-lane product turner from Multi-Conveyor.