

Automatic machines, palletisers and robots

Everything for pipe packaging

Rigid PVC, PP and PE pipes with diameters up to 160 mm and a length ranging from 1 to 6 m, normally need to be counted, compacted and tied up through heat-sealed plastic straps to form pipe bundles. This grants more solidity to pipe packets during displacements, and limit any bundle collapsing when some items are taken out for use. For this kind of process, IPM (stand C 61/D 62, hall 13, at Plast 2015) offers the IRT automatic machine, which can be additionally combined, for example, either with an IST machine, inserting the pipe bundles into heat-sealed plastic bags, or with an IAF machine, wrapping the pipes in self-adhesive film. In both cases, the pipe surface is protected against friction, impacts, sunlight action, dirt, dust, humidity and other unfavourable store conditions.

PVC and PE pipes with bigger diameters and lengths up to 12 m, instead, are usually packed on pallets fitted into special wooden frames.



IPM designs and manufactures customised end-of-line pipe packaging solutions complying with the specific requirements of the end user

In order to perform this kind of packaging in a completely automatic way the IPAL/G palletiser can be used, which allows the pallet geometry to be customised from the machine's control panel and performs the strapping of pre-set pipe layers inside the wooden frame before assembling the pallet as a whole, thus boosting the stability of the package and preventing it from collapsing when some pipes are taken out for use.

The company also developed the RMC, RMB and RMT robots, handling pipes of different lengths and performing several kinds of packaging. RMC is used to pack short pipes normally ranging from 150 to 500 mm into cardboard boxes, safeguarding the items from any scratching or damaging during transport or storing. The latest version of this system can not only fill already pre-formed cardboard boxes, but also form the carton itself, by folding cardboard foils automatically and securing its walls with adhesive tape.

The RMB robots, mainly destined to the North European converters who have always been at the forefront of researching and employing environment-friendly packaging solutions, make it possible to automatically stack PVC pipes up to diameter 200 mm and length 1 m into iron cages perfectly re-usable for many production cycles. A robotic arm with special pliable rotating pincers, provided with suction cups, guarantees a precise and safe grip on the pipes, since movements are so well-tuned to avoid any impact of the pipe against the cage edges. The RMT units, designed for pipes with lengths ranging from 1 to 3 metres, normally consist of two packaging stations handling different pipe lengths at the same time, lifting and rotating them to alternate the position of the socketed end in each pallet layer, according to the pre-set program. Each pipe layer is automatically spaced out by special plastic supports that do not deform or ovalize the pipes, making pallets lighter and stable also when single pipes are taken out. ■

www.ipm-italy.it

Doss celebrates its anniversary

Twenty-five years looking to the future

Plast 2015 provides Doss (stand A 21, hall 11) with the setting for celebrating its 25th anniversary. 1990-2015: two important dates for the Italian company leader in the design and production of visual inspection systems for the quality control. Twenty-five years in a flexible and demanding market, providing technological innovation as a reply to the high quality requirements of the final customers, and committing to its work and to a steady improvement of its structure and services.

At the fair in Milan Doss presents the brand new laboratory instruments: SDC, evolution and fulfilment of our ET6. A complete instrument for the measurement in

2D and 3D for parts up to a 200x200 mm framed field, with the possibility to check surface defects as well. BMIGG is the latest measurement system, without contact, for parts with a diameter from 250 to 600 mm, developed for the tyres market: an easy to use tool for a high accuracy and repeatability performances.

Many surprises for the visual inspection world are waiting for processors: completely automatic systems for the surface and dimensional check at high performances and for a vast range of products. Research & Development are the key words in the Doss philosophy and this year it is possible to view a brand new



An internal department at Doss, which celebrates its 25th anniversary at Plast 2015

machine for the quality control. It is a simpler sorting machine, easy to access, that guarantees high performances and the possibility of a direct and intuitive parameters optimisation. ■

www.doss.it