



SMI unveils WP 1000 ERGON case packer

SMI's mission to deliver innovative, efficient, and sustainable packaging is realized in the new WP 1000 ERGON wrap around case packer, engineered for high performance up to 100 packs per minute, rapid format changes, and greater ergonomics in cardboard case applications. Designed to combine reliability with flexibility, the machine supports a wide array of case shapes and sizes while helping producers lower energy use and material consumption.

Responding to customers prioritizing environmental performance, the WP 1000 ERGON runs packaging made from lightweight kraft board and other sustainable substrates. Depending on requirements, it can process kraft cardboard around 0.7 mm, 1.5 mm microwave board, or standard 3 mm board, with simple adjustments made from the POSYC operator panel to adapt to different processes and product formats.

Maximum operating efficiency and fast changeovers are supported by an innovative automatic adjustment system for loose product guides at the infeed and by a new top product separation device. Together, these features raise safety and motion

precision during changeovers, enabling operators to manage repeatable format sequences more quickly and to lift overall packaging line productivity. The approach is especially valuable where production cycles frequently alternate between SKUs and pack counts.

For performance, the WP 1000 ERGON handles a variety of containers and sizes in multiple configurations: wrap around cases, wrap around trays, or fully enclosed boxes made from 0.7 mm kraft, at nominal speeds up to 100 packages per minute (referenced to aluminum cans in a 3x4 format). The fluid product flow typical of the WP range, combined with advanced motion control, delivers stable operation, high reliability, and consistent pack quality.

Ergonomics are central to the system. The machine's functional design improves visibility and access, allowing operators to perform use and maintenance tasks easily while maintaining high safety standards. The Easy load magazine automatically feeds cardboard blanks into the dedicated magazine, optimizing performance at higher speeds and reducing manual handling. The result is a case packer that balances speed, flexibility, and sustainability in a compact footprint, helping manufacturers respond to market demands, material goals, and frequent format changes with confidence and control. ■