

Best Practice

The best sorting machine for precisely selecting poultry



The poultry producer Valle Spluga SpA offers a large selection of different poultry. In order to categorise them with high accuracy and speed, the food manufacturer asked for a weighing solution from Minebea Intec.

Key facts

To ensure the high quality of their poultry product, Valle Spluga SpA directly manages all phases of their supply chain. Before delivery to the retail trade and high end gastronomy, a factory in Gordona processes the poultry into the desired product. A new weighing solution became necessary to increase sorting accuracy.

Application

Two fully enclosed EWK 3010 checkweighers weigh and sort products with high precision at high speeds and are resistant to harsh environmental conditions.

Products

- EWK 3010 CD VV checkweigher

Customer benefits

- Poultry weighing with high accuracy (< 2 g)
- Weighing and sorting in 6 classes at a speed of 100 pieces per minute
- Easy cleaning of the system
- Connection to a monitoring system and to SAP for recording the weights of the individual articles
- Traceability of the production

The customer

Valle Spluga SpA is an Italian food company founded in Gordona, in the province of Sondrio in 1967, known for raising and trading poultry. The company has several locations throughout Italy specialising in the production of poultry. Valle Spluga SpA has a turnover of about 25 million euros and employs more than 300 employees.



Project goal and implementation

For over 50 years the Italian food company Valle Spluga SpA have been producing poultry of excellence. The chicken are free to roam in the large spaces close to the Alps, enjoying clear fresh water and mountain air with a diet of plant based food like maize, soya and wheat. The poultry "Galletto Vallespluga" is a famous brand in Europe and stands for highest quality and contemporary rearing.

To ensure high quality standards Valle Spluga SpA decided to expand the historic production facility of Gordona. This involved a complete re-furbishment of the production lines and the integration of two new sorting systems to guarantee high productivity. This is where Minebea Intec came in. The requirements for the weighing and sorting solution had to be strictly oriented to Valle Spluga's product portfolio. For decades, there has been three types of poultry on the market:

- Galletto Vallespluga: weighing around 500 grams
- Galletto Valtellina: weighing around 600 grams

- Galletto Vallespluga in the net: weighing around 560 grams, destined mainly at gourmet stores and high end gastronomy

Valle Spluga SpA defined a high process speed as the overall requirement. At the same time, the entire system had to be extremely robust for intense daily cleaning processes. Minebea Intec installed two fully cladded weighing and sorting systems EWK 3010 with a standard throughput of over 100 pieces per minute. The EWK 3010 can reliably determine product weights from five grams. The six sorting points were defined at every 50 grams. Both sorters have IP66 and are connected to a monitoring system specifically developed for the customer. The software enables Valle Spluga SpA to control the two weight sorters, collect the weights of all products and integrate the information into their own SAP management for a complete traceability of the production and a resulting higher food safety for the end-consumer.

"Our mission is to track the entire production - from feeding to delivery - to ensure quality at all times. Minebea Intec supported us down to the last detail in achieving our goals."

Dante Milani, General Manager Valle Spluga SpA



The fully cladded weighing and sorting system EWK 3010 ensures a standard throughput of over 100 pieces per minute



The six sorting points are defined every 50 grams, so that the poultry is precisely sorted



If you're interested, please email
sales.ac@minebea-intec.com

Minebea Intec GmbH | Meiendorfer Strasse 205 A | 22145 Hamburg, Germany
Phone +49.40.67960.303 | Email info@minebea-intec.com



www.minebea-intec.com



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