

Custom work for the dairy industry



Campina is an active player in the dairy industry. They take strict measures to ensure that their products remain of high quality. In 2001 they introduced new equipment to test samples for bacteria formation. An automatic system for taking samples was also installed. The original holders for the production samples were easily damaged which prevented them from continuing to pass easily through the

sampling robot. Thus, Campina needed new, stronger product holders and requested information from Engels.

Technical information

Engels was given the assignment of designing a suitable universal holder. In the analysis to find the right product, various requirements had to be taken into consideration related to 'usability' and 'transportability'. Among other things, the bins had to be:

- perforated so the products would quickly reach the desired temperature of 37 degrees in the climate room.
- such that an exact positioning of the dairy products would be mandatory so the robot could always jab at the right place.
- of a height that took the insertion depth of the robot into consideration as well as the height of the various products to be stocked.
- provided with barcode labels.
- easy to clean.
- portable to 12 kg.

Economic information

Campina wanted to include a total of thirteen different products.

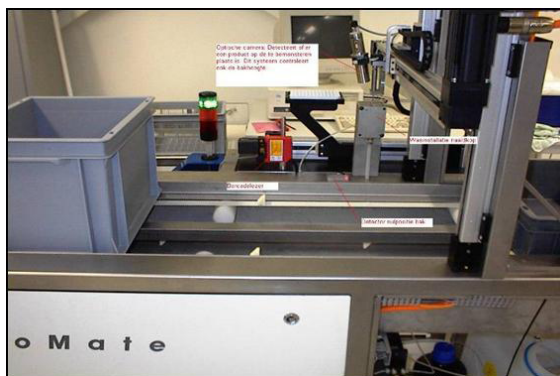


Because of the complex actions of the sampling robot, one standard bin was not sufficient.



But a completely new product would be too expensive for the limited number of bins that Campina needed.

Thus the decision was made to use a standard bin with a custom-made insert.



Cheaper because of custom work

To limit the cost-price even more, an attempt was made to have as few tray variants as possible, so as many trays as possible could be produced with each vacuum form mould.



As a result, it was sufficient to use three types of bins of various heights, and four different trays.

In addition to the wide range of standard bins in their catalogue, Engels can also make and supply semi-standard products. With this system one starts with universal bins (four sides and a bottom, made according to standard measurements) in which the requirements of the customer can be met optimally by inserting a custom-made tray.

The bins were supplied in November of 2004 and have been used since then.

They meet the operational requirements extremely well, and after three years the bins have still not been damaged.

In the realisation of this product Engels has demonstrated again that they can provide added value for any production system.

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