

Simple, cost-saving and eco-friendly

Smiflexi automatic packers of SK series (shrinkwrappers machine) and WP series (wrap-around casepackers) are now available in a special version, called XL (eXtra Large), capable of packing a large range of containers both in standard size cases and trays and in maxi trays - measuring $\frac{1}{4}$ europallet (400x600 mm).



THE XL VERSION OF SMIFLEXI PACKERS MEETS NEW DEMANDS FROM LARGE-SCALE RETAIL TRADE FOR BIGGER AND BIGGER PACKS CAPABLE OF CONTAINING A HIGHER NUMBER OF PRODUCTS, IN ORDER TO FACILITATE STORAGE OPERATIONS AND POSITIONING OF EACH SINGLE CONTAINER ON THE SHELVES OF POINTS OF SALES AND SUPERMARKETS, ENSURING REMARKABLE ECONOMIC AND LOGISTIC ADVANTAGES.

More in details the XL version of SK shrinkwrappers can perform the operations commonly carried out by three different packaging machines:

- shrinkwrapper, that packs products in film only bundles;
- trayformer, that makes pallet display trays of $\frac{1}{2}$ europallet (600x800 mm);
- trayloader, that inserts products into large pallet display trays.

The XL version of the WP wrap-around casepackers, as well, can perform packaging solutions which commonly require the use of two different machines:

- tray or case former, that packs products in traditional configurations (2x3, 3x4, 3x5 and 4x6).
- trayformer, that packs a high number of products into trays whose size is equal to $\frac{1}{4}$ and $\frac{1}{2}$ europallet.

Moreover, pallet display trays are fully compatible with APS palletising systems of Smipal division; the combination of these technologies allows users to dramatically reduce production costs, thanks to the deep integration of secondary and tertiary packaging operations.

REMARKABLE BENEFITS USING SMIFLEXI PACKERS FOR PRODUCING PALLET DISPLAY TRAYS

The usage of Smiflexi's XL version packers provides countless benefits, among which the most important are:

- simplification of secondary and tertiary packaging operations;
- reduction of operation and maintenance costs of the whole production line;
- reduction of spare parts stock;
- better employment of machine operators;
- remarkable savings in terms of TCO (Total Cost of Ownership) of the bottling and packaging line during its whole life cycle.

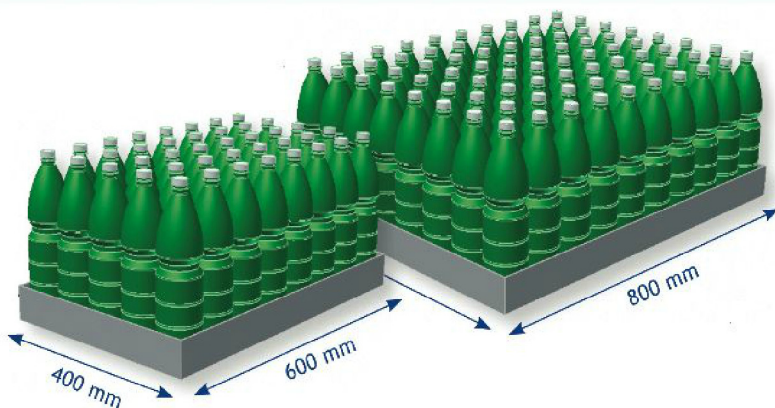
THANKS TO THE USE OF A SINGLE MACHINE THE END USER CAN RELY ON:

High operating flexibility:

as it is possible to make both common size packs and pallet display packs;

Social responsibility:

packaging materials employed dramatically reduce;



Energy saving:

the lower consumption of plastic and cardboard packaging material turns into precious energy savings during the packaging material production, the packaging process and the recycling operations;

Simplified palletisation:

palletisation operations speed up and get simpler, as "maxi" size packs allow to complete a single pallet layer by a lower number of insertions (just only 2 packs per layer for the ½ pallet format!);

Trouble-free storage:

pallet display trays allow to remarkably reduce the number of operations to move the products down along the whole distribution chain; moreover, even the "unboxing" of each single bottle and its placement on the shops' and supermarkets' shelves becomes quicker and more efficient, since the operator can save time while emptying out cases and trays;

Enhanced top-load level:

pallet display trays produced by Smiflexi packers are made through a wrap-around system and, therefore, are more compact than those produced by old-style trayformers; this solution entails an increase in the top-load value of each product, thus allowing pallets with an additional layer in comparison with traditional solutions.

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SOFT DRINKS SALES INCREASE

More than a third of UK soft drink carbonates consumption is now diet, low calorie or no-added sugar, a new industry report has revealed.

The 2012 UK Soft Drinks report shows that carbonates remained the largest share of the sector with consumption up 4.1% in 2011 - with 38% of that consumption now diet, low calorie or no-added sugar.

The report, published by the British Soft Drinks Association (BSDA), says: "Due to increasing food and drink prices (in 2011), consumers became less experimental and stuck to traditional favourites. People were going out less and bought soft drinks, especially carbonates, to consume at home."

Overall consumption of soft drinks in the UK last year grew slightly by 0.7% to 14.6bn litres, or 253.3 litres per person, the report claims. The industry grew in value by 5.1% to £14.5bn.

However sports and energy drinks again performed well. The category grew by 10%, reaching 660m litres, while total value across all channels hit around £1.69bn.

"People with longer working hours and more stressful lives continue to use energy drinks to help them get through their busy lives," the report says. "Also, energy drinks remain very popular amongst young male consumers with a variety of flavour innovations."

Fruit juice and smoothies grew in retail value by 4.2% to reach £1.8bn.