

FANTE

WINE INDUSTRY

Fante Industria de Bebidas Ltda.
Flores da Cunha, Rio Grande do Sul, Brazil

- Wrap-around case packer
Smiflexi LWP 30



VIDEO



GEO LOCATION



The respect for tradition and the enthusiasm for innovation are two essential values of the Fante Industria de Bebidas company mission that for over 40 years has been passionately dedicated to the production of wine and beverages. This company is headquartered in Flores da Cunha, a town of 25,000 inhabitants in the Brazilian Serra Gaúcha region. This area is the heart of Brazil's wine sector, where the traditions and secrets of this art have been handed down from father to son for over three generations. The Fante Industria de Bebidas company is one of the leading lights of the local wine scene and its full range of beverages (sparkling wines, liqueurs, juices and non-alcoholic beverages) is very popular at home and abroad thanks to its proven quality. The strong link with tradition and the vocation to innovate are the basis of Fante Industria de Bebidas' day-to-day business, as well as its commercial success. Furthermore, the merging of old and new knowledge creates the right mix of technical expertise



that, thanks to carefully selected and perfectly dosed ingredients, allows this company to produce beverages having a unique taste and an unmistakable identity. Thanks to an entrepreneurial organization based on strong values such as family, solidarity and cooperation, this company has achieved a prominent position in Brazil's enological context over the years and even in 2012 it achieved satisfying sales results, celebrated with a beautiful party attended by employees and their families.



FLEXIBILITY

AND CUSTOMIZED PACKAGES

Fante Industria de Bebidas relied on SMI experience for the installation of a wrap-around cardboard box packer at its facility. The model it chose, a Smiflexi LWP 30, is an automatic machine designed to package glass bottles of different capacities at a max speed of 30 cardboard boxes/trays per hour. Indeed, the bottling of glass bottles requires a shock- and impact-resistant package, able to preserve the product intact and which is easy to stack when palletized. Based on these prerequisites came Fante Industria de Bebidas' choice to avail itself of SMI's advanced technologies, through which the wide range of products of the Brazilian company (wines, spirits, juices and non-alcoholics) can be easily packaged in multiple types of packs and configurations. The Smiflexi LWP 30 wrap-around case packer is equipped with a mechanical system that groups the product and is able to make cardboard box packages which change according to the collation,

capacity and size of the containers. Specifically, the 1-liter bottles branded Vodka Rajska, Aperitivo de malt whisky Black Stone and Suco de Uva tinto integral Quinto do Morgado, both cylindrical and squared, and the 0.75-liter and 0.3-liter bottles branded Vinho Tinto Cordelier Equilibrium, Espumante Cordelier

Moscatel and Vinho Bordo Suave Quinta do Morgado are packaged in wrap-around boxes in the 3x4 collation, whereas the squared 1-liter bottle is also packaged in the 2x3 collation. The larger 1.5-liter and 2-liter bottles are packed in 6-piece packs.



THE INTRODUCTION TO VINE CULTIVATION



The first historical record of vine cultivation in Brazil dates back to 1626.

That year, after crossing the Uruguay River, Jesuit Father Roque Gonzáles da Santa Cruz, from Buenos Aires, founded the first Brazilian mission in what is now the state of Rio Grande do Sul.

Vine cultivation began simultaneously with the construction of the monastery, since it was well suited to the characteristics of the soil and to climatic conditions.

But it was only between 1870 and 1875 that local viticulture took a decisive turn due to increased Italian immigrants, whose traditions and agricultural skills were applied also to this sector.

However, the production of wine remained confined locally up to the

70s of the twentieth century.

In the following decade, the steady growth in wine consumption by the Brazilian population increased the imports of this product, creating an internal market of great interest even for local producers.

In a few years, thanks to the advent of new production technologies, these producers were able to industrialize the process and begin marketing their wines on a national scale, hence giving the final thrust to the final success of Brazilian viticulture.

According to the latest data from IBRAVIN (Brazilian Vine & Wine Institute), the yearly wine consumption in Brazil is now around 2.5 liters per person, with forecasts of strong growth for the coming years. In 2014, Brazil hosts the Soccer World Cup and Rio de Janeiro will host the Olympics in 2016; these two international events should provide a further boost to the wine sector, positively influencing the consumption of the many varieties of local wine by the millions of foreign visitors expected for the aforesaid events.



TO EACH ONE THE MOST SUITABLE PACKER

The wrap-around packaging technology developed by SMI for high speeds (Smiflexi WP series case packers) has also been applied to the range of medium-speed case packers of the LWP series. The Smiflexi LWP series, suited to meet production needs of up to 30 packs per minute, features a simplified modular design, which allows to reduce assembly time in the factory and, consequently, delivery time to the end user.

For example, the cardboard blanks magazine is entirely housed beneath the machine's infeed conveyor, thanks to the fact that the reduced production speed does not require additional modules for storing the cardboard blanks to ensure a certain degree of operating performance, as is the case for the WP series. This solution greatly reduces the overall dimensions of the LWP models and allows installing them even in limited-space packaging systems.



FLUID AND ACCURATE MOVEMENTS

The Smiflexi case packers of the LWP series package various types of rigid containers into corrugated cardboard boxes and/or trays. The machines belonging to this series are equipped with a motorized oscillating sorter, placed on the infeed belt, which facilitates the channeling of the loose containers to the grouping area in the required collation and also prevents sudden stops in the feeding flow. The group of containers is formed through a mechanical system made up of a pneumatic separator and a synchronized supporting bar. The former spaces two consecutive groups of loose containers while the latter, which receives the products from the pneumatic separator, completes the composition of the required pack collation and accompanies it to the box/tray-forming unit. The format change operation on the Smiflexi LWP series case packers is manual but can be performed simply and quickly as it does not require the replacement of any mechanical or electronic machine component. After completing the expected mechanical adjustments, the operator simply selects the new format to be processed via the POSYC control panel; even switching from a small-sized pack to a larger one or vice versa can be performed quickly since the operator can easily change the machine's pitch using the colored position indicators placed on the product moving chains.

