

APPOINTMENTS



Vesa Hakanen, (MSc Eng), has been appointed manager of the newly set up project and planning group for the Customer Support unit. Vesa has longstanding experience of Cimcorp's robotic systems as a software designer and project manager. He has been at Cimcorp since 1998.



Hannu Kailasvuo (BEng) has been appointed sales manager, food industry applications. Hannu has earlier worked at Cimcorp as a software designer and sales manager in customer support, and as a sales manager at Raumaster Paper Oy.



Harri Liljeroos (BEng) has been appointed sales project manager. Harri has worked at Cimcorp since 1988 in several positions in electrical and software design, including project manager in charge of software and sales project manager, CRT industry.



Antti Isola from Metso plc has been appointed General Manager, Procurement. His area of responsibility is global procurement. Antti holds a degree in engineering and an MBA. He joined Cimcorp from the Metso Paper Wood-handling Unit, where he was Purchasing Manager, in charge of purchasing, quality control, and logistics.



Cooperation between Cimcorp and ToolBox aims at optimizing bakery work

Cimcorp has commenced cooperation with another leading manufacturer of order picking systems, ToolBox of Germany. Combining Cimcorp's robotics systems for full-crate order picking and ToolBox Bakery Solutions' control systems for manual order picking means the companies can offer industrial bakeries comprehensive cutting-edge automation technologies.

Managing Director of Cimcorp, **Markku Vesa**, believes that Cimcorp and ToolBox make a formidable duo, with extensive expertise in the bakery sector.

"Cimcorp has automated the distribution activities of many industrial bakeries, while ToolBox is the market leader as supplier of computer-controlled pick-by-light systems for bakeries.

Dirk Franke, Chief Executive Director of ToolBox Software GmbH, stressed the benefits of cooperation.

"Our products are a perfect fit, so we can offer bakeries a wide range of distribution solutions. Sometimes, the control of manual order picking using pick-by-light for instance is sufficient, but the delivery volumes in larger bakeries call for the automation of full product crate picking with robots. Often bakeries need both solutions side by side."

Savings through technology

Cimcorp's MultiPick systems have a successful track record in order picking at food and beverage distribution centers. The system is based on large gantry robots that pick batches according to customer orders from product-specific stacks on the floor. The batches are loaded onto transport units or into delivery vehicles just as they are. Automation speeds up order picking, eliminating picking errors, reducing costs, and improving product traceability. It facilitates warehouse cleanliness and makes the stringent hygiene requirements of the sector easy to meet.

ToolBox is focused on the bakery market, providing a comprehensive range of picking and handling solutions. Its top product is the market-leading dispoTool pick-by-light distribution system, in use at more than 500 locations world-



wide. ToolBox has found that its pick-to-light solutions can save 30 per cent in time and labor costs in bakery distribution. dispoTool is a comprehensive warehouse management system (WMS) controlling reception of goods, storage, inventory control, retrieval, picking and dispatch, as well as tools for analysis and statistics. Other ToolBox products include cabTool, a production management system, and the GPS-based tomTool for route management.

Distribution efficiency

Competition in the bakery markets is becoming increasingly tough, the volumes to be

handled are high and require a lot of manpower. The greatest challenge is posed by the short shelf life of the product, which puts particular pressure on the order picking and dispatch stage. These functions have to be speeded up, costs have to be cut and service improved.

“Traditional order picking and distribution methods in bakeries form a bottleneck, preventing increased production,” explains Tero Peltomäki, Sales Director of Cimcorp.

“Bakery picking work is physically demanding and monotonous, and along with its unsocial hours, it makes it difficult to recruit motivated staff. Cimcorp and ToolBox

solutions can dramatically improve efficiency.”

ToolBox’s Dirk Franke concurs that the greatest potential for optimization in bakeries lies in distribution.

“If the goods arrive one hour later at the store, that’s one hour off the selling time, which has an effect on total sales. Bakeries know they must provide not only high quality products but also the fastest deliveries and excellent service. This is where Cimcorp and ToolBox have a lot to offer.”

See you at the IBIE Fair in September

For further details see back cover and visit www.ibie2010.com

Improved gripping accuracy

Cimcorp has developed a new feature for TyrePick robots, automated stack height measurement. This ensures gripping of even the most challenging tire products.

Cimcorp TyrePick robots are used in tire plants for sorting and buffering in the inspection area and for order picking in the dispatch area. The tires in the system are stored in stacks on the floor under the robot. Picking up tires from a stack by robot is sometimes challenging, especially when only a few tires are picked rather than the whole stack.

To date, tire handling in the Cimcorp system has been based on the product data received from the client. However, the dimension data obtained in this way is not always sufficient for automated handling, since the tire width given by the client (= tire height in stack) is the width of the tire on the rim. Nor is it possible to determine how the tires will behave during stacking directly on the basis of this

measurement data. Some types of tire keep their shape well, but some tend to collapse. Mathematical calculations of stack height are inadequate because collapsing occurs non-linearly.

Cimcorp’s solution is based on sensor technology and software. The robot measures automatically each new product when it enters the system. At the same time, the stack height formed by these tires is measured and the behavior of each tire type in stacking is then calculated from this data.

Stack height measurement is an extra feature, which ensures successful gripping. It allows the transfer of tire-stacking measurement to the robot, and will no longer be dependent on adapting the product data supplied by the client for this task.