

Lightening the load; how to reduce the pain in packaging

Why wouldn't you make it easier and less demanding for packaging personnel to do their jobs?

More and more packages are being sent every year, largely due to the ongoing popularity of e-commerce. It's a relentlessly competitive marketplace, with same-day and free delivery becoming increasingly common.

10 seconds per package

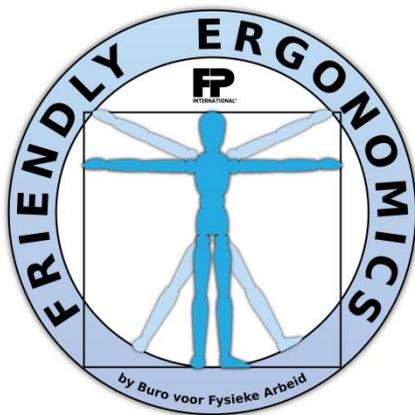
This, in turn, exerts greater pressure on those doing the packaging and shipping. In some cases, people process more than 3000 packages during their working day. Think about that; approximately 10 seconds to weigh, check, pack and seal a shipment before moving onto the next one. Then the one after that...

High rate of absence

Carrying out such repetitive work under time pressure obviously takes its toll. As an example, an average of 4.3% of workers in the Dutch transport and logistics are absent through sickness at any one time*. There's another issue to deal with; the typical age of packaging personnel is rising. And, in general, the older the employee the higher the sickness absence (8.3% for those aged 60-64; that's 1 in 12!). The cost for companies in lost productivity and arranging temporary replacements is huge.

Helping operators work comfortably

We take this very seriously. That's why we work together with the appropriate institutes and organisations to help reduce work-related sickness absence in distribution centres throughout Europe. All our installers are skilled at ergonomically integrating our solutions into a packaging line. When necessary, we also train operators to work more comfortably. In this way they can stay within their 'safe zone' so they don't, for example, have to reach too far or too high and can maintain a neutral posture.



There are many similar considerations that can have a huge impact, particularly on actions which are carried out many hundreds of times each day. In this way we can help ease the packer's job while accelerating the packaging process.

Quieter plastics

Our technology contributes as well; RFID tags in our rolls of packaging material means the machine automatically knows what to do when a new roll is loaded. And mechanical height adjustment of our packaging machines greatly simplifies preparation and use. We even go as far as offering softer packaging plastics which are quieter when handled, in order to make working conditions more pleasant.



Our products have official ergonomic accreditation, so that the comfort and well-being of users is enshrined throughout our production process.

All in all, our approach helps companies employ people in a sustainable way. We think of this as ‘lightening the load’; making sure that the work carried out by packaging operators takes less out of them, both physically and mentally. This makes sense on a human level - and also makes sense for businesses.

Ergonomically designed MINI PAK'R TopFill solution.



Ergonomically positioned SpeedFeeder, end-of-line solution.





FP International is a global, total solutions provider and innovator of protective packaging systems.

We offer a wide variety of standard and custom solutions, ranging from in-line operations at international distribution fulfilment centres to smart pack stations at start-up companies, web-shops and small businesses. Find out more at: www.fpintl.eu

**Source of statistics; Dutch Institute for transport and logistics factsheet (www.stlwerkt.nl)*