



Case study

Bell Pharmaceuticals, Inc. Jet Alert 6 ct bundles

Controls Engineering

2324 Pinehurst Drive, Middleton, WI 53562

Phone: 608-836-1164

dan.odegard@controls-llc.com

www.StretchFilmBander.com

Customer profile

Bell Pharmaceuticals is a privately owned, U.S. manufacturer of the popular Jet-Alert caffeine tablet. Jet-Alert caffeine tablets are sold at food, drug and mass retailers and other stores nationwide, including in the analgesic section at Walmart, Kmart, Winn-Dixie, Bi-Lo, H-E-B, Meijer, Fred's, Shopko, Kinney Drugs, Discount Drug Mart, Lewis Drug, Weis Markets, Harveys Supermarket, Dollar General and Family Dollar.

The goal

Simply, create a secure and easy to handle bundle of Jet-Alert Tablets for retail distribution.

More specifically, provide a fully automated carton stack and band system to integrate with a carton filling machine, reduce the overall foot print of the manually applied shrink-sleeve, conveyors and heat-tunnel and reduce the amount of manual labor.

The solution

AP25 (ARRAY PACK)

Controls Engineering took the approach of utilizing the benefits of its AP25. The CE Array Pack Stacker collects the carton from the Bell carton filler. The Jet-Alert carton enters the system vertically and is then tipped onto its side and configured in 3 carton layers. The layers are down stacked, creating a 6 count bundle. The 2x3 bundle is then transferred into the bander for unitizing. Once the bundle is banded, it then exits onto the accumulating conveyor and ultimately placed into the master carton.

This installation immediately allowed 2 people to be re-assigned to other production areas and provided a more sustained and higher throughput.



The Bundles

Before - Shrink Sleeve



Per bundle price: \$0.03

Per 1,000 bundles: \$30.00



Individual cartons were manually collected, configured into a 6 carton bundle and placed into a shrink sleeve. The shrink sleeved cartons were then fed into a shrink-tunnel. In addition to the heat tunnel continuously running, this workflow required 2 people to try and keep pace with the carton filler. The shrink sleeves are expensive and difficult to remove once at the retailer.

Current - CE SmartBand



Per bundle price: \$0.0062

Per 1,000 bundles: \$6.20



- Secure
- Recyclable
- Reliable
- Product friendly
- Cost effective
- Creates a non-adhesive bond with the carton

The Stacker/Bander - AP25



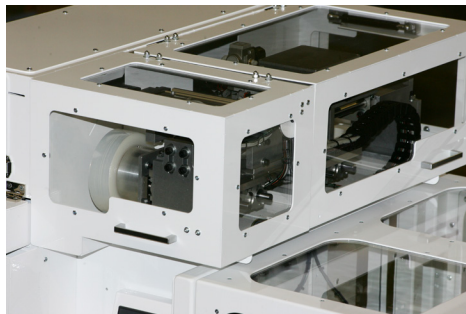
Carton Tip Station / Infeed

An adjustable pneumatic pusher configures the carton into the proper configuration for stacking.



Touch Screen Operators Panel

Intuitive touch screen controls machine functions and settings. Bundle configurations, Roll change, automated features, speed, band count, sealer temp are easily adjusted. In addition to machine settings, trouble shooting and safety messages are easily read on the touchscreen display.



Automatic Roll Changer

The ARC will automatically remove an expired roll of film and replace it with a new roll of film. Time to change a roll with the ARC is less than 8 seconds and the system can accumulate the incoming product during this process.



click to go to the Bell Pharma - JET-Alert
Video

Bell Pharma Production Line

Click the video link to the left to see the whole line in operation. Contact Dan Odegard at CE to discuss your specific carton stacking and banding project!

Controls Engineering

2324 Pinehurst Drive, Middleton, WI 53562

Phone: 608-836-1164

dan.odegard@controls-llc.com