

Improving Carton Sealing Strength by over 350% with Crawford's Tape It Right Program

A customer of Crawford Packaging, a large processor and marketer of canned and frozen vegetables, faced issues with taping their boxes. Crawford's Packaging Specialist observed that the boxes were slightly overfilled, necessitating a more advanced Tape Head capable of applying downward pressure onto the corrugated box. Our Packaging Specialist conducted a test to assess the strength of the seals from the existing equipment and recommended integrating the ETX tape head into the existing carton sealing line.

Challenge

- Rollers and blades coated with tape residue, leading to poor tape application.
- Ineffective tape wipe-down and cutting processes, causing inadequate carton sealing.
- Initial tests showed low force required (32.95 lbs.) to break the tape seal.

Solution

- Installed the ETX tape head on the existing line for improved sealing. The solution is 50% lighter in weight compared to legacy and includes a magnetic blade guard for easier maintenance and enhanced safety.
- Optimized the tape application process to achieve a stronger seal.
- Provided a tape head program that features extended tape legs and comprehensive maintenance support.

Impact

- Significant **improvement in carton closure quality and sealing strength**, achieving 157.3 lbs. force before breaking.
- Significant **enhancement in sealing the center flaps tightly and uniformly** to prevent "break opens" for the end user/customer.
- Enhanced **operational safety and reduced maintenance requirements**.
- Stronger seal ensured, with visible tooth marks on the tape, reducing production issues.



Before



After



Solution