

# Modernizing Fresh Pepper Packaging in Central Mexico

A large grower in Central Mexico faced significant challenges in their fresh pepper packaging process for 3-packs. With a highly manual labour-intensive approach and labour shortages in the region, along with varying quality pre-made bags causing seal inconsistencies, they sought a solution to improve their operations. Crawford Packaging Specialists conducted an on-site assessment, along with an ROI calculation, and recommended implementing a semi-automatic RGD Mape's VR8 flow wrapper. This transformation not only reduced labour requirements but also enhanced packaging quality and lowered costs. The grower adopted the solution, transitioning from pre-made bags to BOPP film, achieving top-notch quality, reducing labour dependency, and mitigating operational issues.

## Challenge

- Heavy reliance on manual labour (16 employees) for highly repetitive and labour-intensive tasks.
- Difficulty in finding and retaining skilled labour.
- Variable-quality pre-made bags lead to inconsistent seals.

## Solution

- Crawford's Packaging Specialist conducted an on-site assessment of the current process, which included an ROI calculation.
- Recommendation to implement a semi-automatic RGD Mape's VR8 flow wrapper.
- Transition from pre-made bags to BOPP film.

## Impact

- Labour was reduced from 16 to 7 employees, addressing labour shortages and turnover.
- Enhanced packaging quality with consistent, 100% accurate sealing.
- Reduced cost per pack by 40%, improving profitability.
- Improved operational efficiencies and increased output.



Labour reduced from  
**16 to 7**  
employees



**100%**  
accurate sealing



**40%**  
cost per pack reduction



**Improved**  
operational efficiencies

