

CASE STUDY

Precision Grape Packing for Faster, Smarter Packhouse Performance

JD Kirsten Pty Ltd, also known as **JDK**, is a family-owned South African company specialising in the production and packing of premium quality table grapes.

Founded in 1916, the business is now managed by the fourth generation of the Kirsten family and is recognised as one of South Africa's leading table grape suppliers

CHALLENGE

At its new packhouse facility in Northern Paarl, JDK needed a high-performance grape packing solution capable of producing consistently packed punnets and boxes with minimal overpack and greater line speed capability.

The system also needed to support export compliance for supermarket supply worldwide.

SOLUTION

MARCO installed two packing lines incorporating advanced weighing and labelling technology, including the MARCO Yield Control Software Module, CheckMaster workstations with RFID login, a central DataMaster PC, CheckWeigher, high-speed labeller and Production Data Display Module.

The system gives JDK real-time visibility of packhouse performance, including pack speed per operator and weighed item data, helping managers adjust pack sizes to meet pre-set averages and reduce overpack.

RESULTS

- Consistently packed punnets and boxes
- Reduced overpack through real-time weight control
- Greater line speed capability
- Operator-level performance visibility
- Checkweighing and labelling for export compliance
- Live production communication through factory-wide digital displays

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HOW IT WORKS

LOAD

RFID log in captures accurate production data from the start of the packing process

PORTION

MARCO Yield Control Software Module monitors weighed items and pack performance in real time

PACK

An end-of-line CheckWeigher and high-speed labeller ensure packed punnets meet specification