

# MARCO provide a dual line packing system to Special Fruit

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MARCO's extensive knowledge and experience of fresh produce packaging has been clear from the outset. They understand our challenges and their ability to undertake the design and supply of the complete mechanical handling equipment, together with the seamless interface with our Navision system, will ensure optimum efficiency throughout the pack house.

The yield control system will streamline our manual packing process and provide invaluable visibility for our operation. The reduction in giveaway and improved productivity will ensure we remain highly competitive whilst providing our customers with the highest quality produce.”

Jeff Wouters, Operations Director,  
Special Fruit

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# MARCO®

Productivity Improvement Experts

AN **///ATS** COMPANY

**MARCO has unparalleled experience in providing fit-for-purpose packhouse solutions for fresh produce packaging operations, which have been shown to increase productivity by 30%. Recognising this experience, MARCO was chosen by Special Fruit b.v to take on a major contract to provide a dual line packing system at its largest packaging plant located in Meer, Belgium.**

Special Fruit is one of the largest importers and packers of fresh produce vegetables in Europe. Processing products including: strawberries, exotic fruits, berries and pome fruits, delicate vegetables and a range of specialised fruit.

They are imported from six continents and are distributed to retailers, supermarket chains, hotels, catering services and other wholesalers in 28 countries.

The diversity and fragility of products, along with the complexities of order fulfilment requirements, require that the packaging processes at the Meer plant be manual. MARCO's challenge was to offer Special Fruit a comprehensive system that has the versatility to meet their rapidly changing demands, but which in turn is simple to operate and manage.

The resulting system ensures that the two packaging lines are capable of operating simultaneously or as two separate work centres, with the system connecting directly to Special Fruit's Microsoft's Navision platform to provide full integration between their office and production facility.

MARCO's Trac-IT® Yield Control Module manages the entire operation. It includes 24 LineMaster® workstations, 12 per line, report back to two DataMaster® control terminals. The LineMaster® workstations have been designed to facilitate the manual packing process and allow operators to achieve the pre-set target weight through a simple 'traffic light' system. This reduces giveaway whilst increasing overall pack speed. Optimised product flow from pre-packaged to packaged and labelled product is accomplished by single or dual-tier conveyor with a smart and practical design.

