

Boosting bagging capabilities

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To accommodate growing cement demand requirements and address the issues of aging equipment and longer truck waiting times, Thailand-based producer Siam City Cement Co (SCCC) decided to undertake a packing and modernisation project which has resulted in enhanced packing capacity and dispatch logistics.

Being Thailand's second-largest cement producer and a key exporter to neighbouring countries, SCCC needed to add packing capacity and improve its bag dispatch system to shorten loading times at its Saraburi works.

To address these issues, SCCC decided to replace its existing six-spout rotary packers with state-of-the-art 12-spout GIROMAT® EVO V12 units from FLSmidth Ventomatic. In addition, the bagging specialists also installed POLIMAT® C40 palletisers with slip sheets to increase packing plant output, reduce bag dispatch times and lower delivery costs. In total, four palletising lines were installed.

Efficient dispatch

One of the major issues with SCCC's existing equipment was that it was only possible to bag cement when trucks were present. So there would be times, such as public holidays and monsoon season, when the packing lines lay idle due to the reduced availability of trucks. The company also experienced issues at peak times when demand exceeded packing capacity.



GIROMAT EVO V12 rotary packer with vertical implanter under erection for Siam City Cement, Thailand

A palletiser therefore presented an ideal solution to both problems as a packing line is able to work constantly and achieve efficiencies of close to 100 per cent.

Palletised bag stacks are stored in the warehouse and, when required,

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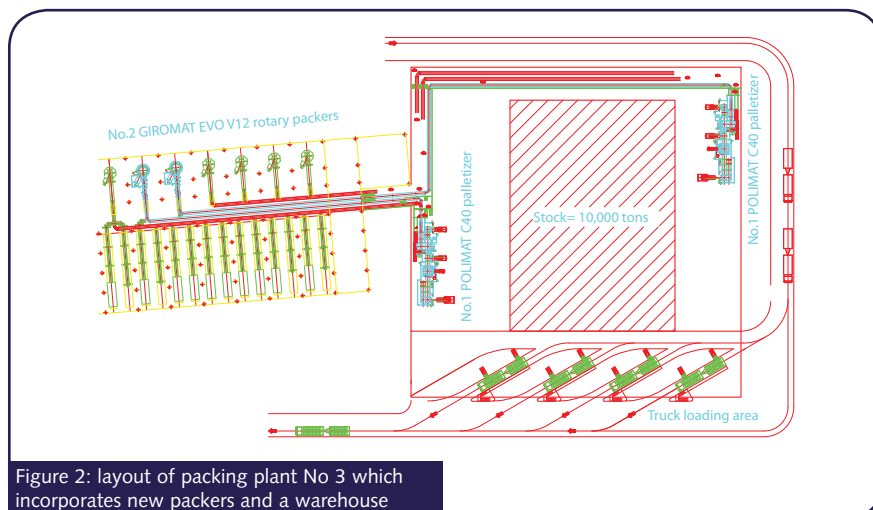


Figure 2: layout of packing plant No 3 which incorporates new packers and a warehouse

loaded onto trucks by forklift. This results in fast, efficient dispatch. Several trucks can be loaded simultaneously and different types of products can be loaded onto the same truck. The use of slip sheets means stacks can be loaded onto a truck's own pallet, thereby simplifying logistics and avoiding empty pallet costs.

Other benefits include:

- lower production costs due to reduced labour requirements, production time and power consumption
- safer working conditions as it eliminates



Above: stacked bags on slip sheets at packing plant No 3's warehouse

the physical demands of handling cement bags

- cleaner working environment
- improved logistics as the packing of different cement types can easily be planned and bags stored.

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Flexible packing solutions

Especially when integrating new technologies and products in an existing packing plant, there is no 'one size fits all' solution. Adaptation and flexibility are key project requirements, leading to the need for a reliable partner who is able to combine state-of-the-art technology, reliability and process know-how. Recognising these needs, FLSmidth Ventomatic adapts its solutions to match customer requirements, as demonstrated by the success of the Siam City Cement packaging project.



Packing plant No 4's warehouse with POLIMAT C40 palletiser