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WEBINAR HIGHLIGHTS MULTIHEAD WEIGHING'S STILL VITAL ROLE IN DELIVERING EFFICIENCY AND PROFITABILITY FOR FOOD COMPANIES

The improved efficiencies and resulting impressive cost savings that can be achieved by incremental enhancements to multihead weighing technology was one of the key messages from the latest webinar in Ishida's *Automate Production, Enhance Productivity* webcast series.

Citing a number of recent customer installations, the webinar explained how the continuing evolution of multihead weighers is able to deliver high value gains for food operations. In one example, by upgrading to a new Ishida model, a confectionery manufacturer further improved product giveaway and speed by 0.5g and 10 packs per minute respectively. These relatively small improvements equated to an annual saving of 450,000 euros for the company and led to payback on the machine being achieved within six months.

A series of poll questions undertaken during the event confirmed the findings of a separate Ishida customer survey, which indicated that for food companies the need to continue to reduce product giveaway remains the main driver behind the automation of weighing and packing processes and is also regarded as the best opportunity to create extra value.

The webinar therefore also focused on how this value creation can be maximised when the weighing technology is designed for the specific application, showing how Ishida has over the years developed individual models for particular product types, particularly those that in the past had been judged too difficult to handle in an automated weighing system. In addition, some of the many technical features that the company has devised to improve product feeding and control throughout the weighing process and enhance speed and accuracy were also demonstrated.

The importance of data capture and advanced software in maximising efficiency, accuracy and uptime was the subject of another presentation. Being able to access relevant data quickly and easily enables immediate action to be taken to improve performance or resolve problems.

Similarly, the presentation showed how the use of the latest advanced Ishida software simplifies the operation of the weigher for line personnel and enables the machine to self-optimize. In this way, efficiency levels can be increased from around 95% to consistently over 99%.

With the coronavirus pandemic having highlighted the need for effective remote support, the final presentation of the webinar detailed the many advances that Ishida had already put in place to help maintain machine performance and maximise uptime. The company's plans for the continued development of its augmented and mixed reality support offerings were also outlined.

“Multihead weighing has already achieved so much that it is easy to take the technology for granted these days,” commented Neil Wightley, Ishida Europe’s Multihead Weigher Business Manager.

“Nevertheless, as markets become increasingly competitive with the pressure to deliver high levels of productivity, the performance of the weigher becomes all the more critical. In this webinar we wanted to highlight how multihead weighing has kept abreast of market developments and how an ongoing series of small improvements and enhancements can make a huge difference to a company’s bottom line.”

To view the webinar on demand, please visit

<https://event.on24.com/wcc/r/2986061/13FB196A17EC060B4CF00EAC0AEB45F7?partnerref=Prwebinarreview>

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