

MSK: from glass conveyor up to pallet loading and packaging systems

MSK COVERTECH GROUP

THE NEW GLASS PLANT OF QUINN GLASS, IN THE UNITED KINGDOM, HAS RECENTLY BEEN COMPLETELY EQUIPPED BY PACKAGING MACHINERY MANUFACTURER MSK COVERTECH GROUP. THE MACHINES SUPPLIED ARE DESCRIBED IN THIS ARTICLE, AND INCLUDES 13 FULLY AUTOMATIC GLASS PALLETIZERS, THREE SHRINK PACKAGING LINES, A FULLY-DEVELOPED PALLET IDENTIFICATION SYSTEM AND VISUALIZATION AND CONTROL CARRIED OUT BY MSK EMSY SOFTWARE.

One of the largest new building projects in the hollow glass industry has now been finished by Irish glass manufacturer *Quinn Glass*, near Liverpool, the United Kingdom. The equipment for the complete cold end has been constructed and installed by one of the worldwide leading manufacturers of packaging machines, the MSK Covertech Group. With 13 fully automatic glass palletizers, three MSK shrink packaging lines, a fully-developed pallet identi-

cation system and visualization and control carried out by *MSK EMSY* software, the English plant is one of the most advanced hollow glass factories in the world.

In 1998, MSK supported Irish glass producer Quinn Glass intensely with a highly specialized planning team for the cold end. With the follow-up order for the new plant in Ince, United Kingdom, in 2004, MSK and Quinn Glass have continued their successful partnership of the preceding years.

NEW PRODUCTION PLANT

In close cooperation with the glass manufacturer, a comprehensive and individual concept has been developed for the cold end of the new glass production plant near Liverpool.

Over a period of two years, palletizers and packaging machines, conveyor techniques with shuttle cars and MSK EMSY visualization software have been installed in due time and in complete satisfaction to the customer.

Thirteen fully automatic MSK



Triotech glass palletizers have now been installed at the plant in England and were chosen because of their high-performance capability. With the space-saving palletizer variant, an effectiveness of 99.5 per cent is reached, even in a small space.

Additionally, every palletizer line is equipped with a fully automatic cardboard erector. With the connected turning station, the flexible turnover of cardboard is possible.

The *MSK Looptech* integrated into the palletizer secures the bottles for transportation with a strip of film around each layer. Therefore, packaging costs are reduced

as cardboard trays are not required. It can be used optionally for the upper bottle layer as *Toploop*, as *Layerloop* or as combined *Top- and Layerloop*. By the use of uniform packaging materials costs are reduced and logistic is eased.

The three *MSK Paratech/ Recotech* shrink packaging lines at Quinn Glass package glass pallets according to the parachute principle with a performance of 80 pallets per hour. In the English plant, hood application and shrinking are carried out at the same position.

The MSK shrink frame technology provides precise and regulated heat generation without flames by a special mixed air procedure. Thus, the film is heated gently and keeps its maximum elasticity.

ADDITIONAL MODULES ALLOW SPECIAL CUSTOMER SOLUTIONS

Additional modules offer Quinn Glass the highest possible

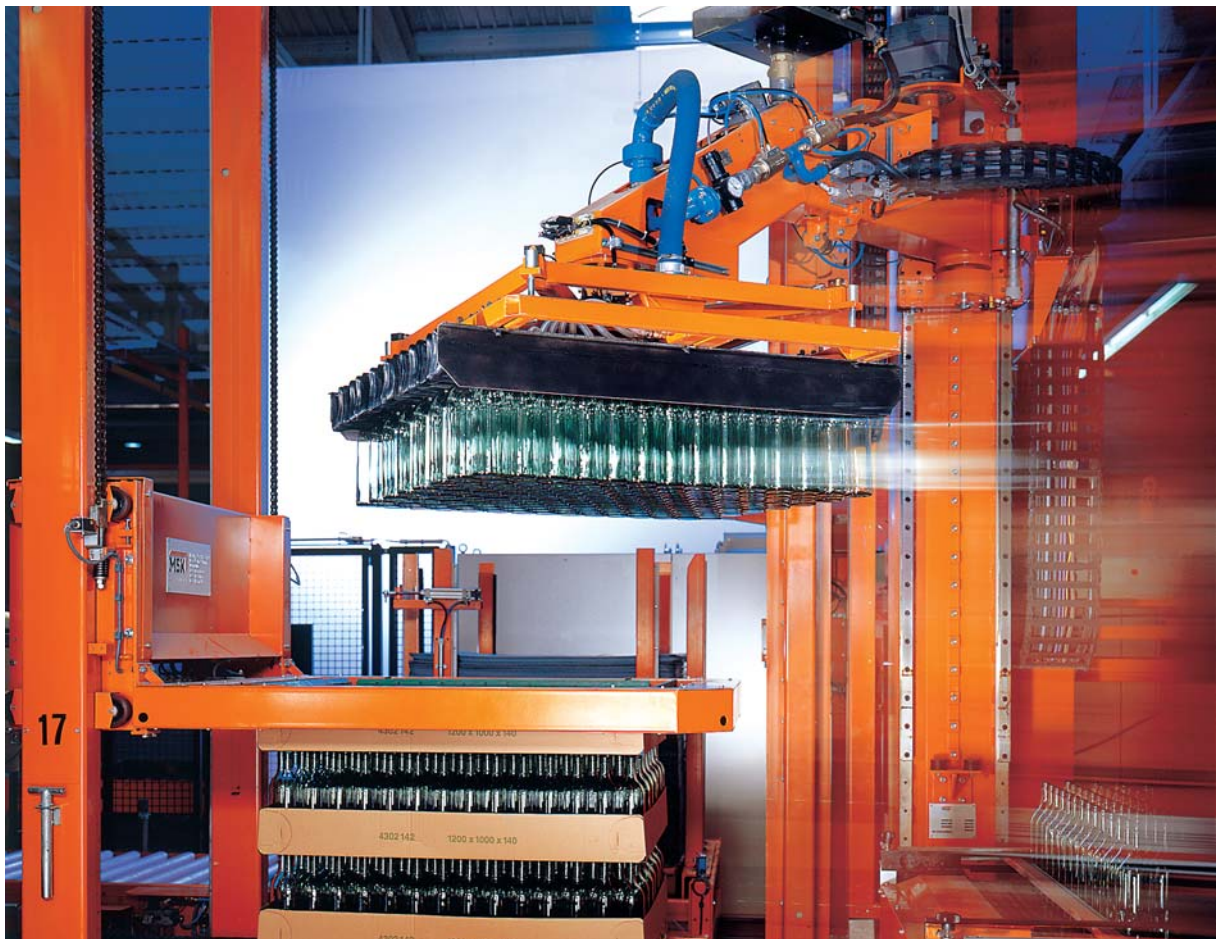
flexibility to meet all its needs. For example, the *MSK Pallet-Dressing-Line*, which applies an additional flat film on the pallet before palletizing the glass bottles and the *MSK Top-Frame-Applicator*, which allows the flexible application of wood-, plastic-, or cardboard-tops by its pivot magazine.

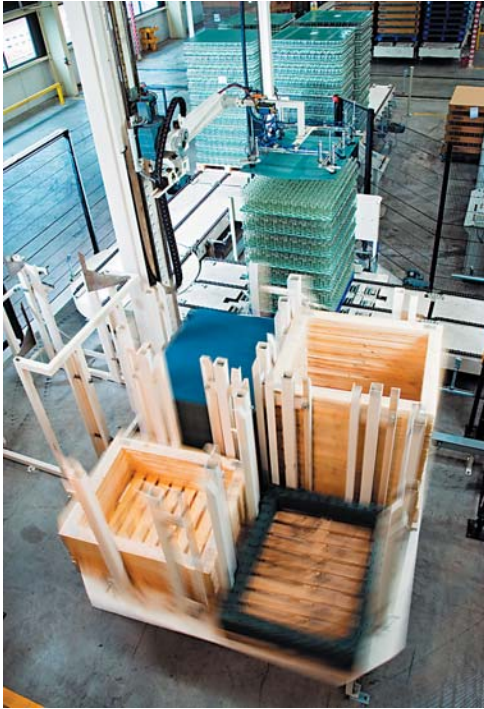
In interaction with the fully automatic palletizer and packaging machines, the MSK conveyor technology works reliably as integrated transport- and material flow system. The three MSK shuttle cars transport pallets, packaged and unpackaged goods safely and gently between palletizer, shrink packaging machines and pallet storage.

SOFTWARE

The MSK control software allows Quinn Glass to integrate the MSK Linktech shuttle cars - and material flows without problems.

MSK EMSY is a visualization system developed by MSK and





nology to fulfil our needs in complete logistics systems up to pallet loading and packaging systems for the glass container industry. We have several unique technology combinations in our whole plant and our trust that MSK would be a strong link in the last stage of the production process has been confirmed.” With the completion of the project near Liverpool, MSK proved itself as full-line supplier for the cold end.

inevitable disturbances should arise. Thanks to MSK software (EMSY), specialists are able to detect errors via modem despite a great distance from the actual machine. In this way, they can support troubleshooting and can immediately post spare parts. Longer hold-up times can thus be effectively avoided.

With about 400 employees, production plants in Germany, Hungary, France and subsidiaries in England, United States, Malaysia and China, MSK is one of the top addresses of the packaging machines industry.

when used in conjunction with the MSK pallet identification system at Quinn Glass an optical information tracking of the whole packaging- and logistic process is possible.

QUINN GLASS AND MSK - CLOSE AND SUCCESSFUL COOPERATION

Cathal Gallagher, Project Manager at Quinn in England says: “We have already had very good experience with the partnership to MSK at the existing glass factory in Northern Ireland and we wanted to be sure that our new factory in England is also equipped with one of the most modern cold ends in the whole world. MSK has shown us sophisticated and state-of-the-art tech-

FULL-LINE SUPPLIER FOR THE COLD END

MSK has more than 30 years of experience in the development of glass palletizers, shrink hooding machines for the securing of transport, shuttle cars and conveyor techniques, as well as the necessary control software, which have made MSK one of the leading suppliers in this industry. As the process of glass production cannot be stopped once it runs, MSK uses only first-class materials and long-term-tested elements. MSK offers a 24-hour service package if



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