

CASE STUDY

FOOD MANUFACTURING COMPANY - 2021



CASE STUDY PROVIDED BY:

BUSINESS IMPROVEMENT COORDINATOR



OPENING STATEMENT

The Bakery manufacturing process currently incorporates a hand weighed garnish on 30% of the products that it makes. The weights, tolerances and line speeds of each product are set at the product development stage in conjunction with the customer. This information then forms part of the product standards and launch pack ensuring that both customer and legislative requirements are met. Therefore it is key that the methods used for the weighing of material are accurate, safe and cost effective.

EQUIPMENT AUDIT

In line with the current diagnostic process carried out yearly in Bakery a post review of the current weighing scales was carried out, it was found that:

- All but one of the 14 scales had faults which negatively impacted either accurate weighing or speed of weighing.
- The current scales required repeated repair and lacked durability
- Operatives had lost confidence in the equipment
- The technology used in the scale was outdated and would no longer be supported by the supplier.
- It would be difficult to upgrade the current scales due to their age as some parts were now unavailable.
- We could no longer be confident that we would be technically compliant.

THE RESULT

The result of the equipment audit showed that in order to stay technically compliant we would have to invest in either a new innovative solution or replace the current format. With the importance of conformity in mind it was decided to go down the quickest route of direct scale replacement.

EQUIPMENT/SUPPLIER SOURCING

Several suppliers were evaluated considering logistics, cost and overall suitability of solution and it was ultimately decided to use Marsden Weighing Group Ltd as the preferred supplier.



“REVIEW OF THE IMPACT OF THE NEW SCALES HAS BEEN POSITIVE WITH A MATERIAL YIELD IMPROVEMENT OF 29% ON THE PREVIOUS 8 WEEKS WITH THE OLD SCALES. ”

EQUIPMENT AND FEASIBILITY STUDIES

Due to the bespoke nature of the weighing process, it was key to work closely with Marsden weighing. They were able to visit site, understand the needs of our process and develop a scale that met our requirements. We therefore decided to purchase a single trial unit to test prior to replacing the remaining thirteen scales.

We found through the initial trials that the scales needed some minor tweaks to meet our needs, and these were quickly made by Marsden. All operators associated with the weighing process were consulted with their opinion considered, all generally agreed that the new scale was easier and faster to use with less training required. The subsequent trial period was successful and justified the replacement of all remaining scales. Marsden were able to meet our needs in terms of timescale.

POST LAUNCH EVALUATION

The scales have performed well over the last 8 weeks with no operational issues. Review of the impact of the new scales has been positive with a material yield improvement of 29% on the previous 8 weeks with the old scales.

Marsden Weighing have been able to quickly provide a bespoke weighing solution which perfectly meets our needs.

DO YOU HAVE BESPOKE WEIGHING REQUIREMENTS?

Here at Marsden, we understand that weighing scales are not a one size fits all solution. This is why we have a dedicated design and fabrication team to create bespoke weighing solutions for our customers.

Speak to us today and allow our committed team to work alongside you to create a fit for purpose weighing solution.

MARSDEN

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