

Autobag[®] Provides Flexible Packaging Solution for Flymo



Packaging spare parts for sale in DIY stores was a labor-intensive and expensive operation for lawn mower manufacturer, Flymo.

Initially, they used a blister pack that required seven operators to stand around a table allowing them to fill only 20 PVC blisters per minute. This method was time consuming and heavy on resources. Additionally, there was pressure on Flymo to seek alternative methods because of the environmental issues surrounding the use of PVC.

The company then turned to cardboard cartons, which were difficult to display and not totally satisfactory to fill and handle.

After visiting the Automated Packaging Systems booth at Pack-Ex, a packaging exhibition held at the NEC, Flymo purchased two Autobag Excel™ bagging machines to be used with pre-printed plastic Autobag bags. This provided them with the ideal solution - an easy-to-use, flexible packaging system that required minimum labor to operate.

Mike Brooks, Flymo's Purchasing Manager, said: "The change to Autobag machinery and plastic bags has increased our output significantly, we are now packaging 4 times faster than by hand. The bags on a continuous roll are fed through the machine, the bag is opened, and the operator simply places the part in the bag which is then sealed."

Each bagging machine requires only one operator. The system is now more efficient, faster, and therefore a cost-effective means of packaging.

Mike Brooks concluded: "Autobag has provided the ideal solution to our problem. We now have a reliable system, minimum downtime and more environmentally friendly packaging, which can be displayed to the best advantage on pegboards at the point-of-sale."