

TransLution[™] Software EazyWeigh





High-Speed Weighing and Labelling

Using TransLution for Weighing in Food Packaging

Many food manufacturing companies have contract packing arrangements with large supermarket chains, supplying a range of products such as chicken, pork, or cheese. The supplied products are not all the same weight and the item is priced based on the variable weight. In all cases, the supermarket chains have similar requirements - the product is portioned to a target weight and is then individually labelled and priced based on the actual product weight.



Each product must be labelled with a barcode that contains both a product identifier and the price of the portion. This price is calculated by multiplying the actual product weight with the Supermarket chain store selling price.

To facilitate the large quantities required by supermarket chains, the weighing, portioning, and labelling process needs to be robust and capable of being done at a high speed. Products must be labelled as they come off the production line and the labelling process must not cause bottlenecks.

The TransLution EazyWeigh product assists our customers by delivering a solution that fits these needs. EazyWeigh can be installed on a PC at the end of a production line and connected to the line scale. While setting up the scale communication you can also define which products are weighed on that station. At the start of the shift the user selects the product and batch they will be weighing. TransLution uses this information to find the expected weight and tolerances of the parcel as well as the product price. As each item passes over the scale, as long as the item is within tolerance, a label will be printed so that the item can be packed into a lug. If the item weight is outside the range no label is printed and the user is alerted to put the product aside.





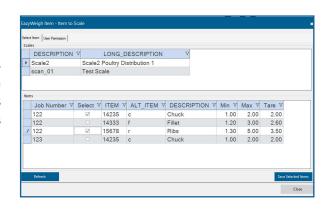




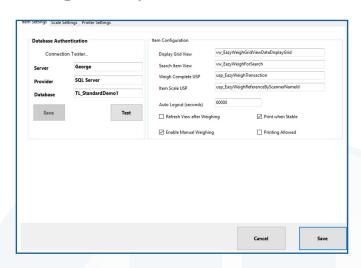
Weighing, Packaging, and Labelling Items

Each labelled item is packed into a lug. Depending on the product, there are a fixed number of packages allowed per lug. TransLution reads this data from the system and once the right number of parcels have been packed into a lug, a lug label is printed. The same process applies to packing lugs onto pallets and pallet labels are also printed by the system.

There are also mechanisms in place to allow users to deal with half full lugs and pallets.



Configurability



In keeping with our product philosophy, we have ensured that EazyWeigh maintains the same kind of flexibility as all our other products, and, like our other products, moves the complexity and configurability to the backend, away from the users. All the data on display on the forms can be configured to show only data required by the operators in a specific implementation. Furthermore, the data printed on all labels is configurable as is the communication to the scales. There is also no need for operators to keep track of how many items can be packed into each carton or how many cartons can be packed onto a pallet. TransLution can read the data automatically and allows for each product to have its own pack count defined. The user simply weighs items as they arrive and when a carton is full, he is given a carton label and told to apply it. The same applies to the allowable weight per

product - the user will be told if an item is out of the allowed weight range, meaning he does not have to track this information himself.

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