



Automation systems for the food industry

## “It’s all about sausages here”

Automatic systems for cutting and handling ready-to-eat sausage products represent an important field of business for ITEC GmbH of Beckum, Germany. The systems are available as individual modules – combined to form a complete plant – or as components of a packaging line; automation equipment from Beckhoff ensures optimum process quality and performance.

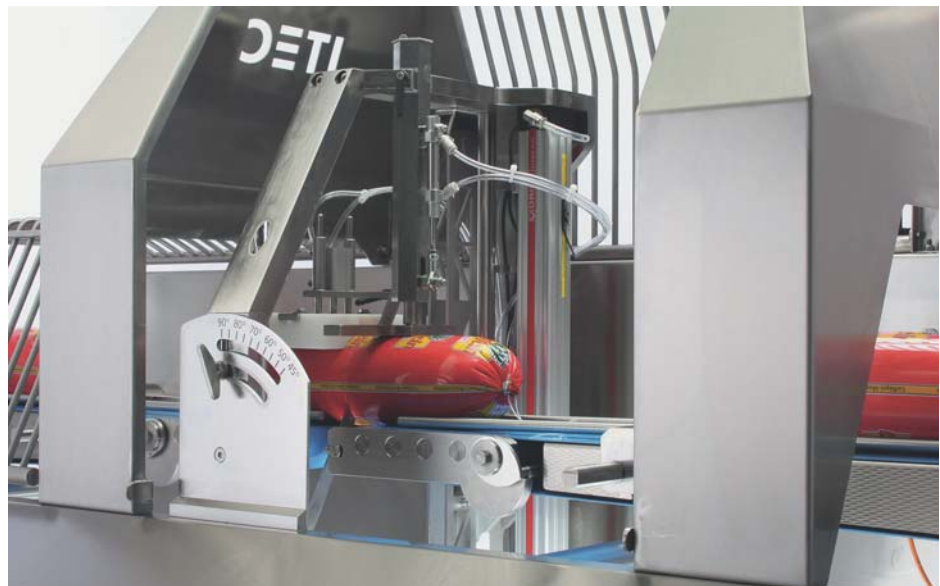
ITEC’s core business in the field of automated systems involve machines for cutting and halving, such as the ‘Präzi-Cut’ or the ‘SB-Cut’, and for positioning, turning and printing for sausage products, such as the ‘Logo-Scan.’ “We sell the systems as stand-alone solutions or as complete plants linked via conveying and handling facilities,” explains Olaf Kahl, Sales and Project Manager for automatic and ergonomical systems. “We can assemble the plants from proven components, as if from a kit, to suit the customer’s individual wishes. At the same time, the components used must satisfy the food industry’s stringent requirements regarding hygiene and environmental conditions, contribute to high overall system performance and guarantee long-term availability. Those con-

ditions are precisely what we achieve with control equipment from Beckhoff.”

### The Embedded PC – more than just a control computer

Some systems, such as the ‘Logo-Scan’, are already controlled by Beckhoff technology. The surface of the sausage product is detected by a line-scan camera; it then is positioned accordingly and subsequently printed with the date of production and the sell-by date. A CX1010 Embedded PC with Windows CE and the TwinCAT automation platform controls the ‘Logo-Scan.’ “The use of the Embedded PC gives us many advantages: low installation space requirements thanks to the compact design in a bus ter-

Systems from ITEC cut, print, unclip,  
sort or convey sausage products.





All systems in the 'automatic systems' division are controlled by Beckhoff equipment.

minal format, ease of operation thanks to the Windows interface and additional usage possibilities, such as the administration of plant documentation," explains Ralf Wiesbrock, Product Developer for automation equipment.

The line-scan cameras are connected via the serial system interfaces of the CX1010. The Embedded PC and the ITEC-specific CP6909 touch panel communicate with one another via a DVI/USB system interface. The special feature of the panel is its flush-fit mounting in the control cabinet. "Various possibilities for remote maintenance assist us in reducing service expenditures," adds Olaf Kahl. "To this end, we integrate the machines in superordinated systems via Ethernet TCP/IP, for example. For smaller systems, there is the possibility to exchange the program by e-mail or, stored on a memory stick, by surface mail. That way we can guarantee fast, inexpensive service."

#### **EtherCAT – promotes high performance and even work enjoyment!**

All sensor data is acquired and evaluated quickly via EtherCAT; the sausage product is positioned and printed. The Servo Drives support EtherCAT and are driven directly with no loss of performance. All data points are integrated in the EtherCAT bus system via EtherCAT Terminals. "Working with EtherCAT simply makes work enjoyable; the system is not only more powerful than before, it is also simple to configure," says Ralf Wiesbrock.

ITEC GmbH [www.itec.de](http://www.itec.de)

#### **CP6909 ITEC-specific touch panel**

6.5-inch display

Touch screen

Customer-specific front laminate

Flush-fit mounting in the control cabinet

Protection class on the front side: IP 65

DVI/USB-E interface

[www.beckhoff.com/CP69xx](http://www.beckhoff.com/CP69xx)

