

It's all about data

Penko makes data accessible

Everything revolves around data, and more so every day. Instead of hardware, the emphasis now lies on software; especially the accessibility of data. Datareporter, a package by Penko that serves to make data accessible, is a good example. Whereby it goes way beyond weighing and dosing

The expert in this field is Gijs van Doesburg; he has been associated with Penko for many years and is one of the engineers who was closely involved in the development and implementation of Datareporter. Datareporter saw the light three years ago and has since become an important tool for processing data. But what does Datareporter actually do? And what can you do with it?

Practical example: Chocolate

The importance of data is also reflected in the number of weighing moments currently performed in the weighing modules of Penko. At present, a weighing module registers 1600 weighing samples per second. One of the users of Datareporter, in a chocolate and caramel production, used to work with a weighing module only reading 250 samples per second. At that time, the standard 'overflow' 5 grams on every 1 kilo of product. By upgrading to a modern weighing module with 1600 weightings, they have managed to reduce this 'overflow' down to just 1 gram. Because of the relatively expensive raw materials, the savings in this case are considerable. In addition to these savings, the Data-

reporter provides the ability to measure and register all delivered 'overflow'.

Save and edit

"In response to requests from our customers, we started to develop packages for data logging in 2006. Food industry companies, but also the wider process industry, want to save and edit ever increasing quantities of production and process data. The reason being, among others, the need for tracking and tracing. But also the optimization of production facilities and detecting the causes behind a production stop requires data. In the beginning, we developed customer-specific solutions. But it soon became clear that we needed to take a broader approach."

Widely accepted

"It quickly became clear that the need for data was in fact much larger. Companies in all industries need to have their production and process data available and quickly started knocking at our door. To us, that was the signal to develop a widely applicable solution. In 2010, we were able to launch the first version which immedi-

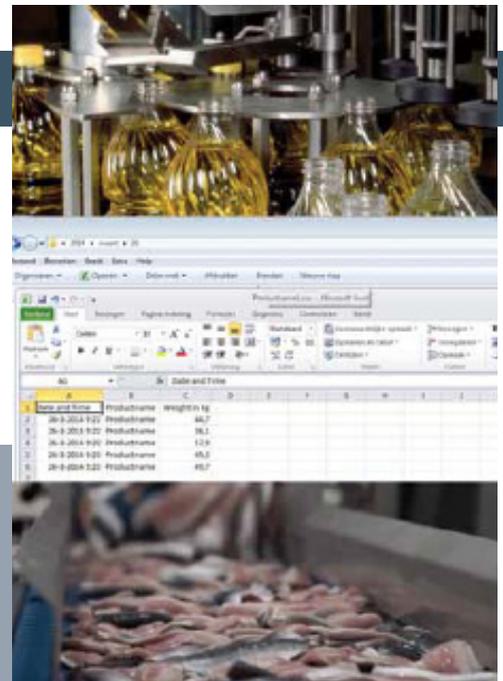
tely was a huge success. In the past three years we have worked hard to expand and improve Datareporter. Now it is so widely accepted that virtually all of our customers use Datareporter."

Datareporter features

What are the main features of Datareporter? "There are actually three main features. The first is to collect data which is the material for the database. The second is the scope function. This section provides a clear graphical display of all kinds of data. This enables you to see how the consumption of raw material develops within a certain period of time. The third function is that of diagnostics. To diagnose various events and trends in production, you can analyze data from batches, recipes and production stops. Other diagnostics are also possible."

Datareporter components

What are the most important components of Datareporter? "The user who installs Datareporter for the first time, always opens with the set-up page. On that page you can enter all kinds of recipes, set points and settings for batch



processing. On that page you can choose from 30 different data options which you want to make available. Customers want to have all kinds of data at their fingertips, from the consumption of raw materials and semi-finished goods, to energy consumption and packaging materials. But also all information related to their products, so that a complete track and trace is immediately executable, among others. “

How do you make this data available? “We do this by saving data in CSV files. As a result, the data can be imported directly into Excel, a program that practically everyone knows and is installed on every computer. Datareporter also runs on standard PCs. The connection between Datareporter and our Penko devices is obtained with an Ethernet connector. It is important that all our Penko devices are suitable. “

Practical example: Fish processing

This practical example concerns a large international fish processing company. This company collects a large amount of varying data using Datareporter. Because this company has given the quality of its production the top priority, it collects data on freshness, catchment location, date of catch, time, type of fish, weight, size, temperature, sustainable production and the location where the bycatch comes from. This data is sent directly from the ship to the mainland so that the data on the new catch is available immediately. At the fish auction, the offering fishing company has an interest in an accurate and correct description of all aspects of the offered fish. This data makes it possible to quickly determine the exact value of the offered lot. Another component of Datareporter, more related to weighing technology, is the exact determination of the required filling weight per box. Datareporter

ensures, in an intelligent way, that this weight is kept much closer to the desired 5 kg per box.



Practical example: Force measurement
How Datareporter is deployed can also be illustrated using the example of a power meter. Weighing and dosing of powders is done by means of power meters, but with Datareporter, many more things can now be done. For example, dosages can be carried out with much higher precision. Every third second, the weighing module records the weight, in addition to the time and serial number. With the large number of measurements that are made (8,000 weighing files per day) Datareporter calculates a much more precise upper and lower limit. As a result, the batches are dosed with a minimum margin. Thanks to this smaller margin, the user benefits from savings in raw materials.



Growing popularity

How is Datareporter being received now? “Very positive. Datareporter is rapidly growing in popularity. Especially in batch production industries the Datareporter is proving its value. Companies that make increasingly more use of it are, for example, bakeries. They use it to store, monitor and investigate data; such as temperatures of dough and ovens, pressures in autoclaves, amounts of used water or dosage of spices. But animal feed or fish product manufacturers are also using it. Actually, there are few industries where the Datareporter is not yet being implemented. “

Datareporter installation

How does the installation of Datareporter happen? “The installation of Datareporter is not complicated. Basically, the customer does it himself. We are referring to the fine-tuning of the Datareporter. It comes down to entering basic information. In any case, the customer does not need to program anything. If customers prefer to leave the installation up to us, we are happy to oblige. We always follow through and pay the customer a visit, to see how Datareporter is used. And, to the extent necessary, we provide advice on how certain things can be done easier or faster. “

More information is available from:
www.penko.com

DATE	TIME	WEIGHT
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2018-01-01	10:00:10	10.1	10.2	10.3	10.4	10.5	10.6	10.7	10.8
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