



## Interroll Portec Belt Curve provides a space-efficient solution for Agricola San Clemente in Chile

Atlanta, USA - Sant'Antonino, Switzerland, 20 July 2015. Agricola San Clemente, producer of high-quality Chilean fresh fruit and juices, recently upgraded its production facility in Renaico, Chile, with an Interroll Portec Belt Curve.

With facilities all over Chile, San Clemente processes apples, grapes, cherries, tangerines and avocados - including five varieties special to San Clemente - for sale in the United States, Europe, Asia, Canada and Latin America. To meet the increasing demand for high-quality products, the company seeks state-of-the-art technologies for its production.

In 2010, a processing line for apples at the Renaico facility was installed, with the help of system integrator Aweta US. In the process of enhancing production, an Interroll Portec Belt Curve was selected to meet the challenge of moving apples from the belt where they enter the system for sorting, to the area where they are washed.

Francisco Amezaga, Manager Cold Storage (Gerente Frigorifico) of San Clemente explained: "This function is uncommon in our process and we had to take into consideration that the space between the two areas was limited, making conventional conveyor equipment an unattractive option. By installing this extremely adaptable and space-efficient belt curve we were able to avoid modifying previously installed systems and equipment." This, in turn, reduced costs and time of installation, as well as facility downtime.

The belt curve delivers the fruit through a 90 degree angle and spared San Clemente the expense and labor of integrating multiple conveyor lines to perform the desired function. Large amounts of products can now be safely and quickly transferred while using a minimal amount of space.

According to Amezaga, the whole project was very successful in part because of the willingness of Interroll's engineers to stay involved through the installation process; for example, in determining the optimal position of the gear motor that drives the belt. This required some work to make the system work perfectly.

Marco A. Oropeza, Vice President of Interroll pointed to the versatility of the Interroll Portec Belt Curve: "This installation shows that our products can be successfully used in many applications besides the postal & parcels and airport industries. They have been installed more than 80,000 times worldwide," he said. "This successful installation also demonstrates the technical expertise of our engineers, who are always eager to find the best possible solution to meet the individual challenges of our customers and end users."

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The Interroll Portec Belt Curve moving apples to the washing area.

## Interroll Profile

The Interroll Group is a worldwide leading producer of high-quality key products and services for internal logistics. The company offers a broad product range in the four product groups “rollers”, “drives”, “conveyors & sorters” and “pallet & carton flow” to around 23,000 customers (system integrators and OEMs) around the world. Core industries are courier, parcel and postal services, airports, food processing industry as well as distribution centers and other industries. Interroll products are in daily use at amongst others well-known global brands such as Amazon, Bosch, Coca-Cola, Coop, DHL, FedEx, Peugeot, PepsiCo, Procter & Gamble, Siemens, Walmart and Yamaha. Interroll is engaged in global research projects for logistics efficiency and actively supports industry associations in developing standards. Headquartered in Sant’Antonino, Switzerland, Interroll operates a worldwide network of 31 companies with around 1,800 employees. The company was founded in 1959. The Interroll Group has been listed on the SIX Swiss Exchange and included in the SPI index since 1997.

## Agricola San Clemente Profile

Agrícola San Clemente was established in the 1980’s with the focus of developing a fruit agricultural activity dedicated to exports. The company has clients in Europe, Asia, United States, Canada and Latin America. Apples, grapes, cherries, tangerines and avocados -five varieties in which the company has specialized - have proven extremely sought after in market niches demanding high quality and superior processing. Values that represent San Clemente are personal excellence, team work, commitment to the community, environment, and quality.