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Ref: Case Sealer Machinery & Tape 101

CASE SEALER MACHINERY

Selecting a Case Sealer System - Choosing the right system for your application is a critical step in achieving an efficient and cost effective case sealing operation. As with any important investment, it is recommended to consult with packaging equipment professionals who can assess your packaging operation needs and advise you of the types of systems that would fulfill them. An additional factor to consider when purchasing a case sealer, is to select big brand names, such as Arpac, 3M, Loveshaw Little David Carton Sealers, that are known for manufacturing reliable and efficient systems. These companies will stand behind the product by providing a solid warranty. An added benefit of dealing with such reputable companies is the quick availability of parts (now and in the future), to keep your case sealers running when efficiently.

The following are some qualities to look for:

- Tough, rugged steel construction built for round the clock operation.
- Excellent Operator Safety.
- Has a readily available Aftermarket Service Department.
- Easy equipment maintenance.
- Equipment mobility and flexibility- allows it to be moved easily wherever needed and can be used alone or as part of a conveyor system.
- Machine parts are readily available.
- Customizations available

When considering a new system it is equally important to source from a supplier that provides full support services with in house technicians. This way you know you have the assurance of technical expertise when needed or wanted to provide preventative maintenance, repairs, upgrades, parts, consulting, training, and installations.

Types of Case Sealers, Carton Tapers and Automatic Box Taping Machines

The following systems represent main types of case sealers, carton tapers and automatic box taping machines. Note: Customization options are also available.

Uniform: Semi Automatic Case Sealers - Continuous runs of the same size box.

These machines require an operator to fold box flaps and introduce the case to the machine, and then the machine seals both the top and bottom of the case. When a different case size run is required, a simple, no tool adjustment is made by the operator which takes very little time.

Uniform: Fully Automatic Case Sealers - Continuous runs of the same size box.

These machines do not require an operator to fold flaps. Once the machine is set to a case size it folds top flaps and seals both the top and bottom of the case. When a different case size run is required, a simple, a no tool adjustment is made by the operator which takes very little time.

Random: Semi Automatic Case Sealers- Various size boxes, one after another.

These machines require an operator to fold case flaps and introduce the case into the machine. The machine then adjusts automatically to various case heights and widths and seals both the top and bottom of the case.

Random: Fully Automatic Case Sealers - Various size boxes, one after another.

These machines do not require operator to fold flaps. No set up is required for continuous runs of random size boxes. These machines are fully automatic, simply start and run your various sized boxes.

Benefits of Quality Automatic Box Taping and Sealing Systems

Discover some of the great system features and benefits provided by a quality case sealer and its impact on your packaging operation. If your existing system does not offer you all that you see here, we can provide you one that will.

1. Economical

- Labor cost saving - one person using a semiautomatic machine can process in 5 minutes what someone using a hand taper does in 30 minutes.
- Increases productivity
- Reliable and simple design means NO downtime
- Ready for use, needs only switching on and has minimal training costs
- Several tape widths can be accommodated on the same machine, so less investment and greater returns
- Provides a space saving solution, time saving and labor saving as it is no longer required to pre- seal the bottom of boxes
- Low power consumption
- Must be able to use 3000ft tape rolls, because they cost less per foot than 660ft rolls and cause less waste when roll is nearly empty as replacements are less frequent than 660ft rolls = 45ft x 198ft rolls = 3000ft roll

2. Simplicity

- Ready for immediate use: Plug in and switch on
- Can be fitted with optional casters, so easily movable within the factory

- Tape can be replaced quickly and easily due to side threading cartridge
- 3. Safety and Comfort**
 - Easy access to all moving parts
 - Safer for operator to use
 - No sharp edges
 - Protected knife guard on taping cartridge
 - Interlocked safety gates on automatic models protect worker
 - Robust and stable
 - The steel frame protects all moving parts
 - Reliable and easy to use machines
- 4. Flexibility**
 - Can be fitted to existing packaging line without major changes
- 5. Operating**
 - Very easy to install and operate
 - Minimal operating training
 - User friendly
 - High quality reliable components
 - Should accommodate different widths of tape and different qualities, including PS Paper tape
- 6. Maintenance**
 - Overall a maintenance free machine
 - Only wear parts are: springs, rollers, knife and belts
 - Tape cartridge should allow easy access to all springs
 - Only regularly check the knife and clean when required
 - Belt change should be simple and fast
- 7. Aesthetic and Security**
 - Cleaner and neater way of sealing your boxes
 - Tape always centered and applied in a consistent fashion
 - Boxes are more securely sealed (2 wipe rollers) = less likely to open = less product damage or waste

BOX, CARTON AND CASE SEALER TERMS

Adhesives - An adhesive is a compound designed to bond two items together. Adhesives common to industrial packaging application include:

- Hot melt adhesives (also referred to as hot glue): in industrial packaging operations they are commonly used to close corrugated boxes (also referred to as: paperboard cartons and cardboard cases).
- Pressure sensitive adhesives (PSA): designed for both permanent and temporary applications. In industrial packaging operations, they are commonly used to seal close corrugated boxes (AKA: cardboard cartons and cardboard cases). Also see pressure sensitive tapes.

Box Sealer - Synonymous with case sealer. A corrugated box sealing system that may use tape, adhesives or glue to seal closed. Other similar terms that may be used: automatic box taping machine, automatic box tapers, box sealing system, automatic box sealer and box sealing machines.

Carton Sealer - Synonymous with carton sealer. A corrugated box sealing system that may use tape, adhesives or glue to seal closed. Other similar terms that may be used: case sealing machine, case taper, case taping machine.

Case Sealer - Synonymous with box sealer. A corrugated box sealing system that may use tape, adhesives or glue to seal closed. Other similar terms that may be used: case sealing machine, and case sealing equipment.

Gummed Tape - A tape that needs to be moistened to activate adhesive action. Used in packaging applications to close and seal corrugated boxes / cardboard boxes. Used with manual and electric tape dispenser and applicator systems as: gummed tape dispensers, gummed tape applicators and box taping dispensers.

Pressure Sensitive Tape - Is a tape that has a pressure sensitive adhesive coating on the backing of a material intended for taping application. Example tape materials: paper, plastic, cloth and metal foil. It is sticky without heat, water or solvent for activation and will adhere with light pressure. Also referred to as: PSA Tape, Self Stick Tape, and Sticky Tape.

Reinforced Gummed Tape - This is gummed paper tape made of two layers with a crossed pattern of fibreglass filaments laminated in between. Used in packaging to seal corrugated boxes closed.

Tape-Applicator - Tape application machinery includes tape dispensing equipment (AKA: tape dispensers) and tape application equipment (AKA: tape applicators). Applicator can be manual application or integrated into a system that automates the process.

Water Activated Tape - Also known as Gummed Tape, Gummed Paper Tape and Kraft Tape, Box sealing tape, corrugate tape, corrugators tape, case sealing tape, carton tape and the like.