

Customer Focus: Lantmännen



Lisa Carlsson, quality manager at Lantmännen's feed factory in Kimstad, in front of the company's new Autopac bag filler. In the factory, mineral feed and nutritional supplements are packaged in 25-kilo bags.

Reliable packaging important when LM acquired Autopac EC

Lantmännen's feed plant in southeast Sweden packages nutritional supplements for animals. When the factory needed to modernize its bag filling, the choice fell on Vebe's Autopac EC 3.30.

The Swedish cooperative Lantmännen, LM, has 10,000 employees in around 20 countries and an annual turnover of SEK 60 billion. The main task is to supply its members with seed, fertilizer and fodder, but they also refine and sell what the farmers grow.

Nutritional supplements for animals are mixed and packaged in Lantmännen's factory in Kimstad outside Norrköping. Mineral feed and vitamin mixtures in pellet and powder form are filled in 25-kilo paper bags that are transported to retailers and farms around Sweden and Europe.

The factory recently modernized its bag filler line with an Autopac EC 3.30 from Vebe.

"The previous machine suffered from recurring downtime, and it was difficult to find spare parts. We now run our Autopac in daily shifts of 4–6 hours without problems," says Lisa Carlsson, quality manager at the factory.

Lantmännen already has two machines from Vebe Teknik on site in the same factory: a bag filler and a robot. "A good collaboration that lives on," says Lisa.

"Production feels safer now and Vebe provides quick service, if the need exists. Some features we like about our Autopac are that the scale prevents spillage and that the bag filler automatically returns to the same position when our old label machine stops the process for filling.

The Autopac EC 3.30 is one of Vebe's compact models and, just like larger models, has the possibility of being modified with various options. The machine also complies with the high demands on hygiene and cleaning included in the Easy-Clean concept.

"Before, we used a machine with a more open design, which resulted in a lot of dust and dirt." Vebe's Autopac has a closed design that emits less dust and is also easier to clean.

Lantmännen's factory in Kimstad now has plans to upgrade its pallet loaders and wrappers, for which Vebe can deliver solutions as well.

"We have a good working relationship with Vebe Teknik, and we'll see what happens in the future," says Lisa Carlsson. ■

Vebe continues its export investment

Vebe Teknik continues to create new collaborations in Europe. The latest alliance is with a system supplier in Ukraine.

Vebe Teknik now has its own system suppliers in 10 European countries, including Estonia, Turkey, Norway, Finland and Denmark. A new addition is war-torn Ukraine, where Vebe has for some months now appointed a coordinator who handles sales and marketing within the country.

"Because of the war, it is impossible for our staff to go to Ukraine, and it's difficult for the Ukrainians to come here. With a system supplier on location, great opportunities open up. Ukraine is a huge market," says Tony Douhàn, sales manager at Vebe Teknik.

The new system supplier can, among other things, make it easier for Ukrainian personnel to come to Sweden and receive training in the production, assembly, setup and operation of Vebe's products.

"It feels good and important to contribute to a belief in the future and optimism," says Tony Douhàn. ■

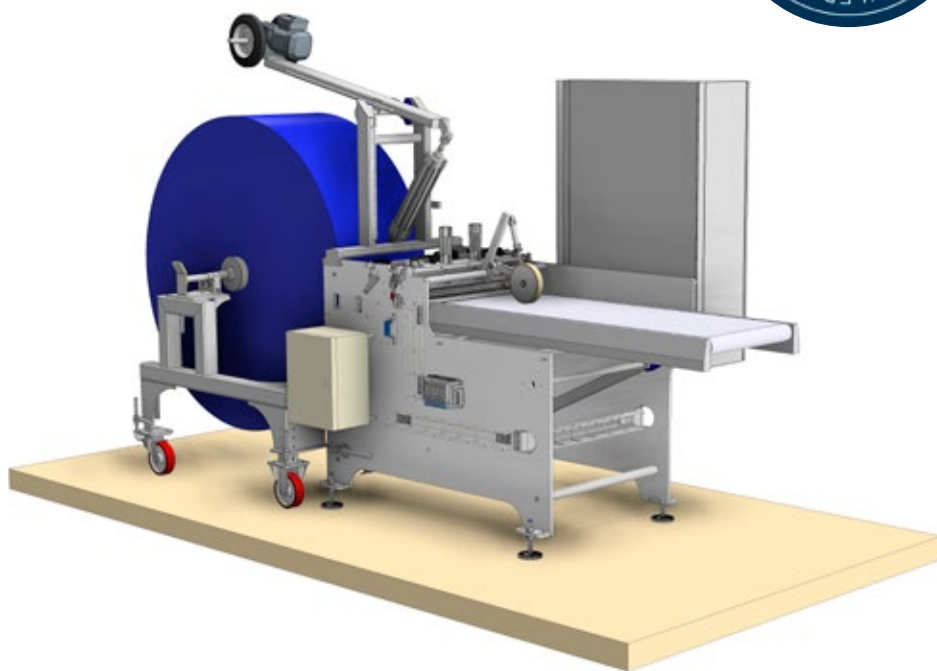


Tony Douhàn, sales manager at Vebe Teknik.



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Autobag opens up the possibility of customizing your own bag sizes. The roll of 3000 meters is usually enough to make bags for an entire work shift.

Autobag – versatile machine for both large and small needs

Packing in plastic has proven to be a strong trend in the market, and Vebe's long-running Autobag gives customers the opportunity to easily adjust bag sizes as needed.

"There are many advantages to being able to tailor the bag sizes. Autobag is a good investment regardless of whether you run

large editions or shorter series," says Tony Douhàn, sales manager at Vebe.

The roll of 3000 meters of tube is usually enough to make bags for an entire work shift. Autobag can directly feed bags into an Autopac or act as a bag manufacturer for external needs. ■

The new IRB 660 stacks higher pallets

NEW TECHNOLOGY. Vebe expands its range of palletizing robots. The new IRB 660 has a longer reach and can therefore stack higher pallets.

Vebe's new palletizing robot, like the previous model IRB 460, has a specially made gripping tool for bags as well as for empty pallets and slipsheets. The new IRB 660, however, has a longer reach and can load bags up to 2.40 meters.

"If you ship in a container, for example, there may be a need to load higher pallets to save space," says Håkan Söderstrand, salesperson at Vebe Teknik.

As with previous models, the IRB 660 has a built-in sensor for automatic height measurement in the gripping tool. The sensor enables the robot to load on pallets regardless of bag height. ■



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Martin Gustafsson is warehouse manager at Vebe. In his spare time he likes motocross and cycling.

Martin keeps Vebe's spare parts in order

Martin Gustafsson, 30, has been warehouse manager at Vebe Teknik for a year now. Martin manages the company's extensive inventory of spare parts for both old and new projects. If you order a spare part, it is probably Martin who will see to it that it arrives.

"It is exciting and versatile work. I also receive goods and help with the installation of new machines. There is always something to do, and it's important to keep things in order," says Martin. In his spare time he likes to bike and ride motocross. ■

