

Local checkweighing ingenuity: **Ward**

Melbourne-based Ward Materials Handling Solutions is going from strength to strength since the sale of its first checkweighing system in 1999.

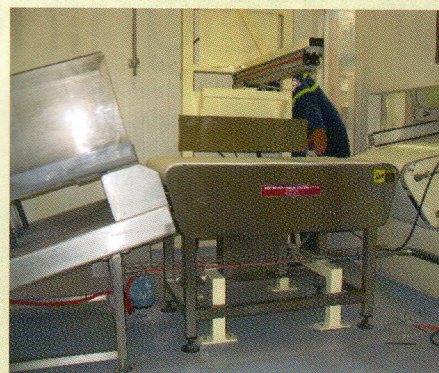
From a background in packaging project management and a stint with Mettler Toledo, Simon Ward established Ward Materials Handling Solutions after identifying a hole in the market for a cost-effective checkweighing solution that could be used by a variety of manufacturing industries.

"There was a distinct need for a cost-effective checkweighing solution that didn't have a lot of unnecessary bells and whistles," explains Ward.

"In 1999 I designed, developed and marketed the Low Cost Australian manufactured in-motion Checkweigher. My objective was to develop a robust, reliable, simple to use, quality built and affordable checkweigher for verifying the weight and integrity of products



Ward Materials Handling Solutions LC-Checkweigher is used in a range of industries, such as food, dairy, poultry, confectionery, beverage, brewery, cement, pet food, logistics, plastics, paper, pharmaceutical, distribution centres and electronic.



in packages, sacks, boxes, bags or bundles," says Ward.

Since then, Ward has supplied his LC Checkweigher to a number of Blue Chip companies in Australia as well as shifting a number of units into South East Asia, doubling turnover annually. Ward attributes the success of the LC Checkweigher to its sim-

plicity and versatility.

"The system exists as an off-the-shelf model but it can also be customised to suit a variety of checkweighing demands.

"I'm finding a big area of demand due to the fact the system is easily customised," says Ward.

HJ Heinz, for example,

recently installed two customised units and selected the LC Checkweigher due to its adaptability to suit its current packaging line set-up.

For more information contact Ward Materials Handling Solutions on (03) 9578 4590 or email: simonward@iprimus.com.au.

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German-manufactured OCS checkweighers, available in Australia through MPI, are built to satisfy the highest demands of throughput speed, accuracy and data processing.

Taking a closer look at the range, the OCS EC-M offers a good entry level platform recommended for most applications. With performances of up to 230 weighings per minute, checkweighers in this series cover a wide speed and applications spectrum with consistently high accuracy.

Applications in humid or wet environments can be easily implemented thanks to stainless steel or high-pressure cleaner resistant belts and complete encapsulation of the EC-M-NH model checkweigher.

A comprehensive and up-to-date statistics program package supplements all the applications. Through an easily set-up link using OCS' ComScale NT software, production data from all OCS weighers connected to the system is centrally acquired, evaluated and made available to any PC on a network.

High-end applications with speeds of up to 600 packs per minute or with higher accuracy requirements (such as pharmaceutical applications) are covered by the HC-series of checkweighers.

HC model checkweighers are based on an industrial PC control system.

HC checkweighers provide individual filling head regulation and statistics, graphical evaluation and the tools for setting parameters. The HC machine can be expanded to carry out production checks (open flaps, missing caps, inclined positions etc) and it is used as the central connection and control unit for the integration of peripheral tools.

As an example of this, the HC-Mdi, which permits the complete integration of metal detectors into the control system of the checkweigher.

For more information on OCS checkweighers contact MPI Australia Pty Ltd in Sydney (02 9648 3011), Melbourne (03 9755 5866) and Brisbane (07 3422 0811).