

AUTOMATIC PALLETIZING SYSTEMS







Automatic palletizing systems

» SMI palletizing systems set a new standard in the scenario of robotized palletizers equipped with two Cartesian axes.

SMI's APS series is the result of intense research and innovation, which has allowed us to implement technologically advanced systems that now offer each user the packaging solution best suited to his/her needs.

SMI palletizing systems are able to optimize the end-of-line operations of many industrial sectors: beverage production, agricultural and food, chemicals, pharmaceuticals, detergents, glass, paper and many others.

The APS series consists of automatic systems that palletize cardboard blanks, packets, trays, and packs in general.

By integrating the system main functions into the central column, SMI's palletizing systems are extremely compact and easily adaptable to any logistic condition of the end-of-line area, both in existing systems and in new installations.















SMI palletizing systems are able to optimize the end-of-line operations of many industrial sectors: beverage production, agricultural and food, chemicals, pharmaceuticals, detergents, glass, paper and many others.

» Fast and accurate operations

APS series palletizers are equipped with independent machine axes driven by electronically-controlled brushless motors, which ensure fast, smooth and accurate movements.

The use of this solution in the field of palletizing systems, characterized by repetitive actions, enables to achieve high reliability and reduce maintenance and running costs.

» Innovative technology and ease of use

Both machine automation and control rely on innovative technology based on Sercos fieldbus, through which the operator can quickly and easily manage all palletizing operations at the end of the line using a simple and user-friendly man-machine interface.

System management is made even easier by the use of advanced graphics, touch screens and a wide range of diagnostics and technical support available in real time. The system's high degree of automation features low energy costs as well as low running and maintenance costs.

» Guaranteed strength and reliability

The accurate sizing of both the column and the horizontal beam, combined with their sliding on recirculating ball runners, ensure fluid and continuous movements with minimal dynamic buckling and virtually no vibrations: this ensures a long lifecycle of the mechanical components.



» Maximum safety at all times

The range of SMI's APS series palletizers is equipped with a brand new dedicated "Safety PLC", which allows you to program the safety systems in a flexible, reliable and efficient manner.

The PLC monitors the proper



operation of all the machine's safety devices, integrating them together. It also allows the user to create custom protection areas within the perimeter of the palletizing system.

This significantly reduces machine downtime both in case of emergencies and during the loading operations of pallets, interlayer pads, etc., thanks to differentiated logics for the various areas of intervention.

As such, maintenance is easier and any adjustment to future safety standards will be faster and safer as they will be upgraded directly via the PLC's program.

» Energy savings and reduced maintenance

SMI's APS palletizing systems easily fit into existing or newly installed packaging lines and are immediately operational. By integrating multiple functions into just a few operating units, these systems are assembled, pre-wired and tested at the factory before delivery, hence minimizing assembly and start-up at the customer's facility. The system's high degree of automation, its mechanical simplicity, the use of robot-based components and its structural optimization allow a significant cut in maintenance costs and reduction in energy consumption, as well as the extension of the system's life cycle.

» Low transportation costs

The single-column module fits easily inside a standard 20' container, which reduces transportation and storage costs and simplifies shipping paperwork. Each module is assembled, pre-wired and tested before delivery, which simplifies and quickens assembly and start-up at the customer's facility. Central column lifting by crane.



	FEATURES	SPEED*
APS 1540	LAYER FORMATION WITH 90°PRODUCT INFEED	40 PPM 120 LPH
APS 1570	LAYER FORMATION WITH 90°PRODUCT INFEED	70 PPM 200 LPH
APS 3070 L APS 3105 L APS 3140 L	MANIPULATOR-EQUIPPED IN-LINE LAYER PRE-COMPOSITION/S	70 PPM / 200 LPH 105 PPM / 300 LPH 140 PPM / 300 LPH

* Maximum speed referred to columnar pattern 21 (no pack rotation).
3x2 packs, 1.5 L bottles (PPM: packs per minute - LPH: layers per hour).

UP TO 40 PPM*

» Fixed column with loading head

The APS 1540 is made up of a singlecolumn palletizing system with two Cartesian axes, with bottom-up movements.

The vertical axis consists of a fixed column on which the horizontal beam slides on recirculating ball guides; the loading head slides horizontally on said beam, always on recirculating ball guides.

The beam's vertical movements and the horizontal ones of the head-holder are driven by brushless motors, which ensure perfect trajectories during all palletizing phases.

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- Compact layout: the central column is equipped with a loading head (basket) moving along two Cartesian axes
- Layer formation with 90° product infeed
- Pre-assembled modules for easy and fast assembly and start-up
- Smooth movements of the horizontal beam on recirculating ball skids
- Independent machine axes controlled by brushless motors for fast and precise movements
- Independent pallet magazine for pallet feeding
- Independent layer-inserting device for layer feeding (optional)

- Maximum output rate of 40 packs per minute (120 layers / hour), referred to columnar pattern 21 (no pack rotation), 3 x 2 packs, 1.5 L bottles
- Pallets handled: europallet 800x1200 mm and 1000x1200 mm (other formats upon request)
- Layer formation by loading head (basket), which eliminates pattern workability limits
- Pack rotation (accessory on sale) occurs by pneumatic contrast
- The interlayer pad-inserting device is an accessory on sale; the new version enables to load directly the whole pallet of pads (the pallet has to comply with specific tolerances)

» Single-entry infeed with 90° layer-forming system

Single-entry infeed with 90° layer-forming system equipped with: 1 rubberized cadencing belt, 1 product infeed belt, in order to form the row and 1 oneway translation system that contributes to forming the layer into the basket. The layer-forming system is

equipped with energy-efficient motors. Designed in accordance with FCR (Full Cost Reduction) methodologies, it is tested and supplied to the client fully assembled and cabled. Start-up time is really short, since it consists in connecting the connectored cable of signals and power of sercos fieldbus to the central module of APS palletizing system. The ergonomic and functional structure of the frame allows the operator to easily carry out all the operations related to the use and maintenance of the plant.

» Row transfer device



The row transfer process is managed by a motorized bar. After a row is formed, it gets pushed straight away into the loading head (basket). The system is equipped with a "dead" plate (buffer), which enables to continue with the row push-in operations even when the head is not yet in the loading position. » Empty pallet magazine



» Pallet roller conveyor

pallets Maximum height: 1800mm Pile maximum weight: 300 kg

Standard: 1 pile of empty

• Optional: stackable pallet magazine, suitable for very heavy pallets (up to 700 kg)

Frame in painted steel and rollers with 76 mm ø 150 mm pitch, motorised through a 5/8 inch chain. Electronically reversible central motorization. The system is tested in SMI factory and is supplied to the client fully assembled and cabled. Available in different lengths: 1500 mm, 2000 mm, 2500 mm and 3000 mm.



Optional devices





» Layer-inserting device



pallet of interlayer pads without stopping the machine (through the addition of one station for loading pallets of interlayer pads and one station for unloading empty pallets).



This optional system allows to turn packs being fed to the palletizer by means of a contrast cylinder. If packs get to the machine with the short side leading, a second optional cylinder is available to ease the rotation process.

pad feeding system adjustable in accordance with the size of the interlayer pad, that can be combined with the central column of the APS ERGON palletizer. Suctioncup gripping system from 4 up to 8 adjustable points to ensure the accurate lifting of any kind of interlayer. The interlayer pad automatic loading is available as optional and allows to load the

The pad-inserting module is a



UP TO 70 PPM*

» Fixed column with loading head

The APS 1570 is made up of a singlecolumn palletizing system with two Cartesian axes, with bottom-up movements.

The vertical axis consists of a fixed column on which the horizontal beam slides on recirculating ball guides; the loading head slides horizontally on said beam, always on recirculating ball guides.

The beam's vertical movements and the horizontal ones of the head-holder are driven by brushless motors, which ensure perfect trajectories during all palletizing phases.

» Main features

- Compact layout: the central column is equipped with a loading head (basket) moving along two Cartesian axes
- Layer formation with 90° product infeed
- Pre-assembled modules for easy and fast assembly and start-up
- Smooth movements of the horizontal beam on recirculating ball skids
- Independent machine axes controlled by brushless motors for fast and precise movements
- Independent pallet magazine for pallet feeding
- Independent layer-inserting device for layer feeding (optional)

- Maximum output rate of 70 packs per minute (200 layers / hour), referred to columnar pattern 21 (no pack rotation), 3 x 2 packs, 1.5 L bottles
- Pallets handled: europallet 800x1200 mm and 1000x1200 mm (other formats upon request)
- Layer formation by loading head (basket), which eliminates pattern workability limits
- Pack rotation occurs by pneumatic contrast or by motorized manipulator (accessories on sale)
- The interlayer pad-inserting device is an accessory on sale: the new version enables to load directly the whole pallet of pads (the pallet has to comply with specific tolerances)

*Max speed referred to columnar pattern 21 (no pack rotation), 3 x 2 packs, 1,5 L bottles. (PPM: packs per minute - LPH: layers per hour)

» Single-entry infeed with 90° layer-forming system

Single-entry infeed 90° layer-forming system equipped with: 1 rubberized cadencing belt, 1 product infeed belt. in order to form the row and 1 onetranslation system wav that contributes to forming the layer into the basket. layer-forming system The is equipped with energyefficient motors. Designed in

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accordance with FCR (Full Cost Reduction) methodologies, it is tested and supplied to the client fully assembled and cabled. Start-up time is really short, since it consists in connecting the connectored cable of signals and power of sercos fieldbus to the central module of APS palletizing system. The ergonomic and functional structure of the frame allows the operator to easily carry out all the operations related to the use and maintenance of the plant.

Row transfer device >>



The row transfer process is managed by a motorized bar. After a row is formed, it gets pushed straight away into the loading head (basket). The system is equipped with a "dead" plate (buffer), which enables to continue with the row push-in operations even when the head is not yet in the loading position.

Empty pallet magazine **>>**



» Pallet roller conveyor



Standard: 1 pile of empty pallets Maximum height: 1800 mm

Pile maximum weight: 300 ka

• Optional: stackable pallet magazine, suitable for very heavy pallets (up to 700 kg)

Frame in painted steel and rollers with 76 mm ø 150 mm pitch, motorised through a 5/8 inch chain. Electronically reversible central motorization. The system is tested in SMI factory and is supplied to the client fully assembled and cabled. Available in different lengths: 1500 mm, 2000 mm, 2500 mm and 3000 mm.



» Pack rotation devices

Optional devices



» Motorized manipulator



» Layer-inserting device



This optional system allows to turn packs being fed to the palletizer by means of a contrast cylinder. If packs get to the machine with the short side leading, a second optional cylinder is available to ease the rotation process.

On the APS 1570 pack rotation can also be carried out by a motorized manipulator (optional device).

The pad-inserting module is a pad feeding system adjustable in accordance with the size of the interlayer pad, that can be combined with the central column of the APS ERGON palletizer. Suctioncup gripping system from 4 up to 8 adjustable points to ensure the accurate lifting of any kind of interlayer. The interlayer pad automatic loading is available as optional and allows to load the

pallet of interlayer pads without stopping the machine (through the addition of one station for loading pallets of interlayer pads and one station for unloading empty pallets).

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UP TO 70 PPM*

» Fixed column with loading head

The APS 3070 L is made up of a single-column palletizing system with two Cartesian axes, with bottom-up movements. The vertical axis consists of a fixed column on which the horizontal beam slides on recirculating ball guides; the loading head slides horizontally on said beam, always on recirculating ball guides. The beam's vertical movements and the horizontal ones of the head-holder are driven by brushless motors, which ensure perfect trajectories during all palletizing phases.



- Compact layout: the central column is equipped with a loading head (basket) moving along two Cartesian axes
- Continuous layer-forming system with a motorized manipulator
- · Pre-assembled modules for easy and fast assembly and start-up
- Smooth movements of the horizontal beam on recirculating ball skids
- Independent machine axes controlled by brushless motors for fast and precise movements

- Independent pallet magazine for pallet feeding
- Independent layer-inserting device for layer feeding (optional)
- Pallets handled: europallet 800x1200 mm and 1000x1200 mm (other formats upon request)
- The interlayer pad-inserting device is an accessory on sale: the new version enables to load directly the whole pallet of pads (the pallet has to comply with specific tolerances)

» In-line layer pre-forming infeed

By means of an innovative system of pack rotation and/ or manipulation in continuous motion on three Cartesian axes (x, y and z), bundles coming along a belt in single (APS 3070 L) or double (APS 3105 L e 3140 L) lane are turned, shifted and arranged onto

multiple lanes according to the palletization scheme, thus pre-forming the layer. A special mechanical actuator separates the pre-formed layer from the accumulating bundles, while the manipulation system prepares the next layer. The layer thus formed is smoothly conveyed into the basket as it exploits the motion of the belt and does not require mechanical layertraslation elements. The continuous layer-forming infeed allows to streamline end-of-line space management. This new system distinguishes itself for its one-way motion and for the possibility to arrange the bundles in whichever position. The layer-forming system is equipped with sliding safety guards in anodised aluminium featuring a rounded shape which let all the motors (featuring low energy consumption) be placed externally if compared to the mechanical groups they activate. The closing system of safety guards is equipped with a slowdown device, which accompanies them smoothly in their final phase of closure. The ergonomic and functional frame enables the operator to carry out easily all activities related to use and maintenance of the installation. Accident-prevention protections are made of aluminium and lucid polycarbonate (PC) in compliance with EC regulations.

Empty pallet magazine >>



Pallet roller conveyor **>>**



Painted steel frame. Rollers with 76 mm Ø and 150 mm pitch, motorized through a 5/8 inch chain. Electronically reversible central motorization. The system is controlled by the main electrical cabinet. Designed in accordance with FCR (Full Cost Reduction) it is tested and supplied to the customer completely mounted and cabled.

Standard: 1 pile of empty

Maximum height: 1800 mm

• Optional: stackable pallet

magazine, suitable for very

pallets

kg



» Layer-inserting device

Optional devices



The pad-inserting module is a pad feeding system adjustable in accordance with the size of the interlayer pad, that can be combined with the central column of the APS ERGON palletizer. Suctioncup gripping system from 4 up to 8 adjustable points to ensure the accurate lifting of any kind of interlayer. The interlayer pad automatic loading is available as optional and allows to load the pallet

of interlayer pads without stopping the machine (through the addition of one station for loading pallets of interlayer pads and one station for unloading empty pallets).



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UP TO 105 PPM*

» Fixed column with loading head

The APS 3105 L is made up of a single-column palletizing system with two Cartesian axes, with bottom-up movements. The vertical axis consists of a fixed column on which the horizontal beam slides on recirculating ball guides: the loading head slides horizontally on said beam, always on recirculating ball guides. The beam's vertical movements and the horizontal ones of the head-holder are driven by brushless motors, which ensure perfect trajectories during all palletizing phases.

- Compact layout: the central column is equipped with a loading head (basket) moving along two Cartesian axes
- Continuous layer-forming system with two motorized manipulators
- Pre-assembled modules for easy and fast assembly and start-up
- Smooth movements of the horizontal beam on recirculating ball skids
- Independent machine axes controlled by brushless motors for fast and precise movements

- Independent pallet magazine for pallet feeding
- Independent layer-inserting device for layer feeding (optional)
- Pallets handled: europallet 800x1200 mm and 1000x1200 mm (other formats upon request)
- The interlayer pad-inserting device is an accessory on sale: the new version enables to load directly the whole pallet of pads (the pallet has to comply with specific tolerances)

» In-line layer pre-forming infeed



By means of an innovative system of pack rotation and/or manipulation in continuous motion on three Cartesian axes (x, y and z), bundles coming along a belt in single (APS 3070 L) or double (APS 3105 L e 3140 L) lane are turned, shifted and arranged onto multiple lanes according to the palletization scheme, thus pre-forming the layer. A special mechanical actuator separates the pre-formed layer from the accumulating bundles, while the manipulation system prepares the next layer. The layer thus formed is smoothly conveyed into the basket as it exploits the motion of the belt and does not require mechanical layer-traslation elements. The continuous layer-forming infeed allows to streamline end-of-line space management. This new system distinguishes itself for its one-way motion and for the possibility to arrange the bundles in whichever position. The layer-forming system is equipped with sliding safety guards in anodised aluminium featuring a rounded shape which let all the motors (featuring low energy consumption) be placed externally if compared to the mechanical groups they activate. The closing system of safety guards is equipped with a slowdown device, which accompanies them smoothly in their final phase of closure. The ergonomic and functional frame enables the operator to carry out easily all activities related to use and maintenance of the installation. Accident-prevention protections are made of aluminium and lucid polycarbonate (PC) in compliance with EC regulations.

Empty pallet magazine



Pallet roller conveyor **>>**



Painted steel frame. Rollers with 76 mm Ø and 150 mm pitch, motorized through a 5/8 inch chain. Electronically reversible central motorization. The system is controlled by the main electrical cabinet. Designed in accordance with FCR (Full Cost Reduction) it is tested and supplied to the customer completely mounted and cabled.

pallets

kg



Optional devices

» Layer-inserting device



The pad-inserting module is a pad feeding system adjustable in accordance with the size of the interlayer pad, that can be combined with the central column of the APS ERGON palletizer. Suctioncup gripping system from 4 up to 8 adjustable points to ensure the accurate lifting of any kind of interlayer. The interlayer pad automatic loading is available as optional and allows to load the pallet

of interlayer pads without stopping the machine (through the addition of one station for loading pallets of interlayer pads and one station for unloading empty pallets).



UP TO 140 PPM*

» Fixed column with loading head

The APS 3140 L is made up of a single-column palletizing system with two Cartesian axes, with bottom-up movements. The vertical axis consists of a fixed column on which the horizontal beam slides on recirculating ball guides; the loading head slides horizontally on said beam, always on recirculating ball guides. The beam's vertical movements and the horizontal ones of the head-holder are driven by brushless motors, which ensure perfect trajectories during all palletizing phases.

- Compact layout: the central column is equipped with a loading head (basket) moving along two Cartesian axes
- Continuous layer-forming system with three motorized manipulators
- Pre-assembled modules for easy and fast assembly and start-up
- Smooth movements of the horizontal beam on recirculating ball skids
- Independent machine axes controlled by brushless motors for fast and precise movements

- Independent pallet magazine for pallet feeding
- Independent layer-inserting device for layer feeding (optional)
- Pallets handled: europallet 800x1200 mm and 1000x1200 mm (other formats upon request)
- The interlayer pad-inserting device is an accessory on sale: the new version enables to load directly the whole pallet of pads (the pallet has to comply with specific tolerances)

» In-line layer pre-forming infeed



By means of an innovative system of pack rotation and/or manipulation in continuous motion on three Cartesian axes (x, y and z), bundles coming along a belt in single (APS 3070 L) or double (APS 3105 L e 3140 L) lane are turned, shifted and arranged onto multiple lanes according to the palletization scheme, thus pre-forming the layer. A special mechanical actuator separates the pre-formed layer from the accumulating bundles, while the manipulation system prepares the next layer. The layer thus formed is smoothly conveyed into the basket as it exploits the motion of the belt and does not require mechanical layer-traslation elements. The continuous layer-forming infeed allows to streamline end-of-line space management. This new system distinguishes itself for its one-way motion and for the possibility to arrange the bundles in whichever position. The layer-forming system is equipped with sliding safety guards in anodised aluminium featuring a rounded shape which let all the motors (featuring low energy consumption) be placed externally if compared to the mechanical groups they activate. The closing system of safety guards is equipped with a slowdown device, which accompanies them smoothly in their final phase of closure. The ergonomic and functional frame enables the operator to carry out easily all activities related to use and maintenance of the installation. Accident-prevention protections are made of aluminium and lucid polycarbonate (PC) in compliance with EC regulations.

Empty pallet magazine }



Pallet roller conveyor **>>**



Painted steel frame. Rollers with 76 mm Ø and 150 mm pitch, motorized through a 5/8 inch chain. Electronically reversible central motorization. The system is controlled by the main electrical cabinet. Designed in accordance with FCR (Full Cost Reduction) it is tested and supplied to the customer completely mounted and cabled.

pallets

kg



Optional devices

» Layer-inserting device



The pad-inserting module is a pad feeding system adjustable in accordance with the size of the interlayer pad, that can be combined with the central column of the APS ERGON palletizer. Suctioncup gripping system from 4 up to 8 adjustable points to ensure the accurate lifting of any kind of interlayer. The interlayer pad automatic loading is available as optional and allows to load the pallet

of interlayer pads without stopping the machine (through the addition of one station for loading pallets of interlayer pads and one station for unloading empty pallets).



Packposer

The Packposer divider-laner receives the packs coming from the packer positioned upstream and, by means of an innovative manipulation system based on three Cartesian axes (x, y and z) and equipped with a motorized gripper, turns them and/or arranges them on two or more lanes, thus composing the format of repackaging set by the packaging machine's work positioned downstream. program The divider is made of top-quality materials, ensuring operational reliability and long-term duration. The use of wear-resistant components minimizes the maintenance and cleaning operations, thus reducing the total operating costs.

Packsorter

The Packsorter divider-laner receives the packs in single lane coming from the packer positioned upstream and, by means of an innovative manipulation system based on three Cartesian axes (x, y and z), arranges them on two or more lanes and conveys them toward the automatic palletization system positioned downstream.

The divider can receive also packs in double lane, thus working simply as a conveyor toward the palletizer.

The divider is made of top-quality materials, ensuring operational reliability and long-term duration.

The use of wear-resistant components minimizes the maintenance and cleaning operations, thus reducing the total operating costs.

Automation

SMI only manufactures advanced technology palletizers, featuring modular design, operating flexibility and highenergy efficiency, thanks to fully automatic processes, electronically controlled drive shafts and field bus wiring.

The hardware and software components are "open" and modular, in compliance with the

most important international certifications and rely upon consolidated standards of the industrial field and of the packaging sector: OMAC guidelines (Open Modular Architecture Controls), sercos, PROFIBUS, IEC61131, OPC, Industrial PC.

In particular, by following the OMAC guidelines and the Omac Packaging Workgroup (OPW), SMI can guarantee easy integration with the other machines in line, user-friendly technology and maintenance of the investment value.

Moreover, SMI systems are compliant with the technical requirements of Industry 4.0 and IoT (Internet of Things) technologies, which allow to easily and effectively run production lines within a "Smart Factory", even remotely through mobile devices.







Sercos the automation bus



The automation and control system of SMI machines, called MotorNet System®, includes the following hardware components: MARTS (process controller). POSYC (man-machine interface), COSMOS (digital servodriver for brushless motors), dGATE and aGATE (remote IP65 I/O digital/analogic modules).

The MARTS is a PAC (Programmable Automation Controller), based on an industrial PC, which can be programmed in IEC61131 languages. The COSMOS servodrivers and the dGATE/aGATE I/O modules are connected to the PAC via sercos.

The POSYC is a HMI terminal, (touch screen IP65), based on an industrial PC with solid state drives.



MotorNet System®





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