

AutoLaner™

Automated Bun Laning System

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System Description

The AutoLaner is a series of controlled lanes that automatically divides a randomly distributed product stream equally into multiple lanes (typically 4 or 6).

The AutoLaner is designed to be installed downstream from an MT-Series 100% Inspection System. Combining these two units automates the supply of a continuous stream of inspected and evenly laned products to packing equipment.



Products enter the AutoLaner randomly and are spread across the laning conveyor in a random pattern. A series of automatic product gates move products to each lane without jamming. Once inside the lanes, the flow of each lane is metered so that a precise number of objects is fed to downstream equipment (typically the slicer). Metering the outflow of individual pieces is performed using a combination of sensors and a high-speed controller to dynamically control the gates.

The entire system is normally installed immediately before the slicer/indexer, and simply replaces a section of existing conveyor.



Key Benefits:

- *Automatically feeds equal numbers of product to each lane*
- *Eliminates the need for manual laning normally required in packaging*
- *Ensures constant, monitored and regulated flow into packaging equipment*
- *Reduces product handling*
- *Can dramatically improve switchovers and film changes by allowing for a logical control of overall product flow*
- *Adjustable and removable lanes allow flexibility in flow management for various product sizes including non-circular products*
- *Handles at least 150 pieces per minute per lane (4 lane=600ppm, 6 lane=900ppm, 2* 4 lanes = 1200ppm, etc.)*
- *Customized AutoLaners available*

System Features

Each AutoLaner can be installed directly in-line with production conveyors, and includes:

- Laning conveyor, with adjustable and removable lane guides
- System PLC, enclosure and product flow sensors
- Adjustable stand
- Manual conveyor start/stop and speed adjustment
- External relays and inputs for integration into existing plant conveyor controls
- NEMA4, 4X and 4X caustic wash down compliance