

WEBSTER GRIFFIN'S SWEET TASTE OF SUCCESS IN JEDDAH



United Sugar Company, Jeddah, is reinforcing its status as the world's most advanced sugar refinery, packing all grades of coarse and fine granulated sugar into 50kg bags to 25 tonne tankers.

Owned by Saudi-based Savola Group, the plant in Jeddah was the Kingdom's first sugar refinery, with the capacity to increase towards 1 million tonnes per year, they turned to Webster Griffin for help in meeting their home demand. After successfully installing one bulk bag filling system in 2001, United Sugar Company (USC) ordered two more FIBC filling systems and two additional 50kg bagging lines.

The main bulk bag filling systems fill four-loop PE coated big bags to an established throughput of 30/40 x 1200kg bags per hour. The system comprises of two IBC-PF2 big bag filling systems, along with product dosing valve, bag inflation system, belt conveyors and operators platform.

On these lines the empty bag is raised during inflation, the filling spout and sides of the bag are held in tension during the complete weigh-fill cycle in order to ensure that filled bags have straight sides and are filled without kinks in order to ensure they are stable when stacked.



The filling spout on the IBC-PF2 machine was supplied with pneumatically operated flaps which close at the end of the filling cycle to prevent any residual product from dropping onto the top of the container as it is removed from the filling position – resulting in a clean, secure bag which is essential in a warm climate.



Mr. Abutallib – Purchasing Manager & FIBC machine



The two 50kg bagging lines pack two different grades of sugar into 50kg bags.

Fine grain white sugar, branded as 'Saudi sugar' is packed and sold to beverage, confectionary and ice cream manufacturers, whereas the coarse grain white sugar is sold for consumers daily use.

A heavy duty powered belt conveyor receives the filled bags from the filling spout on the packing machine and supports them whilst they are manually stretched and fed through the bag top stitcher.

After the bags are sealed, they are turned and laid down flat so they can be fed onto the automatic check weigher – when an under or over-weight bag is detected the weighing belt will stop and an audible alarm will sound. The operator will then have to remove the bag and restart the system.



Four years since the first machine was installed, USC is truly established, operating to world class standards and applying their newly acquired knowledge and expertise. By installing a new packing line not only have USC been able to make the most of this natural resource, but have emerged as a reputed supplier of Sugar in Saudi Arabia and abroad.

After Webster Griffin had installed and commissioned the filling machines the production capacity increased to an impressive 805,000 tonnes per annum – nearly double the amount produced in 1998.