

## Application : Fruit Canning Plant: Pitter room ‘Merry go round’

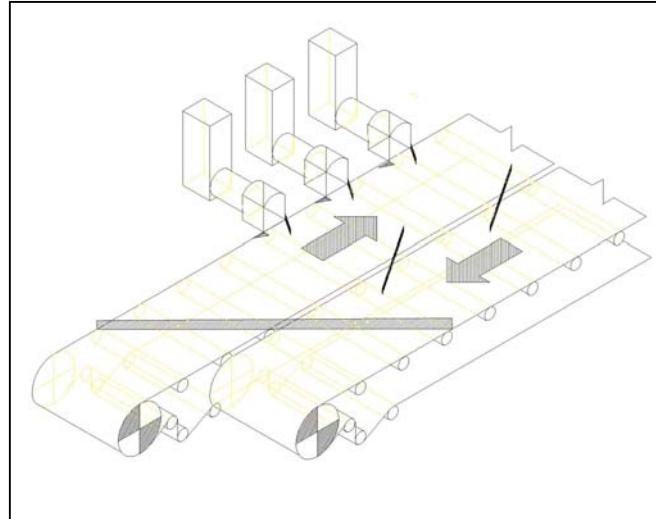
### Data

**Environment:** Indoor, ambient temperature

**Product on belt:** Peaches

#### **Process description:**

The peaches are transferred on a conveyor that is running perpendicular above 5 sets of belts. The biggest peaches are going to the first set of belts, and the smallest ones are going to the last set. Each set of belts are running in opposite directions. The peaches are kicked into holes, where they roll through a tube to the machine. This machine cuts the peaches into halves, and cuts the pit out of it. There are 21 machines alongside every conveyor. Each machine halves 60 to 70 peaches a minute, which equals 110 ton of peaches/hour for all the machines together.



Since only one peach can go through a hole at the same time you may have overflow. If this occurs, a metal plate guides the peach to another belt. In this way a peach eventually will get sorted. To stimulate the peaches to move into the direction of the holes, both conveyors are sloped, i.e. the edge that is on the side of the other conveyor is  $3/16"$  (4.76mm) higher. There are also metal guides above the belt that guide the peaches to the holes.

Afterwards both the two halves of the peach and the pit drop onto the belt of the lower conveyor. This belt transports them to a  $23\frac{5}{8}"$  (600mm) wide conveyor that will move the peaches to the next processing step.

#### **Belt requirements:**

**Endless:**

The belts have to be endless, because lacing would damage the peaches.

**FDA Approved:**

Since there is food involved, the belt has to be FDA approved.

**Stain resistant:**

When the customers visit the factory the belts must not be stained by the peach juices.

**Non marking:**

The belt may not mark the peaches.

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### **Current Belt Problem:**

*White 120 pound PVC belt*

This belt has a lifetime of approximately only one year and the belt stains relatively quickly.

### **Solution:**

*Chemprene 3-ply White Nitrile Cover by Cover*

The vulcanized Chemprene White Nitrile meets all the requirements, e.g. it is FDA approved, moisture resistant, is not stained by the peaches and the belt does not mark the peaches. The lifetime of is approximately 4 to 5 years.

#### **Details:**

Minimum pulley diameter	: 6" (152.4mm)
Center to center distance	: 150' (45.72m)
Belt width	: 18" (457.2mm)
Speed	: 68/min (20.73 m/min)
Splice	: Vulcanized step splice
Support	: Roller bed
Number of belts	: 5 times 2

Sloped in the width with height difference of 3/16" (4.76mm)

#### *Remark:*

In this application the belts do not incline nor decline, have no knife edges, no crowning, no scrapers, and are not troughed.

