

The high-quality hygiene devices from ADS-TEC have decisive added benefits and are used in the new inspection machines from KS Control GmbH to inspect glass and PET bottles in the beverage industry effectively.

KS Control is one of the leading specialists in the field of control and automation technology for filling plants of beverage producers and breweries. Based on many years of experience, the company, headquartered in Mintraching near Regensburg in Bavaria, develops highly efficient automated solutions for the inspection of glass and PET bottles for the beer and beverage industry before filling and after labelling.

The inspection systems mainly consist of inspection machines with a complex camera system including adapted software and operator terminal. The systems fit to the needs of the filling plants down to the last detail.

In the sensitive area of the beverage industry quality control is required immediately upon arrival of the bottles. Especially for bottles from recycling, it must be ensured that only completely clean and undamaged bottles including intact threads, swing stoppers and seals are released for the filling process.

Beverage manufacturers are increasingly recognizing that this fully automated inspection has great potential for the entire value chain, because the more faulty bottles are sorted out at the start, the higher the quality at the end and the cheaper and more environmentally friendly the entire production process.

In the machine, all details of the bottles are recorded with high performance using a patented camera technology from KS Control and shown directly on an ADS-TEC display. Like all hygiene devices from ADS-TEC, the "Machine Mounted Displays" of the MMD series in their completely closed stainless steel housing are specially optimized for production environments in the hygiene sector and, thanks to the latest technology, allow reliable monitoring and control of the inspection.

In 2016, we had the opportunity to present our solutions with their high-quality design, well thought-out additional features and the extremely good value-for-money. As a specialist for industrial IT systems, ADS-TEC offers an extensive product portfolio consisting of add-on panel PCs, add-on displays and built-in systems, from which KS Control has selected the MMD8024 model.

Samuel Krompasky from the engineering of KS Control's Camera and Inspection Systems:

"Thanks to the ADS-TEC solution, we are able to convey the perfect appearance as a measure of quality to our customers already during the intuitive initial operation."

In the evaluation phase from 2016 to 2018, the KS inspection solution was fully adapted to the MMD series. As stand-alone operating units with intelligently installed cable routing, they can be easily integrated into existing systems. The display can be set up to 100m away using an extender kit. This flexible concept allows the simultaneous operation of several machines. →



MMD series from ADS-TEC successfully in use at KS Control

The well thought-out operating concept, high performance and award-winning hygienic design bring many added values to the application:

Equipped with IP65 protection against splash water, with a smooth and robust stainless steel surface, which is manufactured completely without screws, as well as a patented connection between housing and display, the devices can be cleaned particularly easily. In addition to comply hygiene requirements, this saves a lot of time and is more environmentally friendly overall, as less cleaning products are needed.

A unique feature is the extremely useful key operation concept. Via an optional separate key module - also in a smooth stainless steel housing - with individually assignable functions such as "start", "stop", "vessel inlet", "error" or "emergency stop", it is possible to intervene immediately and directly in the process without clicking through a menu. In practice, it has been shown that many medium-sized bottling plants appreciate above all this convenient handling. Especially the emergency stop button, which is always at hand, helps to avoid bigger damage within milliseconds.

By increasing the image resolution, the performance and the implementation of new applications on the device, a higher quality and a faster process is achieved. The screen size alone in 24" widescreen format is extraordinary and generous for operating devices in the hygiene sector. Combined with the extremely precise detail view and high performance for fast data transfer, more camera images can be evaluated in significantly less time. This increases the hit rate and leads to a quick and surprisingly good result.

Since 2016, these sophisticated inspection solutions have already been reliably in use at various beverage manufacturers. KS Control would also like to use ADS-TEC operator panels in other projects, for example for labellers. Even large dairy companies are now planning to switch their production to glass bottles and install these inspection systems. This shows that the manufacturing industry is increasingly investing in sustainability issues in addition to pure efficiency enhancement.

Jana Wörner-Zielke, Key Account Manager at ADS-TEC Industrial IT summarizes: "The new machine concept has generated savings potential and increased the quality and reliability of production. Instead of disposable containers, more bottles are used again, which can be recycled. Together with KS Control, we are supporting the transformation process towards sustainability through innovation and resource-optimized production savings" - a contemporary approach before the background of current discussions about climate and environmental protection.

