

PRESS RELEASE

For immediate release.

Custom Components Increase Flexibility and Performance of Monoblock Filler/Cappers

February 2009, Blacksburg, VA — The Monoblock Filler/Capper from ESS Technologies, Inc. incorporates custom components to create a complete system for filling and capping vials, bottles, etc. that can be configured to meet most any filling application. ESS Technologies, Inc.'s latest innovations for the Monoblock Filler/Capper include an infeed to handle very small bottles, precision pick-and-place insertion devices, and a unique cap feeding system for careful and accurate capping up to 120 bottles per minute. ESS engineers have also incorporated the latest in pre-torque and final torque technology to create an accurate and repeatable closing system that exceeds release torques specifications for most any application.



Small pharmaceutical bottles, typically 0.625" diameter or smaller, present a challenge at the infeed of a filler/capper. The bottles can overturn easily due to their lightweight and small footprint. This is especially true in high speed infeeds. ESS engineers designed a custom bottle infeed system that integrates the bottle feeder with a specially designed starwheel and infeed conveyor to place the bottles in an upright position for filling. ESS has also designed a number of pick-and-place systems for the automatic insertion of plugs, brushes, and neck collars into pharmaceutical bottles after they are filled but prior to capping. The systems come complete with component feeders and sensors to verify the correct placement of the plug or brush, etc. Caps are also automatically fed to the system via integrated feeders and escapements. ESS's Monoblock capping station has been upgraded to make use of the latest technology for cap placement, pre-torque and final torque processes. Cap feeding options include drop down feeding and placement or a custom ESS "push-up" cap feeder, either of which will operate at up to 120 bottles per minute. Cap placement is also verified via sensors, and the Monoblock can be installed with an automatic soft reject system that removes incorrect bottles from the production line at the machine discharge.

These innovations for ESS's Monoblock Filler/Capper make the machine a flexible, high speed solution for automatic filling and capping. Servo driven models allow production rates of up to 120 bottles per minute. A mechanical version operates at 40 or 60 bottles per minute. The system can be designed with intrinsically safe controls for filling flammable liquids, and ESS also offers a powder filling Monoblock for free-flowing powders.

About ESS Technologies, Inc.

ESS Technologies, Inc., founded in 1993, specializes in complete packaging line design, equipment manufacturing, and integration. Our expertise includes filling/capping equipment, robotic palletizing systems, horizontal/vertical cartoners, case packing equipment, tube filling, overwrapping, custom designed solutions for medical device assembly and pharmaceutical packaging, and integrated robotics. Engineered for reliability and efficiency, ESS Technologies' innovative solutions offer you tomorrow's packaging technology today.

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