

Newsletter

Autumn 2006

demtec[®] INTERNATIONAL

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In this newsletter we present our soil blocking machine GTP, our extended range of potting machines for large pots and the buffer conveyor system:

Soilblocker GTP



- **high working speed:** upto 480 crates per hour measured in practice
- **high reliability:** the GTP works autonomous without supervision
- **high soil block quality:** processable for all semi automatic and automatic planters. The crates are completely filled so that the borders do not dry out.
- the GTP is placed in full automatic lines

Potting machines DT 4016 — DT 5016

Besides the potting machine DT 4016 that was presented in our last newsletter, the DT 5016 is now also added to our range. These machines are especially developed for growers who work with large pots. Both machines are mobile and have a big peat reserve from 3.000 upto 5.000 l. The big range of possible options make them almost custom made.



Max. pot diam.:
380 mm,
600—2.400 p.p.h.
destacker and supply belt

Max. drill diam.: 250 mm,
1,1 kW variable speed

Loading height: 1.750 mm



Max. pot diam.:
420 mm,
180—720 p.p.h.
destacker and supply belt

Max. drill diam.: 300 mm,
upto 3 kW variable speed
and penetration

Loading height: 1.785 mm



Buffer conveyor system

Nowadays potting machines have a high working speed, which generates a new bottleneck: moving the filled pots away and putting them down quickly. Therefore demtec® developed **the buffer conveyor system**, improving efficiency and reducing labour costs. The buffer conveyor system is used in conjunction with the potting machine:

- the pots leave the potting machine on the exit conveyor
- the pots are counted on the pot accumulator where they are prepared for travel to the loading robot
- on the loading robot conveyor, the pots are accurately positioned in line one behind the other with perfect pot spacing



- once the loading robot conveyor is full, the pots are moved automatically onto the buffer table in line
- the pots are removed from the buffer table by the operator of the fork lift or tractor using the fork attachment (single or double layer) fitted to the front of the tractor or the fork lift

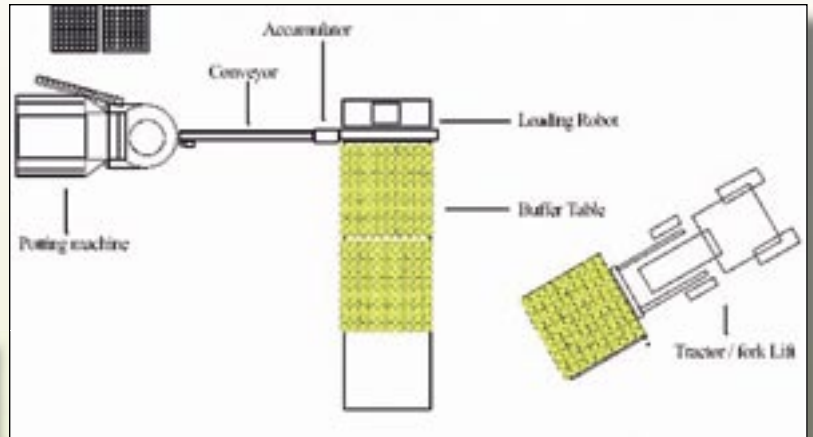
Comments of Gerrard, owner of Payneham Plants in Australia:
'the demtec® buffer conveyor system is worth its weight in gold.

The labour savings are phenomenal. Instead of using 7 staff and 2 or 3 tractors (2 potters, 1 person loading up pots, 4 people taking plants away and putting down), we now only use 1 tractor/driver and 2 potters! Not only does this save on wages, it means we can be more flexible about when we pot, as we don't need to wait until staff are free from other areas of the nursery, like despatch. It also means we don't have to employ extra agency staff who, more often than not, are inexperienced and not suited to the task. The tractor does the back-breaking work of lifting and putting down, where injuries were always a risk.'



Customer interview: buffer conveyor system

Payneham Plant Wholesalers has been a leading nursery for many years supplying quality stock to many of Australia's major retail outlets: 'We pride ourselves on our finished product and the systems we implement to produce it. In November 05 we became the first production nursery in Australia to integrate a **demtec** buffer table into our potting system. The buffer and tractor system has totally changed the way we go about our business.'



'Simply implementing the system our production levels have risen dramatically due it's efficiency and ease. To produce the levels we are currently reaching without the buffer system we were employing upto 10 people from staffing agencies to manually pick up and put down stock. The work was arduous and took hours of planning often to see it fall in a hole. With our new system we can now produce the same numbers but only employing 2 staff to do so. The work is not as physically taxing, and planning and implementing our shedule is a breeze, knowing

we are only relying on two staff memebers that are now skilled and happy in the job they are doing. The costs saved and the ease with which the system can be implemented mean that I would recomend the system to anyone wanting to improve their nursery.'

Robert Furniss
Production Manager
Payneham Plant Wholesalers



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