

Vacfeed Low Line Feeder

FLATWORK HANDLING TECHNOLOGY

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The Vacfeed Low Line is a single lane multi-station automatic spreader feeder that has been designed to accurately present both large and small laundry items to a flatwork ironer. The unique and simple to operate loading clips of each load station are ergonomically positioned to allow operators to quickly and efficiently load larger items of linen such as sheets, duvet covers and tablecloths with minimal training. The PLC control system will monitor operator performance.

The loading stations can be simply raised to gain access to the main feed conveyor, allowing both small and shaped linen to be manually placed onto the suction surface.



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Method of Operation

Transfer of the article from loading station to spreading clamps by air allows for faster cycle times and eliminates the risk of damage to articles.

Spreading of the article via carriages prior to transfer onto the main conveyor belts is controlled by a PLC in conjunction with a servomotor spreading system. The constant monitoring by the PLC of the servo motors provides accurate tension and relax control for each item. The smoothing of the trailing edge is performed by the use of controlled suction and tail spreader belts.

Powerful backward curved, variable speed fans displace high volumes of free air through a scientifically designed ducting arrangement, enclosing the front portion of the feeding conveyor belts. These airstreams are controlled and utilised for the feeding and smoothing as required in the automatic process. Only two simple mechanical movements are employed to make the automatic transfer of a spread piece onto the stream of air, which will draw it onto the machine and deposit it onto the main conveyor belts. This innovative use of vacuum control in conjunction with positive spread of the leading and trailing edge of the article ensures correct tracking into the ironer.

Features of Servo Technology

- Precise positioning of linen onto the centre of the main conveyor belts
- Accurate location of spreader clamps
- Positional spreader clamp travel minimises overrun and so improves cycle times
- Tension and relax control eliminates risk of damage to articles
- Replaces the use of wire ropes, rollers and chains to aid transfer to feed conveyor
- User friendly touch screen interface

Autoprep, Conveyor, and Vacfeed Low Line





Optional Extras:

- **Direct into Ironer Feeding** - Delivery Conveyor (Nose) to provide direct into Ironer chest feeding
- **Feeding Trough (set)** - Article collection bins for operator feeding
- **Line Control** - Allows the replication of both program and reject selection when the Low Line is to operate with a new or existing compatible Foldermaker 55 or 64.
- **Special Spares Kit** - Range of dedicated spares for the Vacfeed Low Line configuration



Other Features:

- Aesthetically advanced appearance incorporating improved ergonomic feeding station height.
- Increased vacuum control using variable speed fans provides superior sheet lay and tail spreading efficiency.
- Improved detection of incorrectly loaded items reduces both machine downtime and risk of damage to linen.
- Side access, easy clean filters for the variable speed fans help to maintain production targets that may be reduced by reductions in vacuum.
- Increased safety for operators and maintenance personnel is achieved by improved electrical isolation on panels and covers.
- Compact freestanding modern frame with built-in wheels and jacking bolts.
- Conveyor nose height adjustable to match ironer feed bands or chest.
- Reduced width 3.0m (120") delivery conveyor to match ironer may be specified with no additional cost. Alternative working widths available.
- Special perforated conveyor belts for efficient suction hold of articles.
- Novel velocity absorption chamber for air discharged from fans, increasing efficiency and eliminating the need for cumbersome ducting.
- Electronically controlled, auto-variable main conveyor speed to match variations of ironer speed.
- Dual delivery conveyor section for improved feeder to ironer presentation.
- Spreader carriages isolated from services in hand feeding mode.
- Optional nose assembly for direct into ironer chest feeding.
- Auto or manual 'Feed Start' operation.
- CE standard compliance.

