

## COUNTRY PRODUCTS INCREASES PRODUCTION EFFICIENCIES WITH ALLEN CODING THERMAL TRANSFER PRINTERS

When family owned Country Products Ltd needed to upgrade its main production line at its plant in North Yorkshire to cope with extra capacity and minimize downtime, they turned to the engineering expertise of leading specialist in high performance food industry marking and coding systems, Allen Coding and its **NGT Series** of reliable, accurate and versatile thermal transfer printers.

Country Products is a packer of dried foods and snack products, supplying independent traders under its own brand and also providing contract packing for clients throughout the UK.

Nigel Robertshaw, Technical & Site Manager at Country Products comments: "We have previous experience of using Allen Coding printers so it was a natural progression to look at new systems from them. As well as offering the **print area specifications** required, the NGT2 and NGT4 thermal transfer printers provided **significant print quality** and performance benefits and were able to meet all our client packaging variables. Plus both models were compatible with our older printers so

there was no need to update the labeling software."

Country Products chose two different models from Allen Coding's NGT Series to enable it to apply data sets on both the front and rear of generic



packaging film produced from polypropylene, polyester or laminate. The printers also apply vital **product and nutritional details** in line with the company's commitment to meeting all new **food information regulation requirements**.

Allen Coding's compact NGT2 and NGT4 printers have been mounted on a special frame at the rear of Country Products' Gainsborough vertical form fill seal machine. The units are installed on 90 degree swivel brackets so that they can be easily turned by the operator, both to change thermal transfer ribbons and to move swiftly from one orien-

tation to another for different client films.

A wide variety of products are being handled by the vertical form fill seal machine, with packs ranging from 15g to 500g in weight. As a result, the Allen Coding NGT2 and NGT4 printers are operating at speeds up to approximately 30 packs per minute.

Nigel adds: "Production **efficiencies have increased** as there is less downtime as a result of printer faults. It was vital that the new printers offered reliable performance especially as we are now running an evening shift and have limited engineer cover outside of normal working hours."

He continues: "The **engineering service provided by Allen Coding was first class**. The efficiency on delivery was exceptional and the printers proved **easy to install and use**. I would definitely recommend Allen Coding and the NGT Series to other packers.

"We are confident that by choosing high quality printers we will continue to see improved operating efficiencies and lower life time cost of ownership," Nigel concludes.