

CASE STUDY

How a New Seed Cleaner increases Productivity and Seed Quality

When you're a seed producer it is all about the quality and ideal seed output. Losing good grain post-harvest is just pouring money down the drain. That was why one of the largest third party seed producers was looking for a new seed cleaner. To ensure top-quality products for its customers, the company wanted to upgrade a part of their industrial process with high-quality and efficient seed cleaning machines.

Challenge

Air screen cleaners are absolutely essential for the biggest part of the cleaning tasks. At this point, the company identified a need for improvement to meet the highest separation requirements. The corn being transferred to the down stream equipment contained too much foreign matter affecting the throughput of the subsequent machines.

The company was also looking at its future in terms of its aging workforce. Today young workers are often different than prior generations. Easy setup and operation of the machine – without having to know all the tips and tricks collected over many years – is essential.

By having up to 8 changeovers per day replacing and cleaning the screens can be quite tedious. Product residue and dust formation may cause screens to get stuck in the trays. Screens are difficult to remove and hard to handle. That is not only stressful for the operator. The time spent on changeover ultimately affects the effective operating time of the seed cleaner itself.

BUSINESS AREA

Third party seed producer

LOCATION

United States

CROP

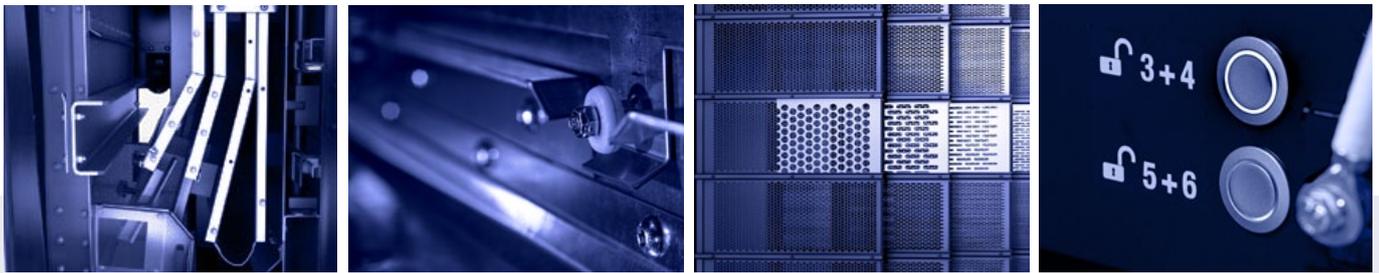
Seed corn (different varieties)

CAPACITY

17 t/h

BUSINESS GOALS

- Increase seed cleaning efficiency and line capacity
- Easy setup and operation
- Reduce changeover and screen cleaning time



Solution

To address these challenges, the company turned to PETKUS to replace its outdated cleaner with a more forward looking technology – the S cleaner. Seed cleaning is enhanced with the Airmax technology, a three stage post-aspiration system. Integrated sensors and cameras control the cleaning performance and safety of the process. The integrated sieve tensioning mechanism enables a quick changeover by the push of a button.

**„THIS IS A KICK
ASS MACHINE!“**

- Curt Davis, Senior Director of North American Sales at Prairie Engineering (PETKUS Partner)

Results

01

Accessibility and user-friendliness of the machine has taken a big step forward. In this way, new employees can probably simply 'feel' their way along. The installed touch panel (HMI) makes control and recipe management very easy. The visualization of the product flow, recipe recall and quantitative adjustments ensure best cleaning results which can be checked via the easy sample access.

02

The biggest improvements came with the new screen change technology. The screens and ball trays can be removed at the same time. So that the client went from a two person changeover to a one person change over and reduced the time required by 60%.



03

With an improved sifter capacity and cleaning precision the product flow is much cleaner. The proportion of waste transferred to the downstream equipment is reduced, increasing the overall throughput of the seed line.

