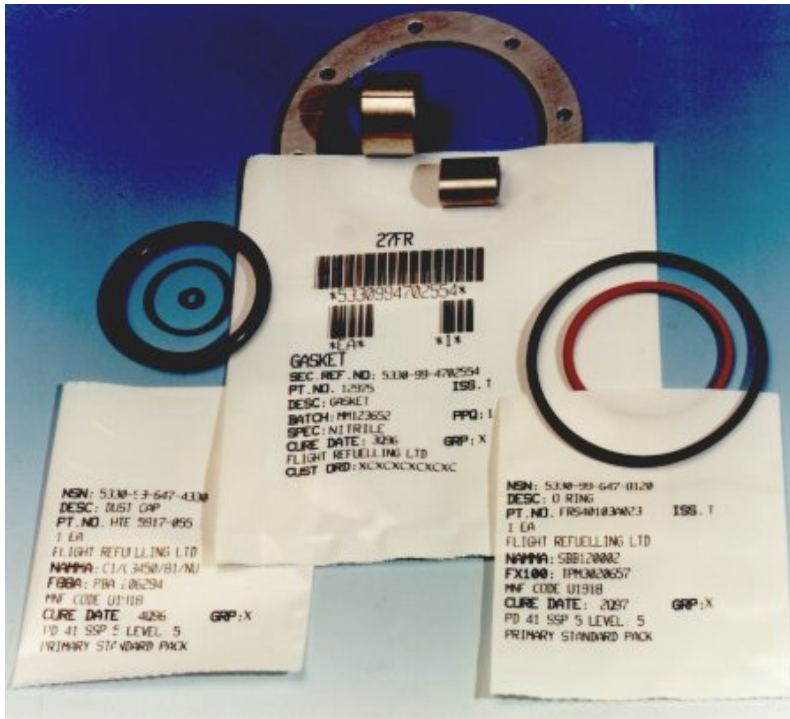


A CASE STUDY IN THE BENEFITS OF AUTOMATED PACKAGING



A PRODUCT OF AUTOMATED PACKAGING SYSTEMS

AUTOBAG[®] CUTS PACKAGING TIME AND COSTS FOR FLIGHT REFUELLING



Correct identification of even the smallest components is of paramount importance to Flight Refuelling Ltd who supply a variety of parts for critical aerospace applications. Even ‘O’ rings and other seals have to be packed and labelled individually to ensure total accuracy.

This was a labour-intensive task and as it was a manual procedure, heavily time consuming. The company explored the possibility of reducing packing and labelling costs while maintaining the same critically high standards.

Automated Packaging Systems supplied Flight Refuelling with an Autobag ‘Print & Pack’ system that comprised an Excel™ automatic bagging system, with a PI-4000™ thermal transfer printer module. The choice was based on APS’s knowledge of the stringent specifications required in the defence industry, and also the flexibility of the bagging systems which can handle the wide range of parts that Flight Refuelling Ltd need to pack.

Colin Smith, stores and despatch manager said: *“The Autobag system revolutionised the situation. Bagging and labelling costs were cut by a staggering 95 per cent while man-hours were reduced by 90 per cent giving a saving of over £40,000 per year in labour alone. The equipment was the right size, user friendly and importantly, APS understood exactly what we required.”*

Flight Refuelling believed it had justified its choice. It estimated conservatively that the equipment paid for itself in less than eight months.

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