

Agile cobot palletiser from Reeco Automation

60% smaller footprint and costing up to 50% less compared to conventional robot palletisers.

Reeco Automation, OMRON Solution Partner for collaborative robots in the UK, developed a new cobot palletiser that costs up to 50% less and has a 60% smaller footprint than a conventional robot palletiser.

These game-changing metrics have a radical impact on project payback, making end-of-line robotic automation economically attractive to producers of all sizes.

Although a mainstay of FMCG production lines for many years, robot palletisers take up considerable floor space, are complex to specify and programme, and are almost impossible to redeploy to another location, making them cost-prohibitive for many SMEs.

In contrast, Reeco and OMRON's RB1200 cobot palletiser is a compact plug-and-play system that can be easily switched between lines. This ensures users can maximise their investment by providing flexibility to cope with rapid changes in demand across the factory. 60% smaller and up to 50% less expensive

Without the need for all-round guarding, the RB1200 measures just 2.2 x 3.2m, which equates to a 60% size reduction versus a typical 4x4m cartesian palletiser. The cobot is inherently safe, using optical laser scanners to monitor the immediate area and stopping operation if potential human contact is identified.



The RB1200 cobot is fitted with a universal end-effector which can handle 90%+ of box-based products

Based on a standardised platform and without the need of a heavy-duty sub-frame to support a large robot arm, the RB1200 has a more streamlined automation infrastructure at a dramatically reduced cost. The purchase price is up to 50% less than a comparable traditional palletiser robot, making it a viable investment for many businesses that have previously ruled out robotics on cost grounds.

Maximum agility

The cobot's intrinsic flexibility also contributes to a compelling payback case; the lack of extraneous kit makes the RB1200 easy to move between lines.

The RB1200 is light and transportable; it can easily be moved by pump truck to another line within minutes. By contrast, to redeploy a traditional robot palletiser to another part of the factory would be a huge undertaking, requiring a significant logistics effort and considerable time.

Not only is it easy to relocate the RB1200, but product, pack and layout configuration changes can be completed in minutes using Reeco's EasyStack visual software. No programming skills or robot experience is required to redesign a pallet pattern – the operator simply has to enter a few parameters such as box and pallet dimensions,

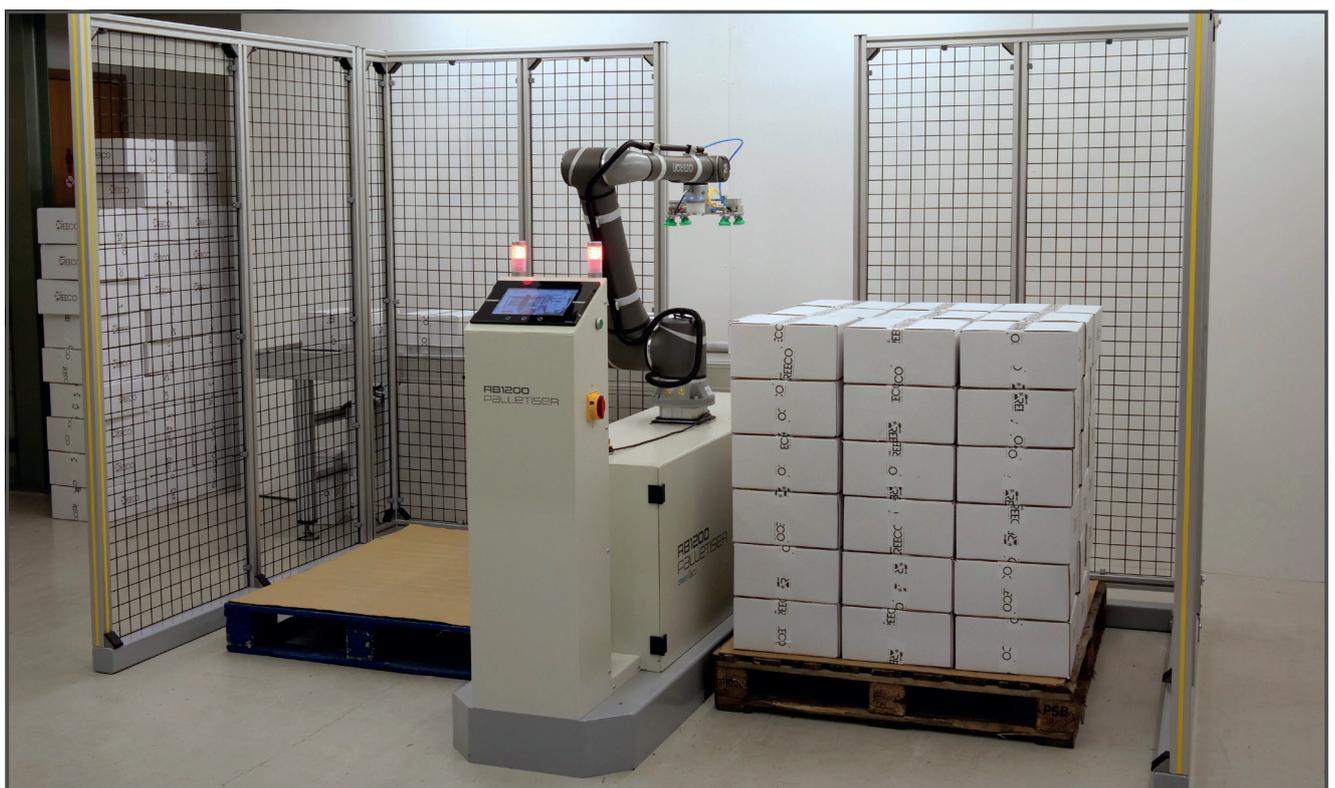
define the layout for the first and second layers, then repeat for as many layers as required.

Automation for all

From order to installation within 2-3 weeks, the RB1200 slashes the wait time of a traditional robot by months. As well as minimal programming requirements, to achieve fast fulfilment the plug-and-play cobot is fitted with a standard, unique, universal end-effector which can handle 90%+ of box-based products. Reeco Automation can also provide custom-designed tooling for special application requirements.

With a maximum payload of 10 kg and a cycle time of 12 picks per minute, the RB1200 cobot palletiser is ideally suited for small to medium volume producers.

"The cobot palletiser is an off-the-shelf, market-ready solution that represents great value for money, with no hidden costs in design or engineering. Leasing options and a fixed service contract are also available, making next-generation, end-of-line automation a reality for FMCG producers of all sizes," says Reeco Managing Director Llewelyn Rees.



Measuring just 2.2 x 3.2m, the RB1200's footprint is 60% smaller than a typical 4x4m cartesian palletiser

About REECO

Specialising in the design, development and integration of bespoke cobot solutions, REECO focuses on providing customers with turnkey automation applications that provide real value by reducing production costs, increasing efficiency and enabling flexibility by integrating around existing equipment, operators and processes. REECO's offering continues to expand as the market continues to innovate, providing customers with advanced automation equipment, technologies and expert support through the supply of bespoke solutions and specialised automation products. Website: www.reeco.co.uk

About OMRON Corporation

OMRON Corporation is a global leader in the field of automation based on its core technology of "Sensing & Control + Think". OMRON's business fields cover a broad spectrum, ranging from industrial automation and electronic components to automotive electronic components, social infrastructure systems, healthcare, and environmental solutions. Established in 1933, OMRON has over 30,000 employees worldwide, working to provide products and services in 120 countries and regions. In the field of industrial automation, OMRON supports manufacturing innovation by providing advanced automation technologies and products, as well as through extensive customer support, in order to help create a better society. For more information, visit OMRON's website at: industrial.omron.eu