

# EFFICIENT WASTE HANDLING SOLUTION

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## CONVEYED PRODUCT

- Trimming waste from fruits including pineapples, mangos, peaches etc.

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## KEY SPECIFICATIONS

- Waste chopped and pumped
- Improved reliability
- Hard fruit stones pumped

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## COST SAVINGS

**INCREASED PRODUCTIVITY**

**REDUCED LABOR COSTS**

**REDUCED DISPOSAL COSTS**

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## PUMP TYPE

BTM, BTEIM and BT ranges

## BACKGROUND

Natures Way Foods is a leading UK manufacturer of fresh convenient food including ready-to-eat fruit products such as apple, mango and pineapple slices. The preparation of the finished products requires sorting, peeling and trimming to remove fruit stones, generating waste that had to be removed from high care production areas in an automated, enclosed hygienic system.

## TASK

The original peel handling equipment comprised a progressive cavity pump with hopper and horizontal grinder situated above the hopper. Bridging of the product in the grinder caused pump downtime and reduced production.

Some fruit products also presented a particularly difficult challenge for pumps: mangos, peaches, nectarines and grapes all have hard internal stones or woody waste which cannot be pumped easily. For these products manual removal using tote bins was the solution before SEEPEX got involved.

## SOLUTION

A group of SEEPEX systems was supplied over a period of 2 years. SEEPEX engineering knowledge, combined with experience in these applications, solved the waste removal problems. The systems are all centered on the SEEPEX open hopper pumps. BTM pumps with integrated cutting knives are installed in line with automated peeling machines. Large BTEI pumps with bridge breakers and extended hoppers chop and pump all the waste produced from fruit that is manually peeled and trimmed.

For fruit containing hard stones or 'pits', grape vines and other tough waste a sophisticated system was developed incorporating an auger feed screw, a vertical cutting device and an open hopper pump. The chopped and shredded waste is moved via a central pipeline to a dewatering device and then removed from site for composting.

All of the waste can be removed remotely, level sensors linked to pump control stop and start the pumps automatically as the process demands. SEEPEX pump systems save labor costs, improve hygiene and deliver chopped waste to the dewatering system. Lower waste volume after dewatering also saves on disposal and transport costs.

## BENEFITS

- Waste chopped for easy dewatering and lower disposal costs
- Hygienic removal of waste in enclosed systems

