

SALES APPLICATION

ORBIS Reduces Corrugated Boxes and Wood with Case-Ready Containers for Grocery Supermarkets

PACKAGING APPLICATION

This popular grocer has over 2,000 stores throughout Canada. They strived to reduce their carbon footprint by creating their own reusable shopping bag, made of 85 percent post-consumer recycled plastic. They also installed the first wind turbine at a Canadian grocery store, which supplies one quarter of the store's energy needs. With this focus on sustainability, they are one of the first grocers in North America to go into case-ready meat and also the first to implement plastic transportation containers for case-ready meat products.

PACKAGING CHALLENGE

This grocer wanted to eliminate all corrugated boxes and wood from the back rooms of their retail stores. They also wanted an efficient way to manage these containers and made the business decision to utilize pooling. This offered them greater efficiency in return logistics that they could not achieve if they managed the containers on their own.



PACKAGING SOLUTION

Unit load efficiency, waste reduction and trailer optimization were critical. Through collaboration, they selected ORBIS as their container supplier and IFCO, North America's leading pooler of the plastic reusable containers for the transport of fruits, vegetables and meat, as their pooler. ORBIS designed and patented the CR2420-7 28 container to replace corrugated boxes and wood in this application. With a 2-position bail, this case-ready meat container allows the packer to choose the optimum packing height for their meat products. It stacks with the 2-position bail and nests efficiently when empty. The newest feature to this ORBIS design is the ability to nest and stack more efficiently than the older design, that has been in use for 20 years.



Using this pool of containers, their primary protein supplier, currently ships case-ready meat containers from three plants to distribution centers across Canada.

BENEFITS/ RESULTS

- 100% of their requirements are shipped with an average 93% efficiency
- The new container operates in the Cargill fully automated environment, seamlessly replacing the older design
- The design feature allows the new container to stack at 200 units per pallet, compared to the original design stacking only 160 units per pallet - yielding a 25% increase in efficiency and a direct result in transportation cost