

POTATOES IN PLASTIC DOLAVS SUCCESS!



Potatoes go ex-farm supplier to processing in 1500 Dolav Ace boxes for McCain frozen Ready Baked Jackets

Dolav UK is delighted to have been selected as the supplier of plastic pallet boxes used in a pivotal part of the supply chain to transport raw material to the processing lines for McCain Foods' frozen Ready Baked Jackets. Some of the potato growers had been using Dolav plastic pallet boxes and based on their experience, selected the Dolav Ace for this important task. McCain originally chose the perforated Dolav Ace to allow air flow around the potatoes when in cold store and now also uses the solid-wall Ace.

Quality everywhere

The Dolav Ace is injection moulded in one piece from food-grade HDPE. Its three integral runners are strong and do not have hidden cavities. This means the Dolav boxes are easily kept clean to food hygiene standards and reused in a continuous cycle from potato washing and grading plants to factory. The Dolav Ace has recently been confirmed as having hygienic design by Campden BRI.

Repeat orders speak chapters

As proof of the Dolav Ace superb performance, following the initial delivery, McCain Foods has continued to order additional Dolav Ace plastic pallet boxes to a total now exceeding 1500.

More at: www.uk.dolav-news.com



Filling a Dolav

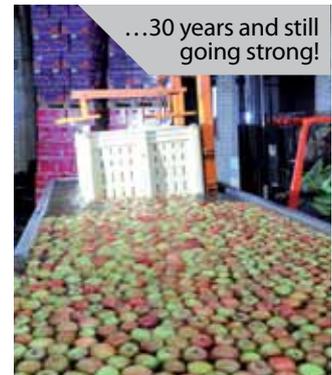


Check weighing a full Dolav



Supplier loading Dolavs for transport

DOLAVS PROVE THEIR LONG-LIFE OVER 30 YEARS



...30 years and still going strong!



Peake Fruit* grows, stores, grades and packs English apples and soft fruit. It has been doing that for over 70 years and for nearly half that time it has harvested and stored apples in containers which include some 3,000 Dolav plastic pallet boxes. Now it is adding 5200 more.

According to Peake Fruit managing director, Robert Rendall, "We have had Dolavs for more than thirty years and they are still going strong. That's fantastic. So we see it as a good investment to buy more. They are very well constructed and their long service life is a big factor. That was one of the key drivers for us purchasing Dolavs – we know that they last a long time."

The latest consignment of 1040 new Classic Dolavs perforated are hot die stamped with a logo, a year-letter and 4-digit sequential number. Some Dolavs are two-colour plastic (unique to Dolav) others are single colour. This is the first of the new Dolav deliveries, part of a steady growth in plastic box usage, so soon Peake Fruit will be using some 8,200 plastic Dolav boxes.

Each year the apple boxes go to the orchards and harvesters fill them with hand-picked apples. They go into a controlled atmosphere store and are stacked 8 bins high, at around 2 degrees C. Thanks to the perforations in the Dolav the apples can 'breathe' to absorb oxygen and produce carbon

dioxide which is 'scrubbed' out maintaining a perfect long-term storage environment.

Early cropping apples like Discovery and Worcester may be briefly stored before the boxes are re-used in the same season for later varieties like Breaburn or Jonagold. For these, months later the sealed store is opened and they are as fresh as the day they were picked in the autumn. Peake Fruit grades and packs apples like Gala and Breaburn for UK supermarkets in the winter months or, for some varieties, supplies them for apple juice production.

Peake Fruit loads each Dolav with 300-320 kilos of apples. Stacked 8 high with a tare weight of only 38 kilos the bottom total bottom weight is only 2864 kilos, well within the Dolav's 4000 kilo bottom stack capability.

Clean plastic vs. wood – is important

"We agonised as it is a lot of money we are spending on plastic Dolavs but the thing for us is the strength and longevity, the ease of cleaning and the weight of the bin is quite light. That helps with harvest, haulage and saving money on fuel," said Robert Rendall.

More at: www.uk.dolav-news.uk

Peake Fruit here refers to Peake Fruit Ltd., and its parent company, Boxford (Suffolk) Farms Ltd.



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