



# SIMS PACKAGING BULLETIN

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## SIMS helps Boyd Coffee brew-up more speed, precision and efficiency on the packing line

In the November 1998 issue of *PACKAGING DIGEST*<sup>®</sup>, SIMS Manufacturing was featured in the article titled "Automation adds agility to coffee casing capability". The following contains quotes from that article.

SIMS Manufacturing was able to assist Boyd Coffee Company with some facility restraints. Jerry Vawter Boyd Coffee's production manager designed a 4000 sq. ft. mezzanine area in which nine SIMS ER-1600 Case Erectors were situated. Jerry states, "The area is the foundation piece for the entire project, for without it there was not enough room to add new equipment."

The article goes on to reflect, "The SIMS units which were supplied by Michelsen Packaging are part of a strategically planned series of upgrades made since mid-'97 across nine side-by-side coffee casing lines."

Under the subheading "Overtime down" the *Packaging Digest* relates, "On one line, for example, output had been 4 to 6 bags/min, as one operator filled cases as well as palletized them." On that same line after the installation of the SIMS ER-1600 Case Erector, the line was able to help increase output from 4-6 bags per minute to 18-20 bags per minute.

The story continues, "Also crucial to the capital expenditure justification were the 4000 hours of overtime the company paid out last year, "driven primarily by constraints in production," says Vawter. This year, overtime is 36 percent below projections, largely attributable to the upgrades, which dramatically exemplifies the improvements of the faster, more mechanized arrangement.



From the mezzanine, case bottoms are provided to the production area below from nine SIMS ER-1600 Case Erectoring Machines with bottom sealers.

Further into the article, "Up on the mezzanine located 11-1/2" feet above main floor level, the nine SIMS Model ER-1600 erectors begin the flow of cases to the production lines below.

The machines, which operate with mechanical and pneumatic componentry, were installed sequentially starting in early'98. Custom designed by SIMS Manufacturing, the frame-style drop chutes near the discharge of each of the erectors deliver bottom-sealed cases in-line to infeed conveyors six feet below for filling. With the exception of one manual packing line, each erector corresponds to the output from a form/fill/seal machine, which is situated on the floor opposite the corresponding drop chute."

*Continued on page 2*





Erected cases drop six feet to the packaging area through SIMS custom designed chutes that deposit them on a gravity flow conveyor leading to a filler. The SIMS ER-1600 Case Erecting Machine has helped Boyd Coffee reduced overtime 36 percent below projection for the year.

Steve Zike, SIMS engineer, worked with Jerry Vawter extensively and designed the nine custom drop chutes to deliver the bottom sealed cases to the form/fill/seal machines.

"These are robust, reliable machines with few moving parts," sums Vawter.

In terms of the erector's capability, Vawter says they could have gotten by with just three SIMS units. However, in terms of case conveying simplicity and reliability, they decided on one per line."



The striped housing base in the foreground contains a pneumatic ram that pushes finished case bottoms from the SIMS ER-1600 Case Erecting Machine toward the chute leading from mezzanine.

A final excerpt, "Boyd Coffee is anticipating installing a new case packer next year that owes a lot to the state of Oregon. Based also on input from an ergonomics consultant, SIMS Manufacturing, which produces the SIMS case erectors-sealers, is designing and fabricating the custom designed machine. Funding for most of the costs comes from a \$137,000 state grant.

"It's a first-of-a-kind machine that will eliminate any operator repetitive motion," states coffee production manager Jerry Vawter. "A pick-and-place mechanism wouldn't work because of the various cases configurations needed." These include layered and standup patterns for flexible packs ranging from 6-oz to 6-lb netweights of various configurations."

All quotes appearing in this publication to this point are from the November 1998 issue of the Packaging Digest® article entitled "Automation adds agility to coffee casing capability" with copyrights belonging to the Packaging Digest® and Cahners® Publishing.

## The rest of the story

In the August 2000 issue of Packaging World® the Boyd and SIMS relationship continues. SIMS was hired by Boyds to build a custom case packer to eliminate repetitive motion concerns and speed up production with grant funding from the Oregon OSMA agency.

"The new SIMS CP-100 case packer started up in March of 1999.

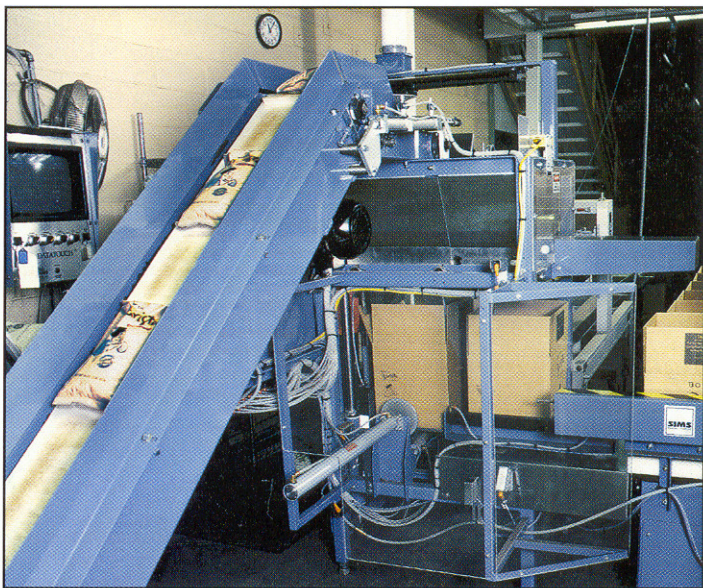
The goal was to develop an automatic case packer that had to meet three primary objectives:

- 1) Pack the full range of coffee products without risk of repetitive motion injury.
- 2) improve operational yield; and
- 3) be adaptable to interface with two types of vertical form/fill/seal machines."

"The amount of downtime resulting from the operator's inability to keep up has been eliminated," notes Vawter. As a direct result of improving the throughput rate, he reports that productivity is up 8 to 11%."

"Mechanically and functionally, the case packer is an excellent piece of equipment," enthuses Vawter. "It is versatile, user-friendly and exceptionally accurate."

All quotes appearing in "The Rest of the Story" are from the August 2000 issue of the Packaging World® magazine article entitled "Government funds casing upgrade at Boyds Coffee" with copyrights belonging to the Packaging World® and the Summit Publishing Corporation.

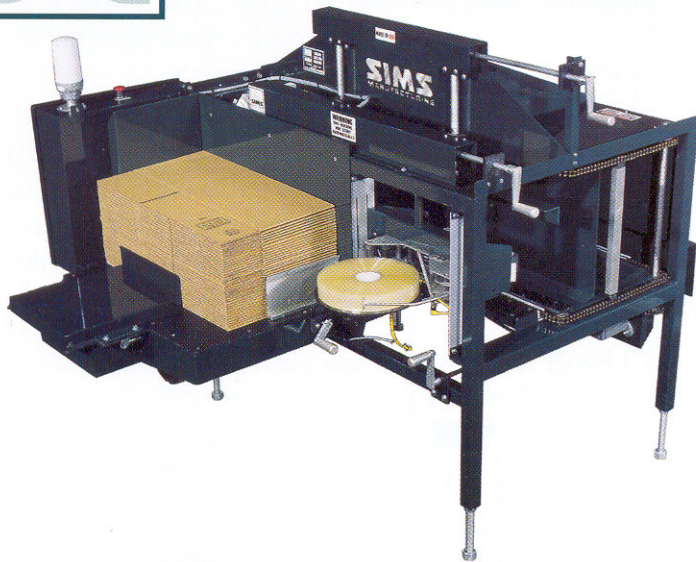


Coffee bags from 6oz. to 6 lbs. move on by conveyor to the case packing machine after leaving the vertical form/fill/seal machine.





# FEATURED SIMS EQUIPMENT



## **SIMS ER-1600/1800 CASE ERECTING MACHINES**

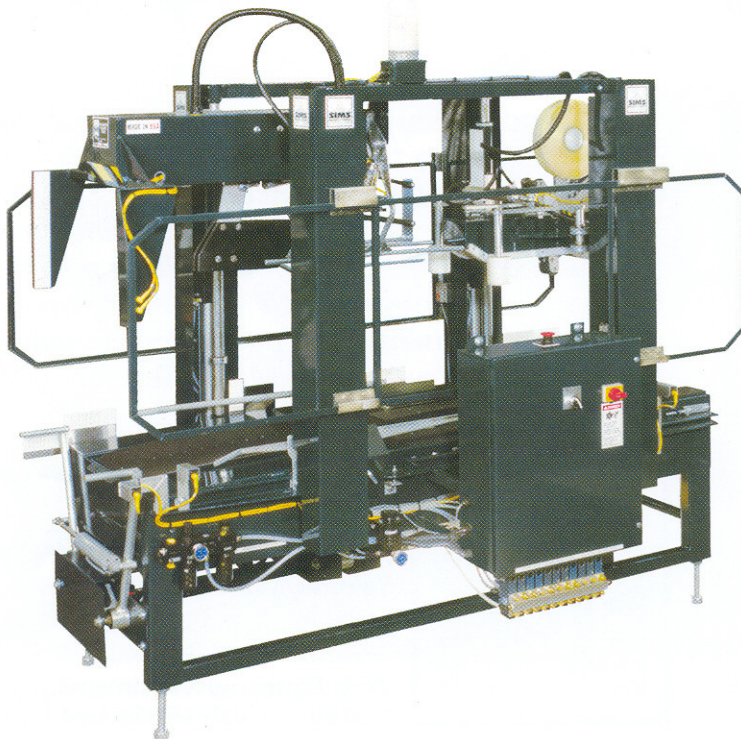
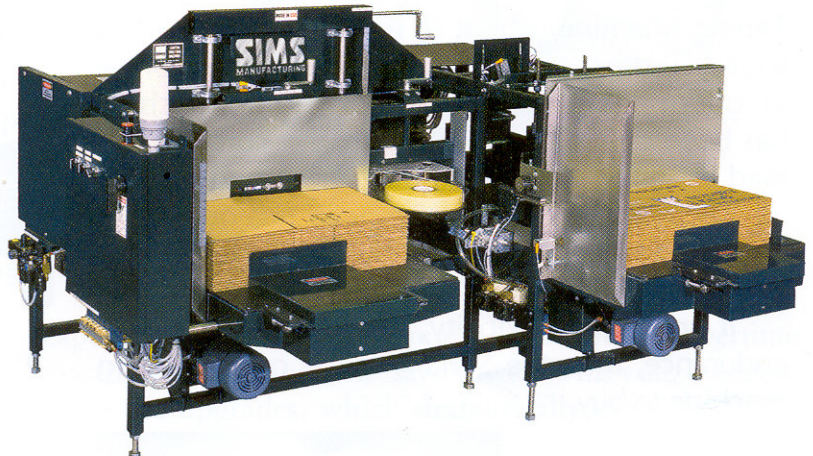
The SIMS ER-1600/1800 Case Erecting Machines have been designed to work fast, erect cases consistently, load easily, and require minimum maintenance. These case erectors are built to meet the demands of today's industries and to function dependably—long into the future. The ER-1800 has the added advantage faster

The ER-1600/1800 utilize the SIMS patented tape head with the proven industry advantage of sealing fast and more consistently than the competition.

## **SIMS ER-1600/1800 CASE ERECTING MACHINES WITH LIDDER**

The SIMS ER-1600/1800 Case Erecting Machines with Lidder feature fast operation, case erecting consistency, easy loading, and a minimum amount of maintenance. With the addition of the lidder the 1600/1800 machines are even more versatile in function.

SIMS patented tape head are standard equipment on both units.

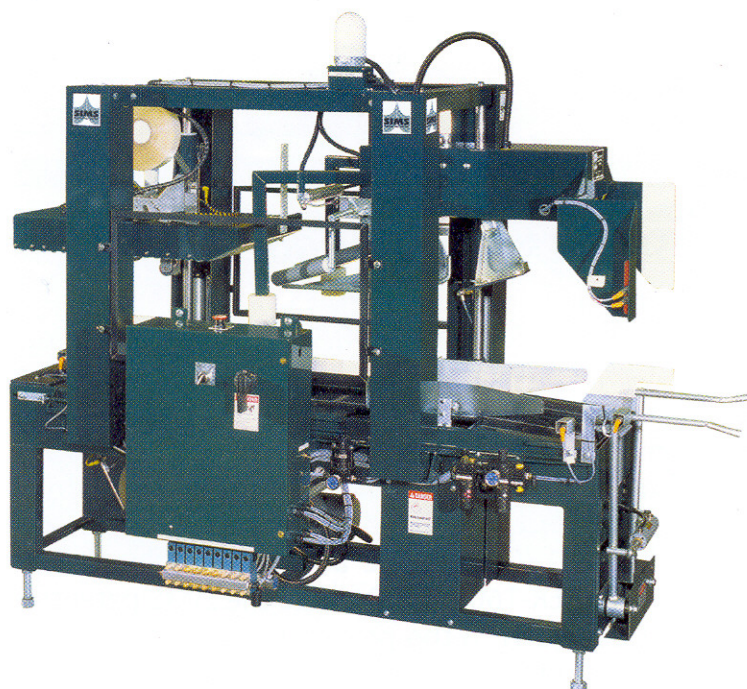


## **SIMS T-750 AUTOMATIC RANDOM CASE SEALING MACHINE**

The SIMS Model T-750 Automatic Random Case Sealing Machine and the SIMS patented tape head, make it a flexible, fast, reliable and durable addition to your line.

The Model T-750 features automatic case centering and indexing, speeds up to 15 cases per minute, pneumatic side rollers for squaring top flaps, self centering rails, and a programmable logic controller.





## **SIMS T-660** **AUTOMATIC RANDOM** **CASE SEALING MACHINE**

The SIMS T-660 Automatic Random Case Sealing Machine with the SIMS patented tape head has demonstrated to the industry that it works faster and more consistent than the competitors. It automatically adjusts to case sizes and accepts the New Euro Footprint Cases. The T-660 handles speeds up to 30 cases per minute featuring adjustable pneumatic compression while taping and programmable logic controller.

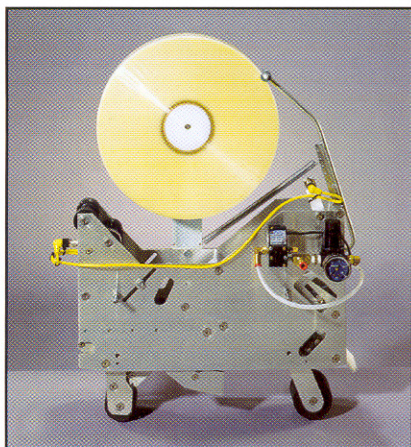
## **SIMS T-400** **CASE TAPING MACHINE**

The SIMS T-400 Fully Automatic Uniform Carton Taping Machine is built to meet the demands of today's industries and to function dependably—long into the future. This carton taping machine has been designed to work fast, seal consistently, load easily, and require minimum maintenance.

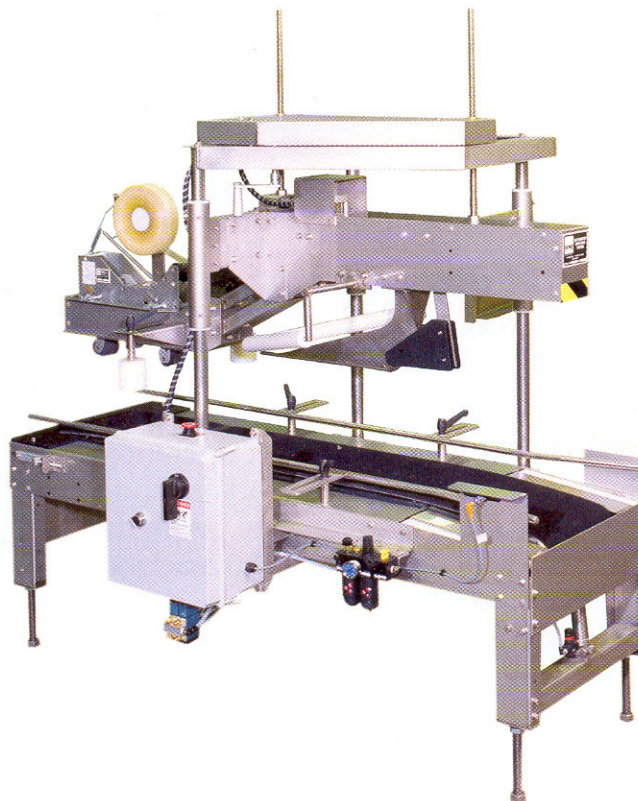
The SIMS patented tape head has become a proven industry advantage by sealing faster and more consistently than the competition.

If you need flexibility, speed, reliability, and endurance, then the SIMS is the carton taping machine to buy.

*The high speed performance of the SIMS patented tape head makes case taping fast and dependable with a proven history on both SIMS and many other case sealing machines (Shown with air assist).*



*SIMS Manufacturing is a division of Michelsen Packaging Company, an innovative manufacturer-distributor of Jiffy Pad and the patented M.P.C. Tray. Both are widely used in the fresh fruit industry. SIMS has been at the cutting edge of packaging technology for the fruit and produce industry on the Pacific coast for the past three decades.*



*Depending on your requirements, SIMS can custom design any type of packaging machine you need. They currently manufacture a Tray Denester, Jiffy Pad Inserter, Case Strapping Machine and a full line of case sealing equipment. Their patented tape head can easily be installed in many types of machines. To discuss your packaging equipment needs please contact a Michelsen or SIMS representative today.*



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