

RECP Best Practice Catalogue

Installing deeper dipping area for dates
Developed within the framework
of MED TEST II



UNITED NATIONS
INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT ORGANIZATION



The SwitchMed Programme is
funded by the European Union

Best practice – Installing deeper dipping area for dates

SECTOR: **Food & Beverage**

SUBSECTOR: Manufacture of other food products

PRODUCTS Variety of chocolate and confectionary products DRAGEES, GOURMET and Choco-Medjool

CATEGORY Process control or modification

APPLICABILITY Process

COMPANY NAME

COMPANY SIZE

The company employs around 50 full-time workers and during seasonal production time (including religious holidays) around 100 workers.

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Description of the problem (Base scenario):

There was identified high ratio of material losses in the chocolate coating machine. The nonconforming products sorted after the dates are dipped in the chocolate were estimated to be 3%. The cause of the problem was the undersized dipping container, lacking of suitable space for the dipping of dates in chocolate.

Description of the solution

The company changed the design of the dipping area within the chocolate coating machine. The main change in the design was to increase the depth of the dipping area (see picture at the end). This ensured that dates are 100% covered with chocolate.

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- Economic Benefits**
- Operational Saving from the decrease of raw material and chocolate loss in the chocolate coating machine by 3% (1400Eur/y)
 - Reduction of wasted dates and chocolate by 780 kg/y

TOTAL Saving: 1400 EUR/y

- Environmental Benefits**
- Conservation of natural resources and decrease of solid waste by 780kg/y (0.8% from the total amount of waste)

Health and safety impact N.A

Capital investments & financial indicators Appr. 1000 Euro with payback 0,7 year

Suppliers Local supplier

- Other aspects** This project achieved also other positive impacts such as:
- Increase product quality through smoother coating of the dates
 - Reduction of time losses and increase of line productivity by 3%

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Supplier of the dipping machine had no solution for the problem identified and was not able to change design of the dipping area so the company found local expert to change machine design without affecting its performance. After implementing this measure company verified savings of 1400 Eur/an by measurements (weighting losses). Also it confirmed other benefits mentioned earlier like increase of product quality.

