



Canal Fulton
Provisions eliminates
errors and boosts
productivity with
automation through
Food Connex

Industry	Challenge	Solution	Results
Meat, provisions, and custom butchering services	Manual measuring, counting, and order processing resulting in errors and inefficiencies	Automation of order processing, labelling, and accounting through Food Connex	Elimination of errors and significant improvement in quality

Company

Canal Fulton Provisions is a provider of meat, provisions, and custom butchering services based in Canal Fulton, Ohio. Founded in 1969, Canal Fulton Provisions has always based on quality products being presented to customers. Canal Fulton’s line of products are made by hand, in small batches, using whole ingredients and with the same recipes from the beginning.

Canal Fulton prides itself in sourcing all of our products in Ohio and surrounding states with nothing is purchased from outside the US. Canal Fulton is made up of a family of brands including Darby’s (corned beef and lunch meats), Chubby Chicken (marinated breast filets), Seymour Sausage, Tommy Boy Turkey, Abraham Bacon and Hams, and the original CFP label. CFP also does private labeling for their specialty customers.



“With Food Connex, we are at 100% no miss-pulls. No miss-picked product at all.”

Jeff Mizarek, Owner, Canal Fulton Provisions

Challenge

Manual measuring, counting, and order processing resulting in errors and inefficiencies

10 years ago, Jeff Mizarek, owner and operator of Canal Fulton Provisions, Inc., saw that his company was struggling. He recognized the dire need to restructure, specifically the inside of their facility.

Order processing and catch weights were being recorded and calculated in an entirely manual process. Employees were handwriting weights onto order pads that were then tallied and given to another person for invoicing.

Mizarek said, “There was no way to really check the weight. We just trusted the employees were writing the right weights on the pad. If we wanted to go and check the weights or add them up again we’d manually go look at the order and add them up.”

Because of these manual processes, errors were discovered constantly. Because of the fully human input, Canal Fulton was uncovering and rectifying mistakes every day.



Solution

In 2013, Jeff Mizarek, utilizing CAI's Food Connex software, led the company through a major overhaul, adding touchscreen labeling and integrated scales to cutting and shipping process.

"When were talking about bringing the automation in we were going through a hard time, business wise and financially," said Mizarek.

He continued, "I went to my father and said 'We have to restructure, and I think to restructure we've got to go inside the plant. Let's get automation in here, and get rid of the human mistakes being made every day that has been hurting our company.'"

Canal Fulton has automated catch weight capture by integrating their scales through a touchscreen

interface to generate labels. This system satisfies their product labeling requirements, provides traceability, ensures picking accuracy, and automates catch weight capture.



Results

Clear and Legible Labeling

With Food Connex, they haven't had a need for single pen, pencil or marker to mark a box or an order. The integrated labeling functionality has provided their customers with a clear understanding of what is in each box. It's cleaner, more professional, and has boosted their reputation amongst their customers.

Elimination of Picking Errors

Canal Fulton has seen a full elimination of picking errors.

Production Capabilities

With the implementation of Food Connex and automation, Canal Fulton

has given themselves the space to grow exponentially. They are no longer spending all their time fixing mistakes, handling customer issues and manually double-checking everything. They move faster and without mistakes.

Confidence in Quality

Automation and streamlined processes in the plant have given Canal Fulton the assurance that the quality of all product processed and sent to customers is of the highest quality.

Ready to get started with Food Connex?

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