

# HIGHLIGHT



GRUNWALD's customer magazine no. 61 / May 2025



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in 2 x 8 lane design

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Sterilgarda has been relying on  
GRUNWALD filling machines for 14 years



# Editorial

Spring has long since arrived north of the equator – and we in the Allgäu (a region in Bavaria, Germany) and in the Alpine foothills are already enjoying wonderful sunny days. Experience shows that the good weather and the Easter and May holidays are also accompanied by a significant increase in demand for fresh food. Our customers are increasing their production outputs accordingly in order to supply consumers with their delicacies in a reliable way. For us, this means that GRUNWALD machinery is running at full capacity – often 24/7. High machine availability and smooth production processes are of major importance now.

We are pleased that our orders on hand are still at a historically high level while the number of new orders is constantly increasing. All signs point to growth. The numerous expansions and building measures in the past 15 years were forward-looking investments and therefore the total factory space now amounts to 30,000 square metres. This allows for efficient machine assembly and on-time delivery – even in the current situation of a high demand for our rotary-type and linear machines. In addition, the number of employees also constantly increases. We are happy that, in a region with low unemployment, it is still possible to increase our team in a well-directed way and at high professional level. These are ideal conditions to meet our customers’ requirements at all levels.

Our portfolio ranges from small 10 g cups to 20 kg buckets – with filling capacities between 500 and 60,000 cups/h. Whether powder, products with pieces or pumpable products - we handle nearly any product and fill it in conical, stackable containers. Of course, we also provide our customers with intensive support in



terms of sustainable packaging materials - for example, recyclable or plastic-reduced packaging materials – on our fully-automatic filling and packaging machines. For this purpose, our modern development centre is available for us and our customers. All in all, GRUNWALD offers solutions for complete lines for almost all goods that are offered in the refrigerated shelves of supermarkets today.

We are very pleased that, in addition to our flexible cup and bucket filling machines, there is a currently high demand for our high-performance cup filling machines in ultraclean design. This shows our customers’ confidence in our expertise. Please see pages 7 – 9 for more information.

We are going to attend several exhibitions worldwide this autumn again – for example:

- FACHPACK in Nuremberg from 23.09. – 25.09.2025
- PACK EXPO IN LAS VEGAS from 29.09. - 01.10.2025

As usual, you will find the latest information on our website.

We look forward to seeing you in person in the course of this year – whether it is at an exhibition or on a project. Contact us. Together we will develop customised solutions that meet your requirements.

Yours  
Ralf Müller  
and the GRUNWALD team

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The cover picture shows a popular hiking destination and scene in the Allgäu Alps: the Schrecksee (at an altitude of 1,813 m) with its intense green-turquoise colour and the small island in the middle.

The idyllically situated alpine lake is located in the nature reserve of the Hintersteiner mountains in the Ostrachtal, Bavaria. It is considered to be one of the most beautiful mountain lakes in Germany and, in addition, it is also the most altitudinous natural alpine lake. To go hiking to this lake, a good level of fitness is required as an altitude difference of approximately 885 metres has to be covered from the starting point in Hinterstein to the lake.

Foto: Kilian Schöllhorn

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# My semester abroad in Ireland - a semester full of prospects

## Gaining life-enhancing experiences between Dublin, Scotland and London

GRUNWALD offers their students the chance for a semester abroad - the perfect opportunity to broaden their minds, gain valuable insights into foreign cultures and gather experiences that exceed the lecture room. Kilian, a student of industrial engineering and management, seized the opportunity to spend his fifth semester abroad from September 2024 as part of his dual study programme. In this report, he describes his adventures and reflects on the experiences he gathered during his stay in Dublin, Scotland and London. Kilian started his academic adventure in the Irish capital.

### Ireland – the Emerald Isle is calling

The adventure of a semester abroad started at the beginning of September, after a short flight of two hours. I travelled with a fellow student from Friedrichshafen and a student from Faroe Islands. When we arrived in Dublin, we immediately moved into our rooms in an old house from the 70s just out of town.

Dublin is a very lively and friendly city, known to many primarily for Guinness and its pub culture. However, at the same time Dublin is the centre of economy: Numerous enterprises such as JP Morgan, Apple and Google settled there because of tax benefits.

### University

The start of the semester at the Dublin Business School quickly revealed differences to the DHBW (Duale Hochschule Baden-Württemberg) that I have been attending. The examination formats differ significantly: instead of written tests, they set the focus on presentations, discussions and term papers. For me, the international atmosphere during the lectures, that were attended by about 30 students from all over the world, was very fascinating. Similar to the DHBW in Friedrichshafen, the learning environment here was also familiar and interactive. ►



### Activities at the university

We also did not miss out on recreational activities. The Dublin Business School offered a multitude of activities, such as pub crawls, hikes in the Dublin mountains or excursions to neighbouring cities.

The surfing weekend at the West Coast was a special highlight and I used a surfboard for the first time. Right at the beginning of the semester, these events were a great opportunity to meet students from other countries and make new friends.

### Leisure time and reconnaissance

When there were no lectures, I used the time to get to know the country and the people. In addition to visits to museums – where admission is free in Ireland – we made numerous city trips. I was really impressed by the nature in and around Dublin, especially by the Dublin Mountains, the Phoenix Park and the coastal walks in Howth.

Another highlight was the one-week road trip when the three of us explored the major part of the island. In total, we covered approximately 1,700 kilometres by car – in left-hand traffic! Even though we had to get used to this at first, we soon got the hang of it and it was fun with Ireland's numerous traffic circles.

The trip took us through beautiful green landscapes, remote national parks and quaint villages that we could only reach via narrow, bumpy roads. The free-range sheep on the roads perfectly rounded off the cliché people have of Ireland. ►



Finally, I have to say that the idea people have of Ireland, has been confirmed: they are open, hospitable people, associated with a gorgeous landscape. However, there is one cliché that I have to refute: the weather. Contrary to many prejudices it was extremely dry during these three months. At the beginning, I even regretted that I did not take more summer clothing with me.

**Side trip to Scotland and London**

Thanks to a flexible lecture plan I also had the opportunity of visiting two friends. First of all, I spent a weekend in Scotland. At present, one of my friends from Wangen has been living and working there. Together with him I made several wonderful hikes in the mountains and on the coast far away from the tourist hotspots.

Two weeks later I accepted the invitation from a fellow traveller to come to London. We got to know each other two years ago on the Way of St. James and we have been in contact ever since. We were happy to see each other again and so I spent several sunny but cold days in the centre of London.

**Conclusion: An experience of a lifetime**

Finally, I would like to say that my semester abroad in Ireland exceeded my expectations by far. In addition to studying and improving my English language skills, I got to know the people and Irish culture extensively and made new friends. Looking back, the stay in Dublin was a time full of unique impressions and memories.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank GRUNWALD for their great support and sponsorship, which made my semester abroad and these unrivalled experiences possible. ◆



*Autumn in the Glenveagh national park (Ireland)*



*London – a city full of contrasts*



*Wild beauty – the Scottish coast*

# Two high-performance cup filling machines

with a unique standard of hygiene and precision to handle 80,000 cups and 36,500 kg of product per hour



*Filling of stirred yoghurt on the fully automatic cup filling and closing machine GRUNWALD-FOODLINER 20.000UC in 2x8-lane ultraclean design*

As you read this article, GRUNWALD has already delivered two identical high-speed filling lines, the FOODLINER 20.000UC/2x8 lane, to one of the largest dairy groups in Europe.

These impressive inline cup fillers were specifically designed for mass production, meeting the highest demands for speed and hygiene.

To meet the high production requirements, each machine had to achieve an output of 40,000 cups per hour or 670 cups per minute - and all in an ultraclean (UC) design!

To maintain a compact footprint with the specification "as small as possible" the transport and filling system was designed in a 2x8 format, allowing 16 cups per stroke. Additionally, both the filling station for fruit preparation and the main filling station feature a new, space-saving vertical EASYCLEAN dosing system. This innovative solution ensures a particularly compact design and maximum efficiency in the filling process.

**Unparalleled speed and efficiency**

Over the years, GRUNWALD has delivered numerous linear filling machines with capacities ranging from ►





The next ultraclean (UC) machine generation for dairy products: fully-automatic cup filling and closing machine GRUNWALD-FOODLINER 20.000UC in 2x8-lane design with integrated tray packer

20,000 to 60,000 cups per hour. However, it is not every day that we receive enquiries for high-speed lines capable of 40,000 cups per hour - and in this case, for two identical machines at once.

At first glance, the filling machine in operation appears calm and effortless. However, considering that 55 trays of 12 cups each leave the machine every minute, the scale of production quickly becomes apparent.

**Reliability and innovation at its core**

GRUNWALD is renowned for its reliable and innovative machine solutions, and this project was no exception. The two key objectives were:

- 1. High-capacity output of 40,000 cups per hour with an impressive > 98% efficiency rate.
- 2. Integrated inline weighing to minimise product giveaway, ensuring precise dosing adjustments in real time.

These features allow the system to maintain exceptional performance while optimising product usage and reducing waste.

**Advanced design for maximum hygiene and compliance**

For GRUNWALD, hygiene and safety have always had top priority for filling and dosing technology. Our engineering team consistently prioritises strict adherence to hygiene regulations and high product safety standards when developing new machines.

To meet the highest hygiene requirements, the cup fillers are equipped with:

- State-of-the-art pulsed light UV(C) sterilisation for cups and foils, achieving a sterilisation rate of  $\geq \text{LOG}4$  at 40 cycles per minute.
- HEPA filter class H14, ensuring sterile overpressure within the enclosed tunnel from cup denesting to final sealing.
- Gas flushing system to reduce residual oxygen levels below 1%, meeting the customer's specific requirements for extended product shelf life.

By combining ultraclean design, high-speed performance and precise dosing, GRUNWALD once again proves its ability to set new industry benchmarks in dairy packaging technology.

**Key points of the GRUNWALD-FOODLINER 20.000UC**

- Intelligent 2x8-lane inline cup filling machine with high production speed (40,000 cups/h).
- Ultraclean (UC) design with peroxide-free hygiene concept.
- High hygiene standard at its maximum speed (sterilisation rate  $\geq \text{LOG}4$  at 40 cycles/min.).
- Sterile HEPA filtered air transported in a tunnel above the cups.
- Double, vertical dosing system designed in accordance with EHEDG guidelines in CIP and SIP versions.
- Inline weighing to automatically adjust the filling volume.
- Automatic cup and snap-on lid feeding
- Foil sealing incl. UV-(C) sterilisation and gas flushing.
- Automatic integrated "End-of-line" packing lifting 48 cups at the same time into segmented 3x4 trays (55 trays/min).
- Up-to-date, fully integrated industry 4.0 solution guarantees maximum process reliability in order to entirely avoid production downtimes.



2x8-line side by side filling



Integrated tray packing system



The new lid feeding system from floor level



# Long-term cooperation at the highest level

## Interview with Daniël van der Woude, Lead Engineer at Johma



On the right Lead Engineer Daniël van der Woude with his colleagues and – on the left – GRUNWALD Sales Director Christoph Trunzer during the pre-PDI of one of the Johma GRUNWALD-ROTARY 12.000 filling machines

Mr. van der Woude, can you still remember the early days of Johma? When and how did you start working with GRUNWALD?

*I had my first experience with GRUNWALD in 2011 – but the relationship between Johma and GRUNWALD began much earlier. In fact, the first GRUNWALD machine, purchased in 1990, is still used for production every day at Johma – that is the proof for their long-life cycle and quality!*

*From my point of view GRUNWALD is always willing to listen to their customers, delivering machines that are perfectly customised to their specific needs. The machines have a robust design and, above all, they are extremely reliable in operation.*

*Our partnership with GRUNWALD is the natural result of the mutual trust that has developed over the years between Johma and GRUNWALD.*

The first machine supplied by us for filling your delicatessen salads was a ROTARY 10.000/4-lane. Why did you decide on this machine?

*As already mentioned, the partnership between Johma and GRUNWALD as well as the reliability of the machines are of utmost importance. It is equally important that the machine runs exactly as required, without frequent interruptions, guaranteeing consistently high OEE.*

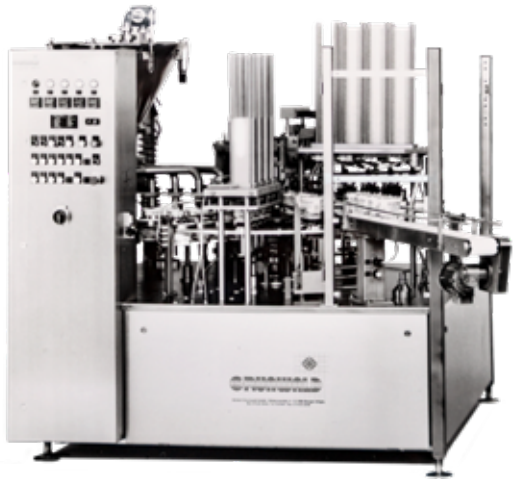
*The high reliability of these machines allows for reliable deliveries for our customers – and this is exactly what we prioritise in our daily work.*

Over the years, the portfolio of your ROTARY filling machines has multiplied. What is your latest purchase and to what extent does it fulfil your requirements?

*The machines supplied recently once again meet our requirements. The improvements discussed together have been implemented in an effective way and there has always been close teamwork to explore and develop further new options for optimisation.*

What do you appreciate about GRUNWALD filling machines in particular?

*The build quality is excellent, and the machine gives reliably service – even for more than 30 years, if required.*



The first GRUNWALD rotary type machine delivered to Johma in 1990. The machine is still used in daily production today



GRUNWALD-ROTARY 20.000 - one of the rotary-type cup filling machines supplied recently

How do you assess the cooperation with GRUNWALD?

*We have an excellent cooperation with GRUNWALD. The words that immediately come to my mind are openness, transparency and quality.*

Let's look ahead. Is there another project that you would like to implement with GRUNWALD?

*Absolutely! We are currently working on this!*

Mr. van der Woude, thank you very much for this exciting interview!

*We look forward to a continued, successful cooperation and to expanding this success story together.* ♦



In the Netherlands, there is a clear market leader for delicatessen salads: Johma, part of the global player Signature Foods Nederland BV. Johma has been known for over 50 years and its name is music to the ears of gourmet lovers. Whether classic or creative – as a master of delicatessen salads Johma creates the most delicious salads with recipes that inspire generations. With its unlimited wealth of ideas and impressive variety of delicatessen

products, there is something to suit everyone's taste. This success would not be possible without leading-edge filling and packaging technology. GRUNWALD has been a reliable partner for more than three decades and has contributed significantly to the success of this brand with 26 rotary-type filling machines.

With Lead Engineer Daniël van der Woude we reflect on the past and take a look into a fascinating future. ►



# Partnership with flavour: FELIX Austria relies on GRUNWALD GmbH

Maximum production speed in a minimum of space –  
the GRUNWALD bucket filling machine for ketchup and mayonnaise



www.felix.at



When it comes to quality, flavour and innovation, FELIX Austria sets new standards. As Austria's leading manufacturer of ketchup, mayonnaise and delicatessen sauces, the company has been standing for indulgence and the highest product standards for more than 65 years.

Two years ago, Felix Austria that is known for quality, offering products without preservatives or flavour enhancers, was facing a new challenge. They required a filling machine for large containers for their products that also met their demand in terms of filling technology. The first contact was at Interpack 2023 in Düsseldorf. Felix Austria had high demands on the filling machine

required: Maximum hygiene, compact design and an impressively high production output. We soon realised that a customised solution would be required to place a high-performance bucket filling machine for filling buckets of up to 15 kg in an area with limited space.

**High-performance technology for ketchup and mayonnaise in large containers**  
Our answer was the key to success concept for a rotary-type filling machine GRUNWALD-HITTPAC XXL!

We had the suitable bucket filler in our portfolio to meet the customer's requirements and guarantee a high production output despite the limited space available. In close cooperation and intensive meetings, the teams ►

## Features of the bucket filling machine GRUNWALD-HITTPAC XXL/1-bahnig

- Filling station with pump and hopper for filling ketchup and mayonnaise
- Automatic CIP cleaning
- Open space for mounting a cutting/sealing station for handling sealing film from the reel
- Snap-on lid station in combination with press-on station
- Format flexibility due to handling more than 5 different bucket sizes
- Format changeover time less than 5 minutes
- Format changeover without tools
- Production speed:
  - approx. 1,000 buckets/h with 5 kg bucket
  - approx. 500 buckets/h with 15 kg bucketthis means: depending on the bucket size 5 - 7.5 tons of product are filled per hour!
- Machine availability > 98 %
- Basic machine frame: 1,800 x 1,850 mm



1-lane bucket filler GRUNWALD-HITTPAC XXL

of both companies were working hand in hand on a customised concept that was perfectly tailored to the requirements of Felix Austria and ultimately provided an impressive solution.

With the GRUNWALD-HITTPAC XXL, Felix Austria invested in a high-performance machine that is capable of filling up to 1,000 5 kg buckets per hour – in a hygienic, efficient and flexible way and suitable for different bucket sizes. The format changeover takes less than five minutes and considerably increases efficiency. Due to the leading-edge technology of this bucket filling machine Felix Austria is in a position to fill their high-quality products with the highest standards as required.

**A partnership to achieve maximum quality**  
This partnership goes beyond technology. It represents common values in terms of sustainability, precision and focuses on the human beings – be it the consumer or the employee behind the scenes.

We look back on this project with pride and would like to take this opportunity to thank Felix Austria once again for the trust they have placed in us as well as for the excellent cooperation.

So, we are not just filling ketchup, we are telling a story - a story of innovation and tradition that shows what is possible when two great partners work together. ♦

# Perfect filling technology for perfect products

For 14 years, the global player Sterilgarda has been relying on GRUNWALD filling machines for filling mascarpone and ricotta of premium quality



Photo from left to right: Christoph Trunzer (Sales Director of GRUNWALD), Claudio Mergoni and Mattia Mazzi (both from Sterilgarda) after successful PDI with the 3-lane cup filling machine GRUNWALD-ROTARY 20.000UC



The history of Sterilgarda in Castiglione delle Stiviere (MN) can be traced back to the 1960s. Originally founded by local dairy farmers, production increased considerably thanks to the automation of production in the 1980s.

Today Sterilgarda's main plant comprises an area of 400,000 square metres and they have almost 300 employees. They produce a wide range of products such as milk, cheese, yoghurt, desserts and juices in this state-of-the-art plant that is subject to stringent quality controls. Production takes place six days a

week, in 3-shift operation, on 45 production lines and they handle 1,200 tons of product. The cheese dairy alone produces 40 tons of mascarpone and 15 tons of ricotta every day. It is therefore not surprising that our customer Sterilgarda is the largest producer of mascarpone worldwide.

### On board for more than a decade

In order to maintain the production and availability of sustainable, high-quality products, Sterilgarda has been relying on the highest quality standards – especially ►

in technology – and trusts in the best suppliers. We are therefore proud that Sterilgarda started relying on the filling and packaging technology of a GRUNWALD cup filling machine in 2011. In this year, we supplied the first, 3-lane GRUNWALD-ROTARY 12.000 for filling mascarpone in 250g and 500g cups. It was the first rotary-type machine – fully-automatic and flexible in format – and the beginning of a long-standing partnership that has grown constantly and still continues to grow.

For 14 years, this global player has been filling mascarpone and ricotta on GRUNWALD rotary-type filling machines. These are two cheese specialties that are produced in ever-increasing quantities due to rising demand. Last year, production was expanded by two further GRUNWALD cup filling machines.

### The two new arrivals

In 2024, we delivered the following rotary-type cup filling machines:

- GRUNWALD-HITTPAC AKH-029S/1-lane for filling mascarpone
- Ultraclean filling machine GRUNWALD-ROTARY 20.000UC/3-lane for filling mascarpone and ricotta

In addition to performance and flexibility, maximum hygiene is of utmost importance. These features were successfully implemented on both rotary-type machines. We could meet all their requirements, above all due to the high-performance UV(C) sterilisation stations for packaging materials (cups and sealing film) that achieve a verifiable sterilisation rate of  $\geq \text{LOG}4$ .

Today, Sterilgarda fills their mascarpone products on six GRUNWALD cup filling machines with an impressive output of 7 million cups per week!

We at GRUNWALD do our best to ensure that reliable production of these products, that are in demand worldwide, is maintained to the highest quality and hygiene standards. ◆



For guaranteeing maximum safety, the sealing film is sterilised by pulsating UV(C) high-performance radiators.

### Features of the rotary-type GRUNWALD filling machines

#### 1-lane GRUNWALD-HITTPAC AKH-029S

- Output: up to 1,700 cups/h
- Cup size: 2 kg bucket, Ø 178 mm
- High-performance UV(C) sterilisation rate  $\geq \text{LOG}4$
- CIP and SIP design
- Sterile air cover

#### 3-lane GRUNWALD-ROTARY 20.000UC

- Output: up to 7,000 cups/h
- Cup sizes: 250g + 500g Ø 111 mm
- High-performance UV(C) sterilisation rate  $\geq \text{LOG}4$
- CIP and SIP design
- Aseptic filling station type EASYCLEAN
- Sterile air cover
- Cup storage up to 20 min.



## **Sender**

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In case of any changes please return to:  
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Fax: +49 7522 9705 999

## **GRUNWALD-HIGHLIGHT**

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