

Job Title: Multi Powder Filling Line
Company: Major F&B Manufacturer
Location: South of Ireland
Duration: 2 Months
Objectives: Equipment Specifications Process Improvement URS Development Standards Compliance Vendor Analysis Project Plan: Cost & Timing Project Justification for Capital Approval

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Our client, a major food and beverages facility located in the south of Ireland wished to install a new filling line as a result of increased product demand and changing federal regulations. The client's process involved filling small quantities of potent flavour powders into a single bag. Previously, this had been achieved using a time consuming manual filling process.

Prochem were contracted to carry out a Front End Design Study for the new filling line, to be located in an area of the facility which had previously been used for storage. The project presented a number of significant challenges, namely:

- Locating the new line within the physical confines of the space available, compounded by the ongoing adjacent operation.
- Mitigating the risk of cross-contamination given the criticality of flavour potency to the product.
- Identifying and engaging with a vendor who had the capability to supply a fully automated micro-filling solution within the client's required tolerance.
- Achieving solutions to these challenges while generating a project with an attractive ROI.

Prochem approached the study in two distinct phases:

Phase 1:

- Leading the development of an effective and efficient process map for the operation in conjunction with the client. This also involved identifying the areas of criticality within the filling operation.
- Identifying a list of suitable vendors for screening by the client, based on the client's familiarity with the vendor's capabilities.
- Engagement with preferred vendors and assessment of their responses to an initial scope document generated by **Prochem**. Their understanding of the process was evaluated further through meetings and teleconferences.

Phase 2:

- Development and client approval of detailed User Requirements Specifications (URS) by **Prochem**.
- Obtaining and analysing high level quotations from vendors.
- Visits to the manufacturing facilities of preferred vendors.
- Collation of the outputs into a Front End Study report for the client. This identified the optimum technical solution, the costs and timelines.

The client utilised the output of the study as the basis for their CAPEX request for the project. Approval was granted and the project has since been successfully implemented, delivering the required business benefit for the client.