

# CASE STUDY

## Large Vacuum Gripping System Improves Production

### CHALLENGE

A local robot integrator was faced with the task of automating a palletizing area. Commercial products contained in boxes of varying sizes and weights were delivered, via multiple conveyors merging into a central point.

A requirement to palletize over 200 different sizes of “taped shut” boxes in a quick cycle time. The end customer needed an ROI that would improve production cycle times. This application required extreme flexibility because the “end of arm” tool changes were not possible based on system requirements.

### SOLUTION

Price Engineering and Schmalz (a worldwide leader in pneumatic gripping systems) worked directly with the robot integrator to design this specific part of a working automated system while meeting all customer goals. A large-area vacuum gripping system fit this application well.

### BENEFITS

1. Short cycle times were achieved by utilizing light weight extruded aluminum profiles. This provided flexible handling of non-rigid work pieces.
2. A low overall height, ease of mounting, protected valve technology, and flexible vacuum hole locations delivered the flexibility needed.
3. Testing with customer provided product was done offsite prior to installation.
4. A significant increase in production volume was achieved. The customer is budgeting for additional installed cells.

