# acrovision ✳ HERMA

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# Acrovision provide a successful automatic vision solution for HERMA Labelling Systems

## About

**HERMA Labelling Systems are a world leading manufacturer of self-adhesive label application systems. HERMA design and build high specification, high quality labelling equipment across a broad spectrum of markets and industries, including Food & Beverage, Healthcare, Toiletry and Cosmetics.**

Acrovision, one of the UK's leading suppliers of Automatic Identification and Vision solutions, were asked by HERMA to provide a validation system. This system was to determine the correct positioning and specification for a top labelling application project for HERMA's end customer.

HERMA were finding that label tolerances on the customer's products were not keeping within their specific tolerance, and yet, were still providing a high pass rate.

HERMA's requirements from Acrovision included the following:

- Automated check to inspect up to 175 products per minute
- Validation of correct label by unique pattern / colours
- Label placement to be calculated and adjusted accordingly
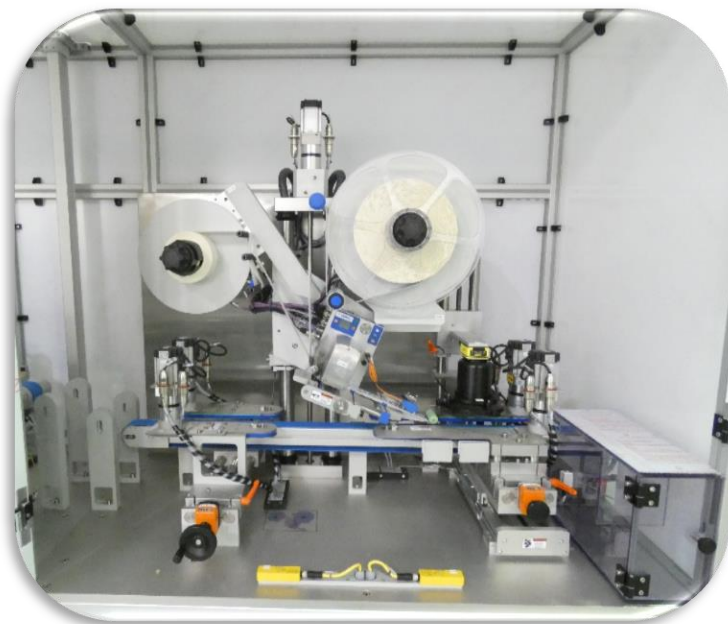
## Business challenge

Due to the unique speed of the labelling, combined with the high accuracy and tight tolerance performance requirements from the end user, Acrovision proposed a solution that assisted HERMA in the reduction of the product reject rate and implemented a 100% validation inspection for correct labelling.

## Acrovision solution

Acrovision designed a solution to include measurement criteria which is able to auto-adjust the labelling positions of the products allowing the system to perform a controlled application within the tolerance required, therefore reducing the product reject rate.

This solution included a bespoke version of Acrovision's Validator range, consisting of a Cognex camera, the In-Sight 7801C, 1.3mp colour vision system, which inspects up to 175 products per minute, while checking that the top label is not only the correct label but also central to the customer's product. These products are then inspected by the Cognex Vision System to ensure no labels are misplaced, missing, damaged or incorrect.

An average of good label placement is then calculated and at this point the X- and -Y plane adjusts accordingly. Should the vision system identify an out of tolerance / incorrect / missing label, the product is immediately discarded by an air blast into the reject facility.

## Result

Based on initial testing and results offered by Acrovision, this application has been selected for an ongoing project with HERMA to include the supply of a further 15 systems which are currently being commissioned and installed globally.  The successful collaboration between Acrovision and HERMA Labelling Systems, ensures a good product flow throughout the application process. However, should a product jam occur at the outfeed of the machine, the functional standby mode is activated automatically, causing products to halt at the infeed belt until the queue is released.  This beneficial function enables the handlers to meet the required product feeding speeds and avoids any non-conforming products to hit the stores.

The final solution has already undertaken successful factory and site acceptance tests with the end user and feedback suggests that the solution provides great quality control, correct label placement and assurances that the product labels are 100% correct. Due to this success, Acrovision are now implementing a further 4 machines for another manufacturer as well as quoting further systems within the market sector.

The alliance between Acrovision and HERMA has resulted in a successful order fulfilment from project infancy to complete system install.

## Comments

**Simon Ager**, Software Engineer at HERMA comments, "Having worked together with Acrovision throughout many successful projects over the years, we have managed to establish strong relationships between employees. We have a particularly good rapport with our Key Account Manager Simon Banks and his team who have a fundamental understanding of how HERMA's labelling machinery operates and who are now able to act independently when working on site. This comprehension is key to the success of the relationship between the two companies and the projects that we endeavour to work collaboratively on".

**Simon Banks,** Sales Manager at Acrovision added, "Fulfilling customers' demands and particular requirements have been made easier to complete when working with HERMA UK. This is mainly because HERMA UK have the same work ethic as us (Acrovision). We both put ourselves in the customers shoes and provide a solution that we would want to receive. This includes suggesting and implementing additional features and benefits to solutions offered to the customer that they hadn't requested/thought possible."

Proof that a combined collaborative effort can achieve effective successful results.

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