Orthomol pharmazeutische Vertriebs GmbH in Langenfeld, Germany, is leading the way in the field of orthomolecular nutritional medicine. For more than 25 years, the company has been developing and marketing an extensive range of food supplements such as balanced dosage and diagnosis-based micronutrient compositions which are available from dispensing chemists. Product development and production are governed by the comprehensive, international food safety and quality standard ISO 22000 which ensures highest quality and safety – from development and raw material selection, right up to the finished product.

Over 400 employees work for Orthomol at its three sites in Langenfeld and in field services. Annually over 50 million pouches and 12 million drink bottles leave the premises. For more than 18 years, Orthomol has been putting its trust in advanced dynamic weighing technology: checkweighing solutions from METTLER TOLEDO. Now a new two-lane C35 AdvancedLine checkweigher has commenced operation in the final packaging area. Sitting on a single frame, the dual lane superstructure of the checkweigher takes up minimal space and was easily integrated into the existing line.

The two-lane checkweigher C35 AdvancedLine ensures both high throughput and high weighing accuracy.
Orthomol’s sites in Langenfeld are home not just to the company’s R&D, medicine and marketing departments, but also to quality assurance, which is a key focus within the company. From the moment of commissioning, the new two-lane checkweigher has provided stable, reliable weighing results, checking the filling process of “Orthomol Immun” – a dietary food product with immune-relevant micronutrients in portion sachets. Any sachet not correctly filled is reliably excluded from the packaging process by the checkweigher using fast-action lift gate conveyors.

Strict quality standards met
The company’s balanced dosage products include vitamins, minerals, trace elements and secondary plant compounds which are produced in seven formats, including granules for making drinks, tablets, capsules and as ready-made drinks. It goes without saying that tight tolerances have to be applied to the production of such high-value products, which makes highly-accurate dynamic weighing technology mandatory. "A trusting relationship with our suppliers is important to us," explains Alen Blatancic, head of technical teams. "We’ve found a partner in METTLER TOLEDO who meets our strict quality standards and has successfully accompanied us for very many years."

The new C35 AdvancedLine excels in high weighing accuracy and throughput, and its versatile product handling features can be flexibly adapted to changing requirements in Orthomol’s production lines. Capable of achieving an accuracy of up to 0.1 g, the checkweigher’s weighing range covers products from 3 g to 10 kg, making it suitable for use in many different production lines or line sections of the factory.

C-Series checkweighers provide single-lane or cumulated values at the touch of a key
The dual lane checkweighing system in the Orthomol Immun line checks up to 120 sachets per minute for correct weight. A clear weighing terminal provides insight into production, giving a quick overview of the results from both lanes. Information from one of the two lanes can be selected at the touch of a key, and the lane concerned can be identified at a glance. Data can also be displayed separately for each lane or as a total.

Changeover to another product in no time at all
Furthermore, the large memory of product setups facilitates easy changeovers as Mr. Blatancic testifies, "Every two days there’s a product changeover in this production line and the C35 AdvancedLine can be changed to another product in no time at all."
Access to "moving parts" areas – such as the belt conveyors and lift gate conveyors – is shielded by safeguards.

Changeover to another product is just as easy as calling up statistical information from one of the two checkweighing lanes.

To allow for asynchronous and independent operation of the two lanes, each lane can be individually controlled if need be. Moreover, if one lane breaks down, the second weighing lane will continue to work undisturbed.

The METTLER TOLEDO service network of technical experts ensures that any repair Orthomol requests will be carried out quickly and meticulously so that production keeps running smoothly. "Besides a reliable product, a fast and trustworthy installation and repair service is essential for us," adds Mr. Blatancic.

METTLER TOLEDO is a leading global supplier of checkweighers, metal detectors, x-ray inspection and vision inspection systems.

More information:

www.mt.com/pi
Guidelines for weighing technology – Creating an effective checkweighing program
The “Principles of Checkweighing” guide is recommended as a reference document. It offers insights into all aspects of checkweighing, starting with the basic principles up to the implementation of a comprehensive checking program.

This 70-page FREE guide helps producers as a companion document for setting up this sort of weighing program, and is required reading for everyone who has anything to do with checkweighing systems.

www.mt.com/cwguide

About Mettler-Toledo Product Inspection:
The Product Inspection Division of METTLER TOLEDO is a leader in the field of automated inspection technology. Our solutions increase process efficiency for manufacturers while supporting compliance with industry standards and regulations. Our systems also deliver improved product quality which helps to protect the welfare of consumers and reputation of manufacturers.