

petfoodpro

Technology & Marketing **3/26**



Ingredients: Collagen for Mobility, Plant-Based Proteins, Fats and Lipids, Additives, Colors

Processing: Safety in Baked Pet Food, Inspection, Sustainability, Cutting Edge Innovation

Packaging: Automated Mixed Packaging, Robotics in Secondary Packs, Monopacks

Marketing: Rapid Growth through Partnership, A Brand Reinvents itself, Top Trends at FiE

Cutting Edge Innovation for the Pet Food Processing Industry



Photos from URSCHEL

Scott Klockow, Director of Applications and Product Development, Urschel

To successfully navigate the diverse and growing demands of the pet food industry, processors need a trusted partner to remain efficient and competitive. As the global leader in food cutting technology, processors rely on Urschel for durable, ruggedly designed machinery for pet food production. From produce to protein to poultry to seafood, Urschel has a high level of expertise in precision cutting applications that carries over into the wide range of products pet food processors manufacture.

Cutting solutions to meet common applications in pet food processing

Urschel assists processors in meeting the growing consumer demand of fresh vegetables and related healthy options in pet food dishes. For example, Urschel®

equipment reduces sweet potatoes into dices, strips, or slices to create freeze dried and dehydrated dog treats. Vegetable and fruit reductions are also commonly integrated into different meat-or-vegetable-based pet food mixes.

Processors additionally turn to Urschel for solutions that dice and reduce fish, poultry, or meats for freeze dried meat snacks. Similarly, cooked whole muscle and processed meats may be shredded to produce high end dog and cat foods.

A favorable Urschel solution in pet food processing includes the DiversaCut 2110A® Dicer, which optimally cuts meats, fish, vegetables, and produce to deliver high-end pet food products in an array of unique cut shapes and styles.

Medium-to-small-volume processors, or those working with limited production space, should consider the Sprint 2® Dicer or the Little Gem Aspire™ Dicer, a new Urschel cutting concept in produce processing. The Sprint 2 implements similar technology to the DiversaCut line in a compact, efficient design engineered for optimized production demands through 2- or 3-dimensional slices, dices, strips, or shreds. The Little Gem features a compact footprint and StatiCut™ technology for quick transitions between cut sizes for high-bulk density applications.

The USDA accepted Affinity® Dicer is becoming the go-to machine for freeze



Little Gem Aspire Dicer

dried and hot extruded applications for pet food. The Affinity additionally offers a built-in precutter for an all-in-one solution to assist in the processing of logs.

Many pâté style pet foods, base products for kibble, and extruded foods are initially created using the Comitrol® Processor line. This line, otherwise unmatched in the food processing sector, is dedicated to delivering particle size reductions down to micro-dimensions. These same products are then extruded and diced or shredded with an Urschel dicer, namely an M VersaPro® (MVP) Dicer, M6 Dicer, DiversaCut 2110A Dicer, or an Affinity Dicer. Urschel dicers also routinely process extruded rope, pet snacks, and jerky type products to reduce them to meet the targeted specs of each customer.



DiversaCut Line



The Affinity Pre-Cutter has a built-in pre-cutter for the processing of logs

Challenges and solutions in pet food processing

Pet food processors rely on the strength of the Urschel global network to optimize yield and minimize waste. Urschel acts as a true partner in productivity, collaborating closely with processors, sharing expert insights, and delivering dedicated support and technical maintenance to meet specific production goals. Through a comprehensive evaluation of the production line, Urschel provides transparent, upfront guidance to help customers make capital investments that maximize long-term business value.

Urschel supports long-term performance through in-house engineering and manufacturing of critical parts and knives, ensuring consistent, reliable performance throughout the long life of the Urschel machine. Designed for durability and ease of use, Urschel machinery keeps processors up and running. Precision and ruggedly engineered parts reduce changeover frequency, and extend knife life to help processors maintain efficient, uninterrupted production.

The new Urschel Knife Lab allows knowledgeable, in-house production teams to closely evaluate the manufacturing process, ensuring a cohesive balance between knife sharpness and toughness. Each blade is designed to maintain incredible acuteness at the edge in rugged production environments.

With every machine purchase, Urschel customers receive a comprehensive operation manual that provides detailed instructions for efficient operation. Familiarity with Urschel equipment can be significantly improved through careful review of the manual, which serves as a valuable reference for both new and experienced operators. In addition to the manual, Urschel customers benefit from a machine startup service. During the setup, an Urschel regional sales manager guides them through the workings and benefits of their machine to help their production line run smoothly.

Forward-thinking pet food processors should understand their raw product characteristics, evaluate production line setup options to maximize overall feeding and line efficiencies, and schedule a free-of-charge test cutting on Urschel equipment to discover the optimal solution for their production line. Test cutting services are available in key locations around the world.

The future of pet food processing

Urschel is proud to support pet food processors as the industry continues to grow and evolve. Patented Urschel technology is continually expanded upon to fully support and grow customers' existing capabilities. This allows new cutting methods and shapes to be implemented on machines already

operating in the field, and customers benefit from new parts and newly developed knives specifically designed to meet their applications. This versatility and adaptability of Urschel machinery is especially beneficial in the fast-paced pet food processing market.

Labor shortages across the food processing industry are causing companies to reevaluate day-to-day operations and outsource help to keep up with production demands. For this reason, processors have been relying on the Urschel global network more than ever before for routine maintenance and staff training. Processors know they can partner with Urschel to confidently develop cutting machinery that is simple to operate and maintain.

In the upcoming years, Urschel hopes to continue to energize and strengthen the food processing industry. By empowering and growing possibilities and increasing patented cutting methods, the future is bright for Urschel and Urschel customers.



For more information
www.urschel.com



Pet Food Cutting Solutions

Rely on Urschel, The Global Leader in Food Cutting Technology, to deliver cutting solutions for all types of pet food products.

From slices and dices of chubs and preformed logs to flake cutting meat or emulsifying fish products, Urschel excels at meeting your processing goals.

Explore pet food cutting solutions at [urschel.com](https://www.urschel.com).



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