



# Eckes-Granini

## “From generation to generation”

Featuring small character inkjet printers

Fruit juice traceability ■ ■ ■



“The ease of use, compactness and excellent marking quality of Markem-Imaje printers have won us over for years.”

**Eberhard Karlstedt,**  
Production Manager

**Name:** Eckes-Granini Deutschland GmbH

**Group:** Eckes AG, subsidiaries in Finland, France, Lithuania, Austria, Romania, Russia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland and Hungary

**Location:** Nieder-Olm, Bad Fallingbostel, Hennef/Sieg (Germany)

**Date created:** 1857

**Number of employees:** around 550

**Business:** producer of fruit juices and fruit-based drinks

**Annual production:** around 400 million litres

## Inkjet for marking PET and cardboard ■ ■ ■

Eckes-Granini, one of the oldest fruit juice producers, is now among the leading suppliers of the German and European markets. In 1994, the company extended its product range to include the famous Granini brand among its fruit juices. Currently, Eckes-Granini produces five fruit juice brands in different flavours, including the very well-known Hohes C brand in Germany, available in five versions.

To guarantee reliable batch traceability, every PET bottle and every Tetra Pak carton needs to be individually identified. Since it was built in 1989, the Bad Fallingbostel factory has been using small character inkjet technology to do the job. Back then, Eckes-Granini tested a variety of printers made by different manufacturers before opting for Imaje's S7 small character inkjet printer.

“At the time, S7 inkjet printers proved to be the best,” says Eberhard Karlstedt, Production Manager at Bad Fallingbostel. “We were won over by their ease of use, compactness, simple installation and excellent marking quality.”



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## A new generation with the 9020 printer ■ ■ ■

The printers mark a message – identical on both bottles and cartons – providing the following information: use-by date, filling line reference, the exact time of packaging, as well as a three-digit code for internal use. After several years, Eckes-Granini decided to replace its S7 printers with Markem-Imaje's new 9020 printers. These latest-generation inkjet printers fit the bill perfectly for Eckes-Granini in terms of legibility of print,

**Eckes-Granini's Bad Fallingbostal plant in Germany chooses Markem-Imaje small character inkjet printers to guarantee the traceability of its bottles and cartons of fruit juice.**

compactness, ease of use and speed (the production output is around 26,000 bottles per hour). They are also more available and require less maintenance.

Today, three 9020 printers are used for coding

operations on the two packaging lines at the Bad Fallingbostal plant. Two of them are installed on the PET bottle line and one on the carton-filling line. A fourth printer is available as a back-up if necessary.

"We need two printers on the PET line: one to print directly after filling on a zone located in the middle of the bottle, and one to print on the neck, after labelling.



**At Eckes-Granini, 9020 inkjet printers are used to mark fruit juice cartons directly after filling.**

Fruit juice cartons are only printed once after filling," explains Eberhard Karlstedt. This is a standard procedure, used throughout all the group's plants. "The data to be printed is identical, regardless of the product. We didn't judge it necessary to link the printers to our computer system. As a result, they operate autonomously and can be easily moved from one line to another," concludes Eberhard Karlstedt.

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