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# VASKON

Automation – Special machine construction

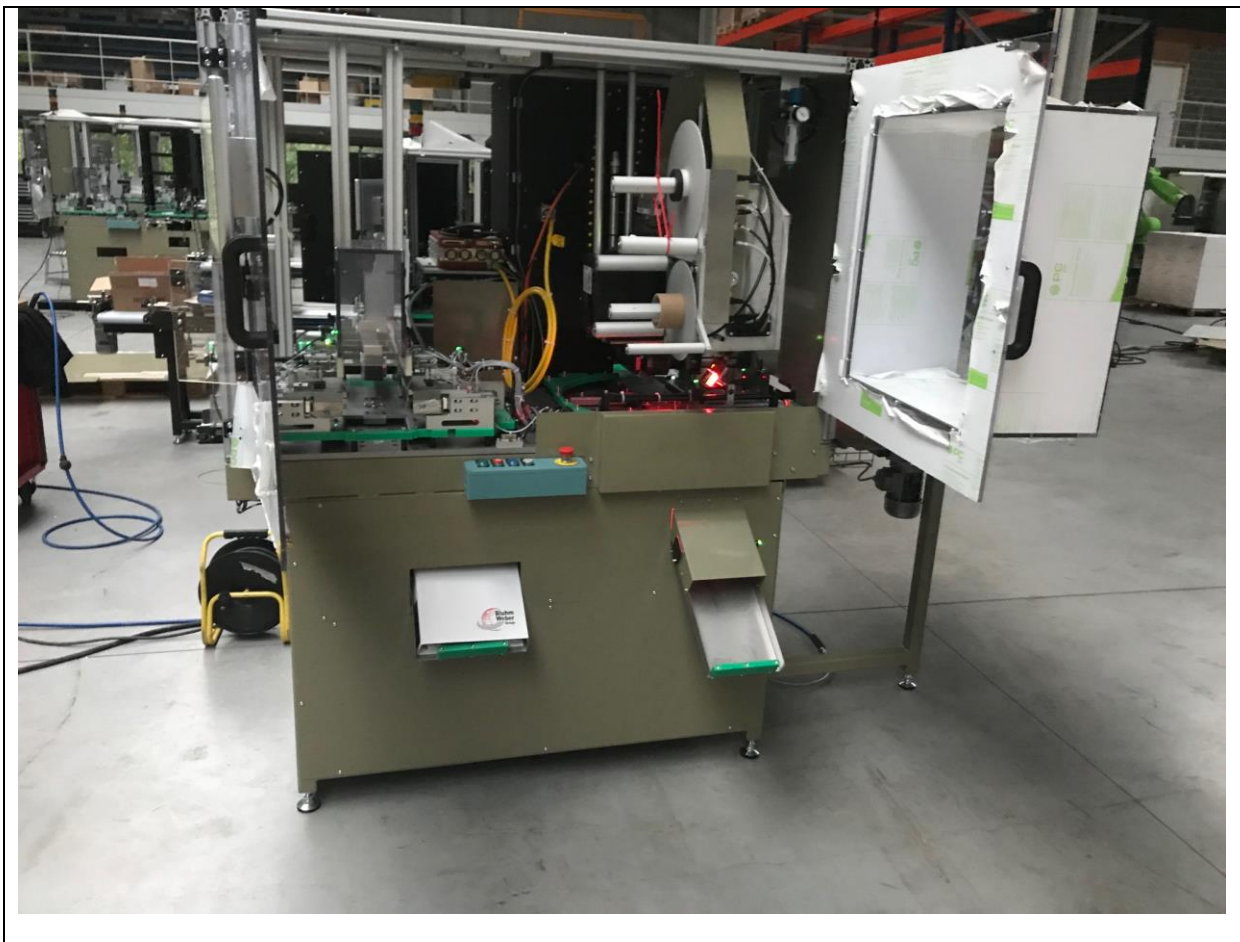
Krommebeekstraat 24-26 – BE 8930 MENEN  
Phone +32 56 52 14 80 - Fax +32 56 53 00 15  
[www.vaskon.com](http://www.vaskon.com)

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## Track & trace solution Laser coding of tobacco pouches

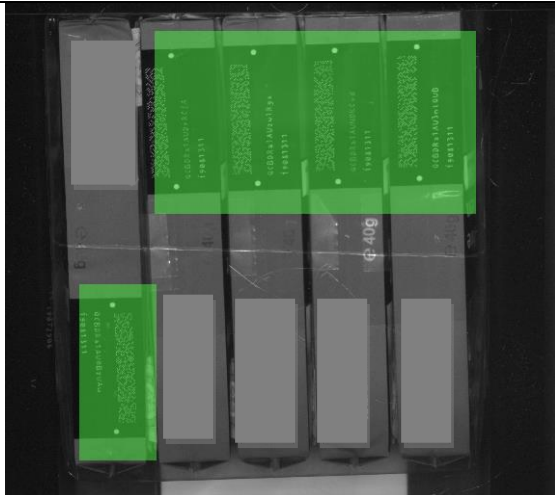
Main characteristics :

- Typically used to apply individual UID's (User Identification) on pouches
- Bundles with pouches (5 or 10 pouches per bundle) are entering the machine, the UID is applied on the individual pouches. This is achieved with a fiber laser (50W) which applies the laser coding through the plastic film of the bundle onto the individual pouches. Immediately after coding, the UID's are verified with a vision system (as required by CE directive 2014/40/EU).





*Fiber laser + vision system*



*Bundle with 5 pouches. The vision system searches for 10 reference dots in the green marked area. Laser coding is applied in the centre of each pair of reference dots*

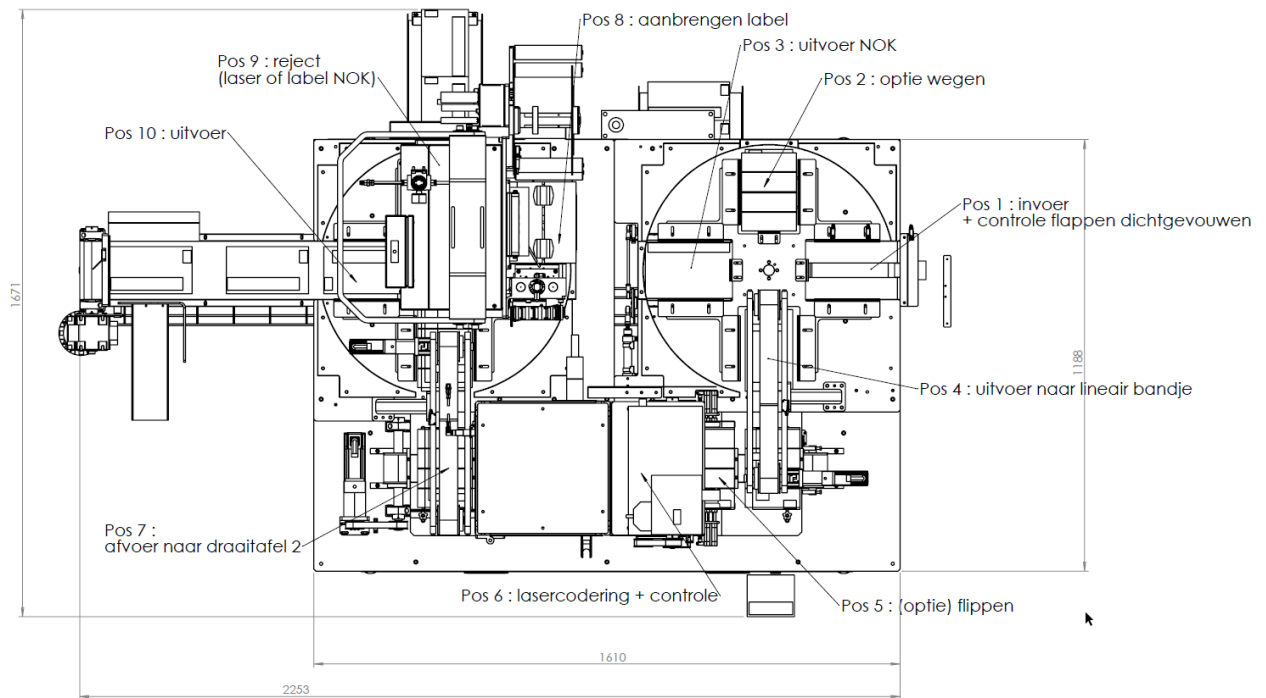


*Detail of the laser coded UID on the pouches*

**Other characteristics :**

- Each package (pouch) has a (preprinted) black rectangle, the laser coding is applied on this area.
- The machine has a vision system on board, this camera has 2 functions :
  - o Each package has a black rectangular area (used to print the UID), in the middle of this black rectangle, 2 white reference dots mark the center of this rectangle. The vision system verifies the position of these reference dots (for each pouch in the bundle), and the laser will automatically apply the ID exactly in the middle between the reference dots (even though the pouches are – to some extent – flexible, which means that the position of each pouch is not always 100% identical, it may change slightly from one bundle to another).
  - o After application of the ID code, the vision system reads the ID codes on each pouch (as required by CE directive 2014/40/EU).

- Options :
  - o Prior to application of the UID :
    - Manual loading station : this option allows to load bundles manually in the machine; in that case the machine can mark both
      - bundles that are loaded automatically (infeed conveyor)
      - bundles that are loaded manually
    - Weighing of the bundles. If bundle weight is not OK, the bundle is rejected.
    - Flipping of the bundle. If orientation of the bundles on the infeed conveyor is upside-down, this optional bundle flipper will turn the bundles with the correct side facing upwards, before they are coded.
  - o After laser coding of the UID :
    - Bundle labelling (identification) : a label printer can be integrated in the laser coding machine, allowing to apply an aggregate identification label on the bundle; the information on this label is also verified immediately after application (as required by CE directive 2014/40/EU).
      - If code verification is OK, bundles will continue
      - if the code is not OK, bundles will be rejected.
    - The communication with the printer for bundle identification is done by the line controller and the serialization software (option).



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