

Spinner Corp. using StePac Xtend MAP for 2008 cherries

H.R. Spinner Corp., a Yakima, WA, and Wenatchee, WA, packaging supply company founded in 1916, has for nearly a century provided fruit growers with corrugated cartons, pulp trays, poly bags, fruit wraps and post-harvest coatings.

This year, it has added StePac's Xtend modified-atmosphere and modified-humidity packaging to its lineup.

StePac Xtend products provide the produce industry with product-specific modified-atmosphere and modified-humidity packaging that extends storage and shelf life. In addition, StePac handles post-harvest cold chain services.

"We knew that we needed to add a modified-atmosphere packaging option to our product line," said Karl Snyder, who is involved in sales and purchasing with Spinner.

"What we didn't know was that by choosing StePac's Xtend MA/MH, we not only obtained a superior alternative to MAP, but we also partnered with post-harvest experts that are continually developing and introducing new products to the marketplace," he added. "And we are quite impressed with Xtend's performance for cherries, pears, apricots, peaches and berries."

Xtend films are engineered to deal with the specific physiology of each fruit type individually and the real-world supply-chain conditions to which they are subjected.

Both Spinner and StePac representatives agree that sharing knowledge about the latest methods of packing, sanitation, cooling and cold-chain logistics is their opportunity to help customers realize increased profitability.

"We found that our companies had shared values in terms of how seriously we take our customers' needs," Don Stidham, president StePac USA, said.

StePac USA is the company's marketing headquarters for North America. Research and development as well as manufacturing operations are located in the Tefen Industrial Park in Israel. StePac maintains sales and technical support offices and representatives at 12 additional locations around the world.

