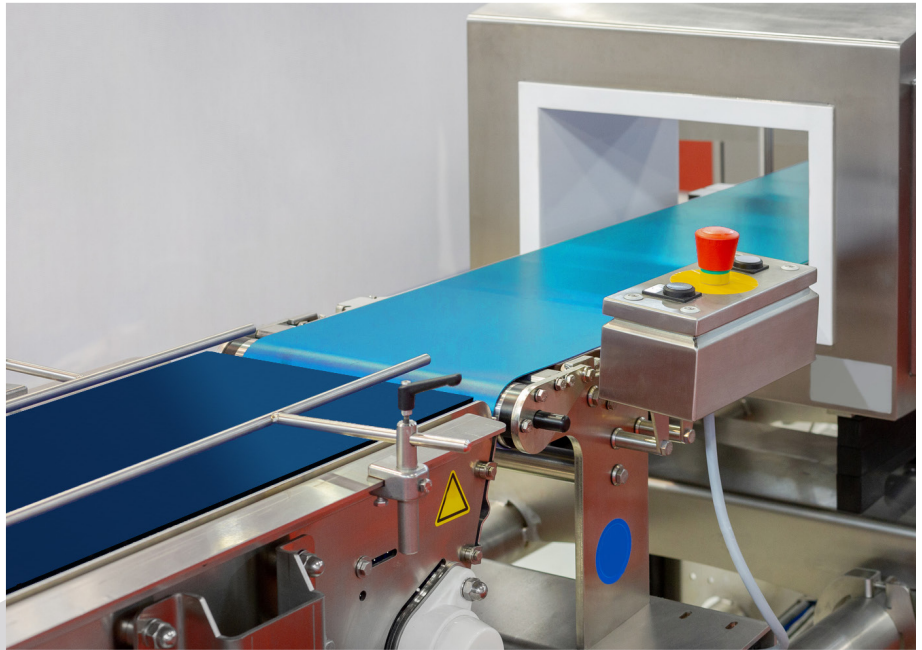


Agilext Metal Detectable Belting

The detection of foreign bodies during processing and packaging plays a fundamental role in ensuring safety and avoiding the possibility of plastic contamination to food.

Recent legislation, such as the Food Safety Modernization Act (FSMA), requires food processors and packers to implement Hazard Analysis and Risk-Based Prevention Controls (HARPC) to prevent physical contamination.



Agilext offers a line of conveyor belting that uses a highly metal detectable, fine, stainless steel powder additive to identify plastic contamination and prevent plastic contaminated foods from reaching consumers. This additive imparts a gray color into the belt. Colorants can, also, be used to produce darker colored belts like blue, green and purple. It also provides X-ray contrast.

Plastic Piece Size (inches)	Net Metal Loading	Ferrous Steel Sphere Equivalent
.12" x .12" x .12"	15%	1.2mm
.12" x .25" x .25"	15%	2.0mm
.27" x .27" x .12"	15%	2.8mm
.27" x .27" x .27"	15%	3.3mm

The FDA considers contaminants greater than .275" (7mm) to .985" (25mm) in length to be a hazard. This chart shows the size of the signal for metal detectable plastic pieces, expressed in the equivalent ferrous steel sphere size in conductive food products that contain some moisture.

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Ferrous, non-ferrous and stainless-steel spheres are used to verify the sensitivity and rejection capabilities of the food processor's metal detectors. Growers, packers and food processors are using existing metal detectors with detectable plastic to prevent plastic contaminated foods from reaching consumers.

Bigger plastic pieces produce larger metal detection signals and more X-ray contrast. Higher additive loadings also produce plastic pieces that are easier to detect and reject.

To determine detectability in your application please test the plastic piece with your food product to produce the largest signal and determine the expected product rejection. This is especially important with dry, non-conductive food products which have a product phase angle similar to the detectable plastic piece.

Disclaimer

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