

## MANUAL PROCESS REDUCTION

**Situation:** A leader in consumer products utilizes a manufacturing process that requires cleaning and inspection of product handling totes. After the product is transferred, each tote is manually cleaned, dried, and inspected prior to reuse. Employees handle more than 250 totes per hour during the cleaning and inspection process which is spread across three manufacturing shifts per day.

**Cost:** The current cleaning process including labor and alcohol wipes costs more than \$650,000 annually.

**Solution:** Hobart's Industrial Team designed and manufactured a FT900i to meet the customer's specification of producing a clean dry tote. The FT900i is complete with custom load and unload sections to simplify the tote handling process, a high pressure blow off to remove excess water, and an energy recovery system to reduce the total cost of ownership. A specialized conveyor belt was designed to carry the totes through the machine to optimize cleaning and drying performance.

**Result:** The FT900i operates three shifts per day delivering clean and dry totes. The automatic washing process has reduced labor and material expense by more than **62%** for the customer (\$400,000 annually) and offers a payback of less than one year for its investment.

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