



## Case study

Shortly after the recent news that the BRCGS Standard for Packaging and Packaging Materials Issue 4 was the first Standard to achieve GFSI benchmarking, the Standard also achieved its 2000th global site.



## Robert Mann

Robert Mann Packaging is a full-serve corrugated carton and box manufacturer for the fresh produce, strawberry, floral, and seafood packing industries, based in California. We spoke with Carlos Velez-Conty, Plant Manager at Robert Mann Packaging, on his experience with the implementation of the requirements of the BRCGS Standard for Packaging and Packaging Materials.

### How did you select the BRCGS Standard?

"Originally, when we first considered a Standard, we reviewed Packaging Schemes that would best fit the Packaging Industry and selected BRCGS for being the most comprehensive as it targeted food safety, quality and customer satisfaction among other factors including international recognition and position within GFSI."

### And how did your implementation program proceed?

"At first it was a challenge for me having to put it all together while continuing with my core responsibilities however as the program continues to evolve and we are putting the structures in place, we are all very pleased with the results and how food safety shapes our culture."

### What would you say to sites who are contemplating implementing the BRCGS Packaging Standard?

"As the originator of the system here at Robert Mann Packaging and member of the senior team, I must say that becoming certificated has been the best decision we've made. I've seen how our operations have benefitted from BRCGS principles and practices while making the culture more sensitive to food safety and quality overall."

It's clear that Carlos and the rest of the team at Robert Mann Packaging have worked hard to achieve certification against the BRCGS Standard and have selected BRCGS partly on the basis of GFSI benchmarking, but also that BRCGS goes above and beyond those requirements set out in the GFSI Guidance document. Quality, as well as safety and hygiene, is embedded in the Standard, reassuring customers of those sites who pursue certification that quality is embedded in their suppliers' culture.

They also provide seasonal sales and distribution in Brawley, California and Yuma, Arizona.

# BRCGS Certificated

# Established 1971

In the early days RMP provided boxes and flexible packaging for the fresh-cut flower industry. Now they are a manufacturer of produce boxes, bulk bins and related flexible and rigid plastic items for the produce industry, meat packing industry, as well as the fresh-cut and floral nursery industry. They also have a complete line of both corrugated trays and plastic clamshells for the strawberry industry, along with supporting set-up capabilities throughout California.

RMP success is dependent on providing quality packaging products and timely service to their customers. RMP is committed to customer satisfaction: what you need, where you need it and when it is needed!

For more information about Robert Mann Packaging please visit [www.rmp.com](http://www.rmp.com)

## About Robert Mann Packaging

Robert Mann founded RMP in May of 1971 as a supplier of shipping containers for the fresh flower and living plant industry. Since that time, hundreds of products have been added to produce an extensive line of stock, custom paper and plastic packaging products.

They began as a warehouse distributor of packaging products, but have developed into a fully-fledged manufacturer of corrugated packaging at the company's 350,000 square foot facility in Salinas, CA. In 1971 they were a two-person operation. Now they have more than 250 employees. Back in 1971 they had just the one warehouse, now they have facilities in Oceanside, Watsonville, Moss Landing, Castroville, Salinas, Guadalupe, Santa Maria and two in Oxnard.

## About BRCGS

BRCGS Standards is the world's biggest provider of Safety and quality Standards programmes for food manufacture, packaging, storage and distribution. Our aim is to be the best in the world in everything we do.

Our Standards are generated with the help of technical specialists, retailers, manufacturers and certification bodies from around the world so everything is rooted in practicality, rigour and clarity.

As well as the Standards, as part of the programme, we offer comprehensive support to help new and established businesses to achieve their quality and safety aims. For more information about BRCGS Standards please visit [www.brcgs.com](http://www.brcgs.com)

