Linx laser coders deliver quality codes for high provenance spirits

Two Linx CSL30 laser coders are delivering high-quality codes and significantly reduced downtime for a premium Scottish whisky and gin producer.

Bruichladdich Distillery Co. Ltd, based on the Isle of Islay in the Inner Hebrides, has installed a Linx CSL30 laser on its gin production line, and was so impressed with the results that they installed a second machine on its malt whisky line.

The quality and permanent codes produced by the Linx CSL30 are enabling the company’s Botanist Islay Dry Gin bottles to meet the demands of their export markets for high-quality codes.

Installed in the bottle labeller, the CSL30 etches two lines, 5mm in height, onto the bottom of the glass gin bottles.

The laser coder can apply batch codes from a wide range of distances, ensuring easy integration into production lines. In Bruichladdich’s case, the gin bottles stand on a base plate that means the laser head has to sit further away, yet the quality of code remains high.

On the whisky line, the Linx CSL30 applies clear codes that are highly legible. This capability of laser coding to produce a visible mark on every colour and shade of bottle is particularly important to Bruichladdich, many of whose whisky bottles are black.

Both Linx CSL30 coders are providing Bruichladdich with high-quality codes that are discrete yet clear and appear in the same position on the bottle every time. This is key due to the premium nature of Bruichladdich’s products, which require impeccable codes that do not detract from the premium branding.

"The Linx CSL30 was an extremely important addition to our line."

Jonathan Carmichael, Bruichladdich Distillery Co. Ltd
Bruichladdich Distillery Co. Ltd

**Key Facts**

**Country**
United Kingdom

**Industry**
Spirits

**Product coded**
Glass bottles

**Code applied**
2 lines of unique bottle number & batch code

**Line speed**
2100 bottles / hour

**Linx lasers**
Linx CSL30 CO₂

**Key Product Benefits**

**Linx CSL Laser Coders**
- Easy to integrate into packaging machinery: detachable marking head and quick disconnect cables
- Economical to use with a long tube life of up to 45,000 hours
- Flexible configurations to match exacting coding requirements
- Permanent marking on a wide range of materials.

“We installed our first Linx CSL30 during a period which saw a 47% growth in our Botanist sales in the previous year,” explains Jonathan Carmichael, Bottling Hall Manager at Bruichladdich. “In order to adapt and keep up with this unprecedented demand, we took the opportunity to re-configure our line in another warehouse, adding some new machinery – and the Linx CSL30 was an extremely important addition to our line.

“As a producer of premium spirits, it’s vitally important that the codes on our bottles are clear and sharp and in keeping with the brand’s expectations.

Another key factor in the decision to install a laser coder was the low maintenance required, meaning less downtime in production. For these reasons we’ve not hesitated to install a CSL30 on our whisky line as well.”

The Linx CSL30 (30 watt) CO₂ laser coder features a powerful processing board that is able to quickly relay the message from the control unit to the marking head.

Multiple beam delivery options allow for coding in any orientation, and the detachable marking head and quick disconnect cables make integration into production environments easier.

With the largest range of configurations of marking heads, lens and tube wavelength options, Linx CSL lasers can be fine-tuned to customers’ specific applications.