

MAX
SAFETY



PPE perfection: How Apata Group Limited ensures staff and food safety at its packhouses

Apata Group Limited harvests and processes Kiwifruit and Avocados at different packhouses and cold storage facilities across New Zealand.

Their post-harvest operations are influenced by the amount of fruit harvested that season. Their sites operate 24/7 between March and June every year.

When the fruit packing season starts, warehouse consumables such as food safety PPE, packaging, cleaning and hygiene, café, etc., are critical to their operations. Appropriate supplies (stocked and available) ensure a smooth, uninterrupted production flow.

Apata Group Limited chooses OfficeMax to provide these supplies, including its critical food safety PPE.

Results at a glance



Right PPE for tasks

A vast range of required PPE and other consumables are ordered and available for staff.



Safer workplace

Staff is equipped with task-appropriate PPE that keeps the fresh produce safe and prevents contamination.



Ordering and invoicing

All consumables required for smooth operations are ordered together, achieving consolidation. Simplified invoices reduce admin work.



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The Challenge

- Rural locations of packhouses
- Provide food safety and other PPE supplies available to all operation sites in plentiful supply
- Determine that the food safety PPE is suitable for the tasks at the packing houses and other production areas and meets industry regulations
- Ensure the safety and wellbeing of staff working different work zones and hours.

The Solution

PPE is crucial to ensure the staff comply with food handling prerequisites set by the Ministry for Primary Industries (MPI). Appropriate equipment creates a safer work environment for staff and reduces accidents or contamination of the fruit products.

- **Fit-for-purpose gloves:** Gloves suitable for different types of tasks. The types of gloves include cotton knit, cut-resistant gloves with Level 5 protection, gloves resistant against abrasion, disposable nitrile gloves that are food handling compliant, extra grip, industrial grade, heavy-duty, and high-dexterity gloves for wet and dry conditions.
- **Other PPE supplies:** They include disposable aprons, hairnets and beard covers, earplugs, high-visibility caps, respirator masks, safety glasses, hi-vis vests, safety signages, and sleeve protectors.



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 **OfficeMax**[®]

- **Easy ordering:** We ensured that ordering PPE from OfficeMax is simple and includes other products the customer requires, such as washroom, cleaning, and kitchen items.

“OfficeMax is Apata Group Limited’s primary supplier of PPE consumables. We are committed to food safety and staff wellbeing and need to have the consumables stocked and available at all times of the operation.”

Heath Dibble, Packaging Manager, Apata Group Limited

The Results

- **There is no shortage of PPE:** All PPE is accounted for and ordered accordingly from OfficeMax, especially different types of fit-for-purpose gloves, so there is no running out of consumables.
- **Reliability of service:** Demonstrated our ability to ensure continuity of supply by delivering all orders on time to Apata Group Limited’s packhouses in rural locations.
- **Help operational efficiency:** A variety of PPE keeps the production line in their packhouses running smoothly and ensures compliance with food safety regulations.
- **Increased staff safety:** Hundreds of staff are equipped with the right PPE throughout the season, which can extend to months, ensuring a safer workplace.
- **Consolidated ordering:** Consolidating orders with OfficeMax (PPE, café, cleaning, stationery, packaging, etc.) reduces admin work and saves valuable time during busy periods.

Get in touch today to experience the OfficeMax difference for yourself.



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