To secure marking of its packaged delicatessen meat products, the French company SCO Monique Ranou, Intermarché’s cured meat brand, opted for Markem-Imaje’s global and tailored solution at its historical plant of Quimper.

Quimper (Brittany) / FRANCE

- Founded in 1905
- 500+ employees
- Specialized in cured and processed meat products: ham, poultry ham, sausages, dry sausages
- 43,000 tonnes processed in 2016
- Taken over in 1998 by Intermarché, a French supermarket chain part of the large retail group “Les Mousquetaires”

Diced ham sachets coded with SmartDate X40
‘Markem-Imaje met our needs by adapting to our requirements. This is real partnership!’

Stéphane Guyader
Maintenance and New Works Director

Founded in 1905 in Brittany, France, Monique Ranou is specialized in cured meat products. A family business at the beginning, it was taken over by the Intermarché group in 1998 to become its distributor brand for all fresh and frozen cured meats sold in its stores. On its 16 production lines, the Quimper site produces some 180 million packages a year. All require mandatory coding for traceability and best before dates. Recently, the company wanted to review its coding system for four main reasons: “Standardize our printer fleet to avoid human error during programming, automate data transfer (best before dates and batch numbers) linked to our central computer system, secure product compliancy by identifying packaging with quality defects and finally reduce unit marking costs,” says Stéphane Guyader, maintenance and new works director at SCO Monique Ranou.
SCO Monique Ranou chose Markem-Imaje’s global offer. To meet the industrialist’s various needs, Markem-Imaje proposed installing three SmartDate X40 thermal transfer coders for diced ham sachets, thirty-seven 9232 inkjet printers for ham packets and frankfurter-type sausage packaging, and fourteen 2200 print and apply labeling systems for ham packet shipping cartons. The solution also comprises the CoLOS Enterprise software package. Thanks to Markem-Imaje’s technical back-up, SCO Monique Ranou’s teams were able to network all printers and link them to the company central IS for automating data transfer. The first advantage is that messages to be printed can be prepared on a PC and second, the messages can be launched without having to enter them on each individual printer, thereby avoiding any operator error. In addition, the company can rely on the OEE (Overall Equipment Effectiveness) tool which evaluates the level of printer faults (in the current case 99.6% guaranteed uptime). Finally, all equipment is covered by a Markem-Imaje servicing contract called SMILE which includes complete equipment maintenance and supply of consumables. The result is that since being implemented, the Markem-Imaje system operation has secured marking throughout the product range with minimum human intervention. “Markem-Imaje has been very reactive and able to tailor CoLOS software to our needs. This is real partnership,” concludes Stéphane Guyader.

It was essential for SCO Monique Ranou to avoid human errors, automate data transfer, secure product compliancy and reduce marking costs. Mission accomplished with Markem-Imaje’s global offer that includes CoLOS, a tailored software package and SMILE, a service contract covering all the coding equipment.