The Shrimp Cooker, Connie Has Been Set at Sea

http://www.nordjyske.dk/artikel/10/2805/4/3957501/3/rejekogeren%20connie%20s%F8sat



General Manager, Leif Andersen, at the shell of a new shrimp cooker – the first prototype is currently a sailing success on a Norwegian shrimp trawler. Photo: Benter Poder. Article by Birgit Eriksen.

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Shrimp cooker predicted to fill the order book at Intech International

Intech International A/S has developed a shrimp cooker that will make shrimp fishers worldwide look twice. This is the prediction of General Manager, Leif Andersen.

The new shrimp cooker has been named Connie 800 – and the prototype was set at sea one month ago on a Norwegian shrimp trawler.

- "We have had very good feedback on the prototype," Andersen says.
- "The quality of the shrimp is superb!", so says the buyers of shrimp that have been through Connie.

Intech International has applied for a patent on the cooker.

Andersen predicts that the new continuous shrimp cooker will bring a lot of work to the company in Brønderslev, Denmark and he thinks that it will be necessary to expand the production facilities - and to employ more people – when Intech International must live up to the expected market demand.

Boiled and salted – just right

When trawlers worldwide get shrimp in the net, the catch is boiled aboard the ships that are equipped like floating fish factories.

- "But there has been no development of cooking for the last 30 years.", Andersen concludes. He has a background as a sailor and has worked aboard shrimp trawlers in Greenland.

The problem with the current procedure is that the shrimps are not evenly cooked.

- "This problem has been solved with Connie. The shrimp is forced through the boiling water with a conveyor belt. The raw shrimp is cooked in precisely the time you want, and this means a completely uniform product with uniform salt content. All the shrimp taste exactly the same – this is world news." Andersen declares.

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- "The prototype has been developed for coastal fishing and can cook 1400 kg of shrimps per hour. We are now developing the big sister for the north Atlantic market – Greenland, Island, Canada and USA." Andersen tells and adds that the big shrimp cooker can handle 2600 kg per hour.

15 cookers have been ordered

Intech International had a seminar back in March, where the new continual shrimp cooker was unveiled.

- "We invited the owners of the Norwegian trawlers that we had previously supplied with equipment. When we first contacted them everything was done by hand – and we offered to create a factory on their ships. You might say they came in as fishing boats and went back out as factory trawlers.

- This shrimp cooker is the second step on the development ladder – with it they can do everything on board." says Andersen and he adds that "The equipment today can sort out the bycatch, grade the shrimp by size and cook them – without anyone touching the product by hand." says Andersen.

Even before the first prototype was tested, the company in Brønderslev had orders of 15 new shrimp cookers for Norway.

- "But we did not want to sign a contract, until we were sure that Connie worked. We know that now, and we are well into producing more Connie's in the workshop." Andersen continues.

- "We had an installer on the first trip with the new cooker, and we didn't have to adjust a single thing. It is very remarkable that there have been no adjustments on the prototype – and we are very proud about that."

First Norway - then Greenland

- So far, we have focused on selling Connie to the Norwegian ships, where we are alone in the market. Only just recently we announced the cooker into Greenland and Canada. And we already know of one of the ship owning companies that are very interested in getting Connie aboard." Andersen says.

Intech International will present Connie at the Danfish International convention in Aalborg on October 12-14.

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Translation by Erik B. Petersen

Note: Erik B. Petersen was the Lead Engineer for the development of Connie.