

Bedeschi continues to perform at a high level in the grain sector



Cereal Docks, Bedeschi shipunloader.

The adverse weather trend that is becoming ever more common in most European countries and the US in recent years is having a significant impact on the cereal market. Due to the reduction of crops — especially in Spain, France and Central East Europe — during the first months of 2019, European production is steady at 7.6mt (million tonnes) with a deficit of 2mt (mainly in Italy). In order to satisfy the global demand for grain, producers have been forced to break into provisions by reducing the stock available.

If we consider that China and India allocate most of their production to their national markets, the major producers of

cereal remain the USA, Canada, Russia, Australia and Argentina, which control 77% of global exportation. For 2020, the cereal production in the US and Canada is expected to be 'medium-low' in comparison with the past. At a global level, there will be production of 33mt in the face of global consumption of 34mt. The provisions are estimated to be lower but still reassuring. However, the unstable climate will definitely not affect the countries' leading position in the market.

If today US, Russia, Argentina, China, India and the EU are successful global leaders in the cereal market, it is thanks to the fertility of their lands, their proficiency

in this field, but mostly to the complex and high-quality machinery used during the production process.

In the grain sector, Bedeschi is a very prominent Italian company, well-known for its expertise in the design, project development and manufacture of integrated systems for grain handling and storage. The machinery developed by the company includes conveyors, shiploaders and ship-unloaders — for onshore and offshore logistics — crushers, circular and longitudinal storage and vertical wall blending storage.

Among the projects realized by Bedeschi, one of its major ones is for

equipment at a Cereal Docks. The ship-unloader, mobile on rails, operates at a capacity of 800tph (tonnes per hour), handling soya beans and delivering these to a dedicated quay belt conveyor. It is a fully erected machine delivered to the quay of Marghera Port in Italy, that does not require assembly at site. The unloading system is based on the proven chain elevator technology, which grants the lowest power consumption, gentle handling of the material, compliance with the most stringent environmental regulations, simple and inexpensive maintenance.

Cargill WestWego is an ongoing project in New Orleans. This is a shiploading system able to load grains and oilseeds at 80,000 bushels/h (2,200tph) on vessels up to 120,000dwt. It is part of the refurbishment and upgrade of an existing facility operating on the Mississippi River manufactured through Bedeschi USA located in Deerfield Beach, Florida.

At the beginning of 2019, at Renowa Plant in Rosario (Argentina), Bedeschi installed the largest pipe conveyor ever commissioned for grains & oilseeds. It has a capacity of 1,500tph and 700m length for soya beans. This kind of conveyor grants unprecedented flexibility in the layout design (no need for transfer towers and the ability to bend and change inclination with a single belt), dust-tight transferring of material and lower operational costs compared to traditional conveyors.

The project that mostly puts in evidence Bedeschi's expertise in the supply of turnkey equipment in the grain sector is Turkmenbashi Port, opened on 1 May 2018. The Terminal is a hub in the Caspian Sea, and is useful for the loading and



Renowa pipe conveyor.

unloading of material by ship, rail and trucks. The main interchange area is the loading/unloading zone either for trains or for trucks allowing the material on-shore/off-shore passage. The system includes many belt conveyors, oversize silos (14 for the grain area and eight for the cement area) and a storage area for the stacking and reclaiming of minerals such as coal, phosphates and salt. On the dock are installed a shiploader for the grain area (grain and minerals) and three hoppers to serve the LPS ship-unloader cranes supplied by Liebherr. More than 7,000 tonnes of materials have been shipped to Turkmenbashi, on the Caspian Sea, through the Lenin Volga-Don canal and assembled on site.

Kernel Terminal is located in Ukraine.

Two luffing and slewing shiploaders, with a combined capacity of 4,400tph, have been installed. The equipment is tailor-made for loading barges and ships up to Panamax size, side by side on the same quay.

Bedeschi is very active in Eastern Europe, North America and South America. Thanks to its solid structure and its strong team of engineers and sales agents working worldwide, the Italian company is able to handle threats and difficulties properly by transforming them into new opportunities. This is proved by the steady increase of orders and the innovative equipment supplied by the company. The projects mentioned above are clear examples of the company's competence to create tailor-made solutions in the grain sector but also for other handling materials.



Turkmenbashi Port for GAP.