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Depuis 1905

Installation and Usage Guide

Alpha Plus Extraction line



Non-contractual Image

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Your beekeeping.
Our expertise.
since 1905.

The Alpha Plus extraction line is an ideal performance tool for large operations.

It is used to uncapping and then extract the honey from the frames.

Completely designed in stainless steel and requiring no direct handling of the frames, the Alpha Plus extraction line offers optimal working comfort.

The Alpha Plus extraction line is typically made up of the following seven elements:

Technical Definition

Total Length : from 3 450 to 6 720 mm

Total width : from 1 450 to 2 000 mm

Total Height : from 2 010 to 2 560 mm

Total Weight : at least 355 kg

Total Power : 3 320 W

Capacity :
38 Dadant Dadant straight supers
or 58 Dadant straight frames
or 40 Langstroth/Hoffmann frames

- **Alpha Plus Uncapping Machine (Ref. C1001)**

Uncapping machine with vibrating and heating knives (without vapor).

- **Entry conveyor into the extractor**

Allows the unloading of the uncapping machine and the loading of the extractor with a cart, so no direct frame handling.

- **Alpha Plus Extractor: 38 frames (Ref. C1003) or 58 frames (Ref. C1009)**

Horizontal axis extractor for quick extraction. Double-sided cage for optimised loading time and space efficiency.

- **Exit conveyor for extracted frames**

Conveyor receiving the empty frames from the extractor with an easy unloading device within the supers. The conveyor can be single or double.

- **Heated decanting tank with capping collector (Ref. C1000).**

Settling tank collecting the cappings in a basket and the honey from the extractor. Allows a fast and efficient honey decantation.

- **Variable speed centrifuge (Ref. 836)**

Centrifuge for cold separation of honey and lids as well as continuous filtration of honey.

- **Stainless steel vane pump (Ref, 817)**

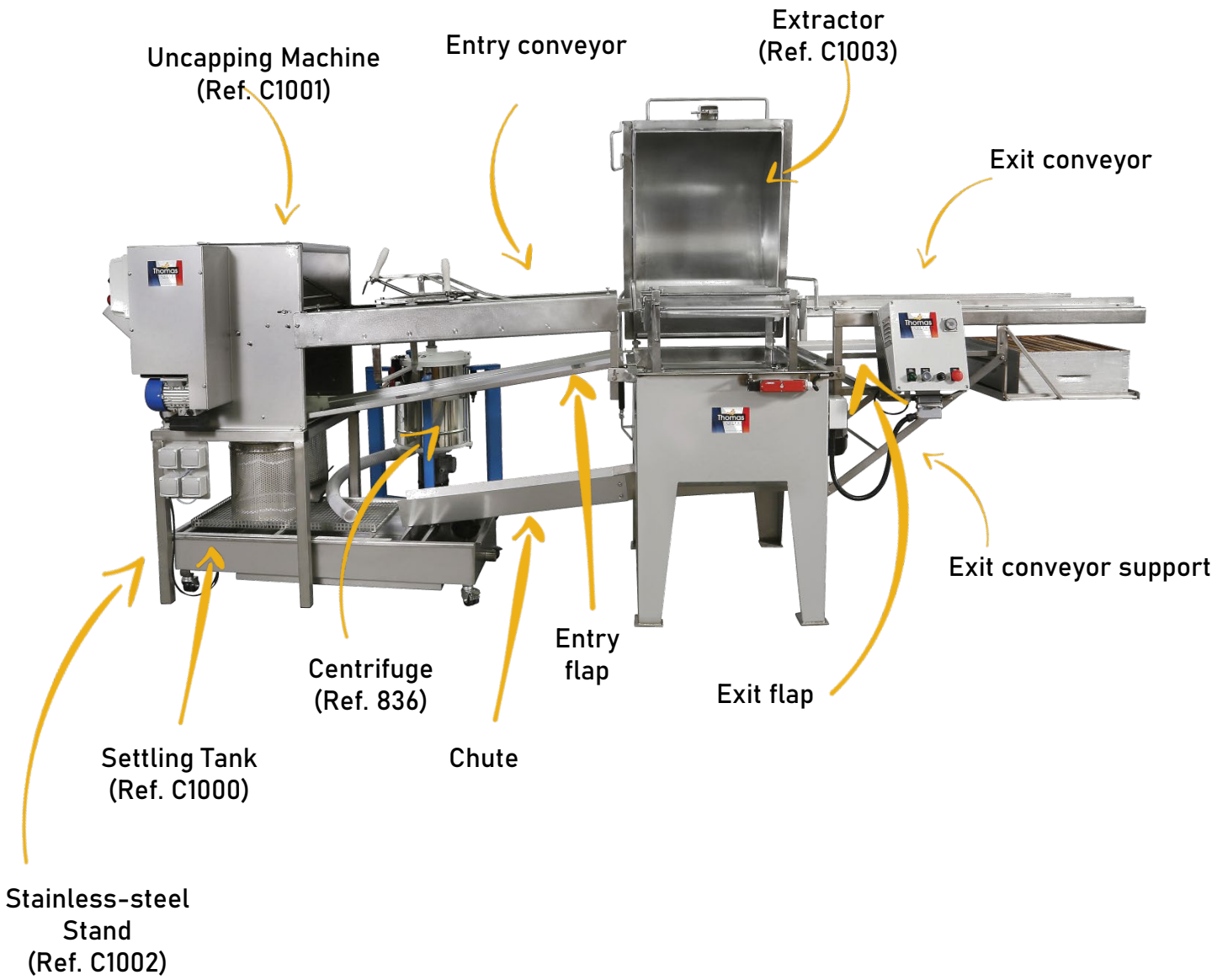
Robust and efficient pump for conveying honey to a maturing tank or barrel.

- **Loader / Deboxer (Ref. C1014) (optional)**

Deboxer to raise and and unbox the frames from the supers. Loader to automatically put the frames into the uncapping machine.

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Safety Precautions

CAUTION: Before connecting the appliance to a power supply, make sure that your electric installations comply with current standards (differential circuit breaker protection, earth wire, etc.).

Check the supply voltage.

Before using the unit for the first time, clean it to remove any residual metal shavings or filings.

Keep out of the reach of children - Unplug after each use.

→ Install the Alpha Plus line on a clean and level floor (use wedges if needed).
→ Read the entire guide before installing any piece of equipment.

→ Before installing :

- Spatial positioning:
  - Define the orientation and the operating direction of the line (opening of the extractor to the right or to the left).
  - Provide sufficient space in front of the line to be able to work comfortably.
  - Allow sufficient space behind the line (between the wall and the line) for full opening of the extractor hood (minimum 50 cm).
  - Allow sufficient space behind the uncapping machine and the decanter tray to place the centrifuge.
  - Allow at least one meter at the start and end of the line to be able to handle full and empty supers comfortably.

- In the honey house:
  - Make sure that the electrical panels are close to the electric boards to connect the different housings.
  - Locate the opening side of the extractor (right or left) previously.

Before installing the various machines, make sure that you accurately mark the overall dimensions of the machines on the ground so that they can be pre-positioned in the best possible way.

See the annex for installation examples.

Alpha line installation

For each machine check the specific guide

1. (40 or 60) frame Alpha Plus extractor installation

After locating the layout of the entire extraction line, position the extractor.
Caution: Once the line is completely assembled, it will be very difficult to move it. It is therefore necessary to be careful when positioning the extractor.
The floor must be flat, horizontal and clean.

Check the horizontality on both sides of the extractor. On the extractor, unlock the cover (see extractor manual). Check that the cover opens fully without touching a wall.

Leave enough space between the wall and the line to position the centrifuge right next to the uncapping machine.

2. Exit conveyor installation

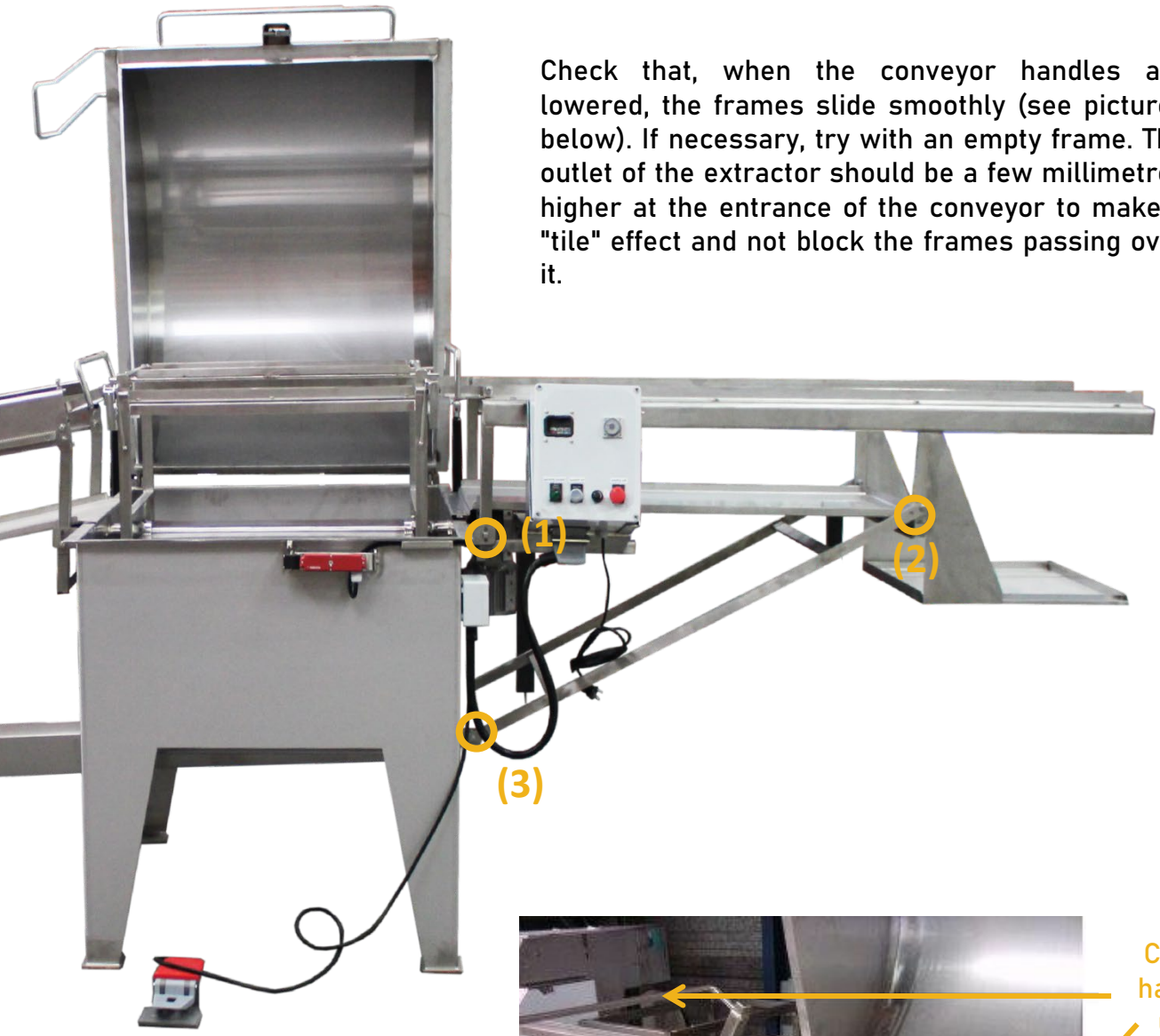
The installation is identical for a single or double conveyor.

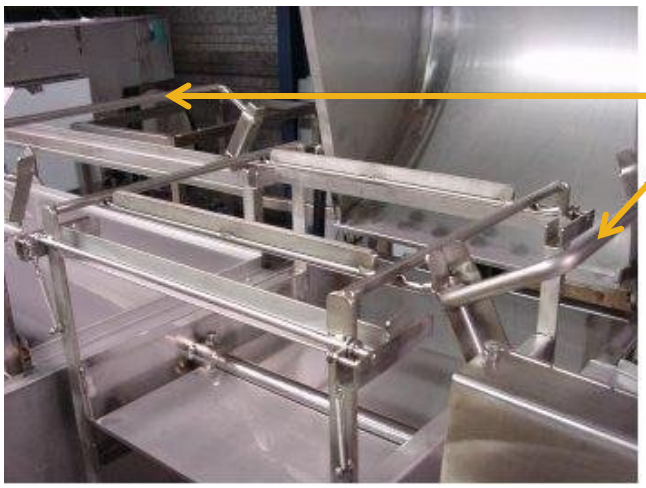
The exit conveyor is supported by a stand.
Next to every bolt hole of the stand, the extractor and the conveyor are letters. These must be matched during assembly.
Screw the conveyor to the extractor (1) with the handle towards the extractor. Position the flap of the exit conveyor and screw it on (2). The flap is held by the conveyor and rests on the edge of the extractor. Screw the conveyor support to the extractor (3). Do not fully tighten the bolts. Repeat this process on the other side of the conveyor.

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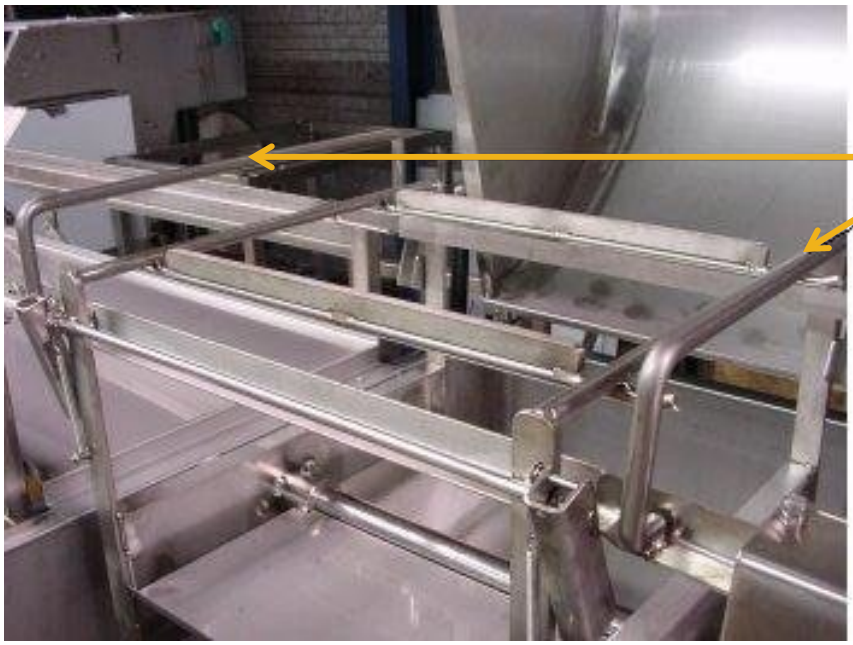
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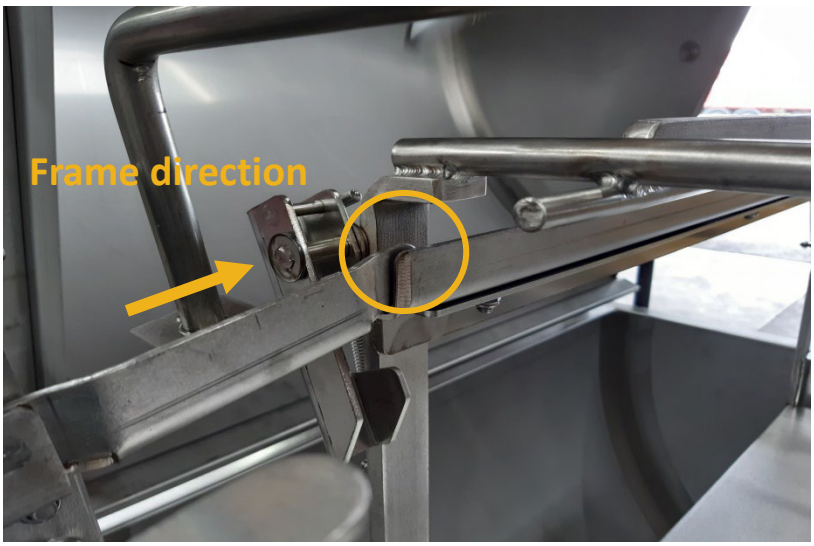
Check that, when the conveyor handles are lowered, the frames slide smoothly (see pictures below). If necessary, try with an empty frame. The outlet of the extractor should be a few millimetres higher at the entrance of the conveyor to make a "tile" effect and not block the frames passing over it.





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Frame direction and height adjustment (entry conveyor view).
The idea is the same for the exit conveyor.

If the frames " catches " at the conveyor entry, its height must be adjusted with the nuts (1). Make sure that the conveyor is horizontal, in particular that the two nuts (1) are at the same level.

Once the conveyor is in the correct position, tighten all bolts.

Connect the control box to the extractor with the Harting plug and place it in its stainless-steel frame (for single conveyors) or screw it to the holding plate (for double conveyors).

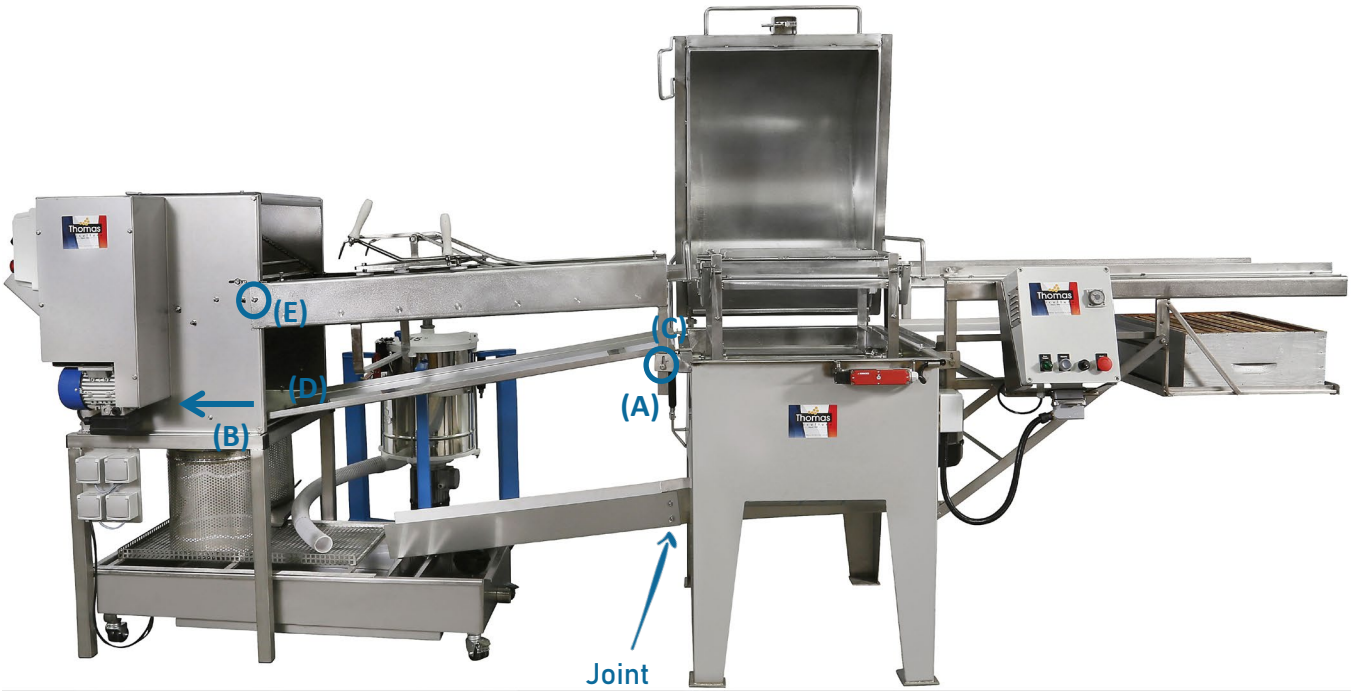
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3. Uncapping machine and entry conveyor installation

The installation is identical for a single or double conveyor.
Screw the conveyor loosely to the extractor with the handle on the extractor side (A).
Position the uncapping machine at the other end of the conveyor to check the correct alignment of the unit.
Move the uncapping machine back 50 cm (B). Place a trestle (or wedge) under the conveyor to hold it in place.
Screw the flap onto the rim of the extractor (C).
Move the uncapping machine forward, place the flap on its lower edge (D).
Screw the conveyor belt to the uncapping machine (E).
As with the exit conveyor, adjust the height of the conveyor at the entry of the extractor with the bolts (A). Tighten it securely. Adjust the height of the frames inlet with the bolts (E). (see p. 5 & 6)

Screw the chute at the extractor honey exit with 4 bolts. Joint the 2 with food grade silicon.
If using an Opermiel, screw and joint the chute to the Opermiel (underneath the uncapping machine).



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4. Decanting tank and centrifuge installation

Bring the decanter (on wheels) underneath the uncapping machine. The chute must be placed before the baffles. Place a capping basket under the uncapping machine.

Position the centrifuge 50 cm from the uncapping machine to avoid too much honey loss when transferring the baskets. Connect the hose (supplied) to the centrifuge by tightening the hose clamp. Position the other end of the hose above the decanting tank.

Install the pump. Connect a hose to the outlet of the settling tank and to the pump. Connect another hose from the pump to the storage or other location. (Length not exceeding 10 meters). (these hoses are not included).

THE INSTALLATION IS NOW OVER.
YOU CAN START THE EXTRACTION PROCESS.

Starting the extraction line

→ Plug the different machines to a power supply (check the 220 or 400V voltage) et check that each unit works individually.

Operating Principles
The extraction line is used in several stages.
First, the frames are fed through the uncapping machine (see instructions). The uncapped frames are stored on the entry conveyor. The cappings fall into a basket underneath the uncapping machine. When this basket is half full, place it in the centrifuge and start a cycle. Place an empty basket back under the uncapping machine.
The dripping honey is collected by the flap and brought back to the decanter. Once the entry conveyor is filled with frames, lower the handles and push all the frames into the extractor, taking care to keep a space at the beginning and end of the series. Press the brake pedal (for the 60-frame extractor), turn the cage and fill the second side. Close the hood of the extractor and start the extraction cycle.
The extracted honey passes through the chute and arrives in the decanting tank.
When the cycle is completed, open the extractor hood and load the freshly uncapped frames. They push the empty frames onto the exit conveyor.
The honey is decanted, filtered by the tank and sucked by the pump to the storage place.

The extraction cycle is automatic so the uncapping process can be continued during this time.

Maintenance

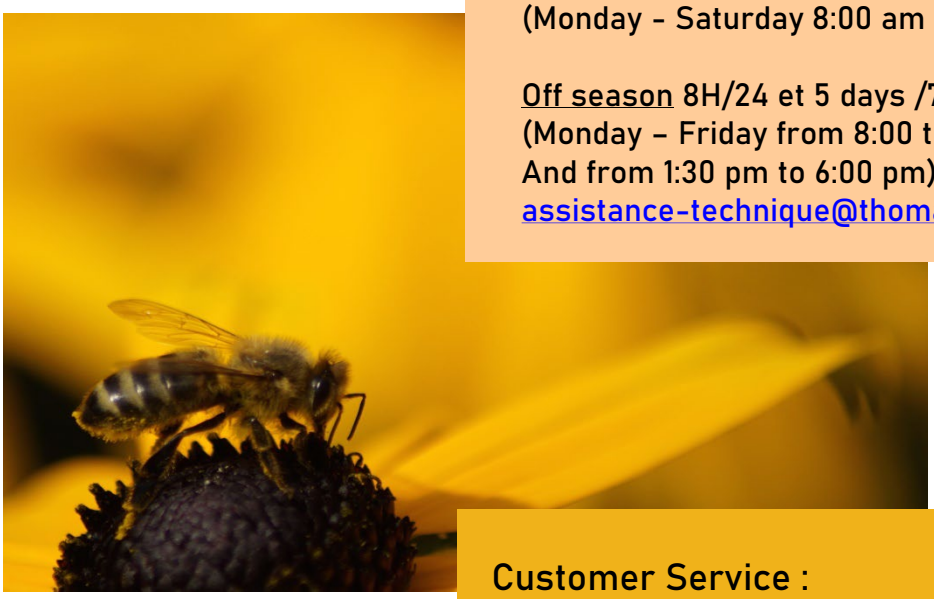
→ Clean the machines separately, see each guide.

→ Cleaning of the conveyor belts: Wash by running hot water or using a high-pressure hot water hose (Kärcher type), taking care to protect the electrical parts and having disconnected the equipment from the mains beforehand.
Make sure that the electrical parts of the appliance are protected during cleaning.

Technical Help:
08 99 25 66 20 (cost: 0,05€/min)

High season 12H/24 and 6 days /7
(Monday - Saturday 8:00 am – 8:00 pm)

Off season 8H/24 et 5 days /7
(Monday – Friday from 8:00 to 12:00
And from 1:30 pm to 6:00 pm)
assistance-technique@thomas-apiculture.com



Customer Service :

02 38 46 88 00
From 8:00 am to 12:00 am
And from 2:00 pm to 5:30 pm
From Monday to Friday
contact@thomas-apiculture.com

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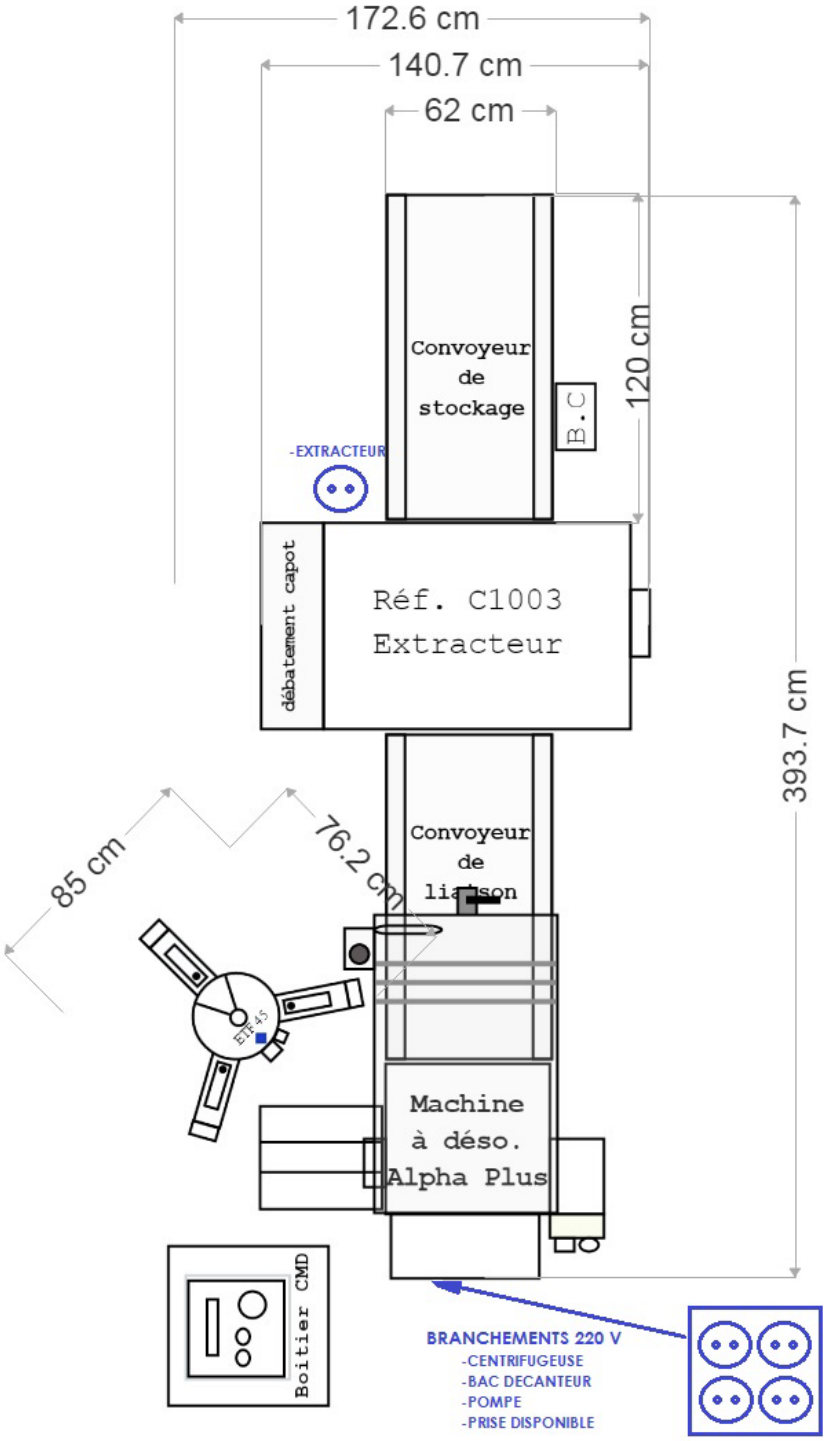
Alpha Plus with a melting pot



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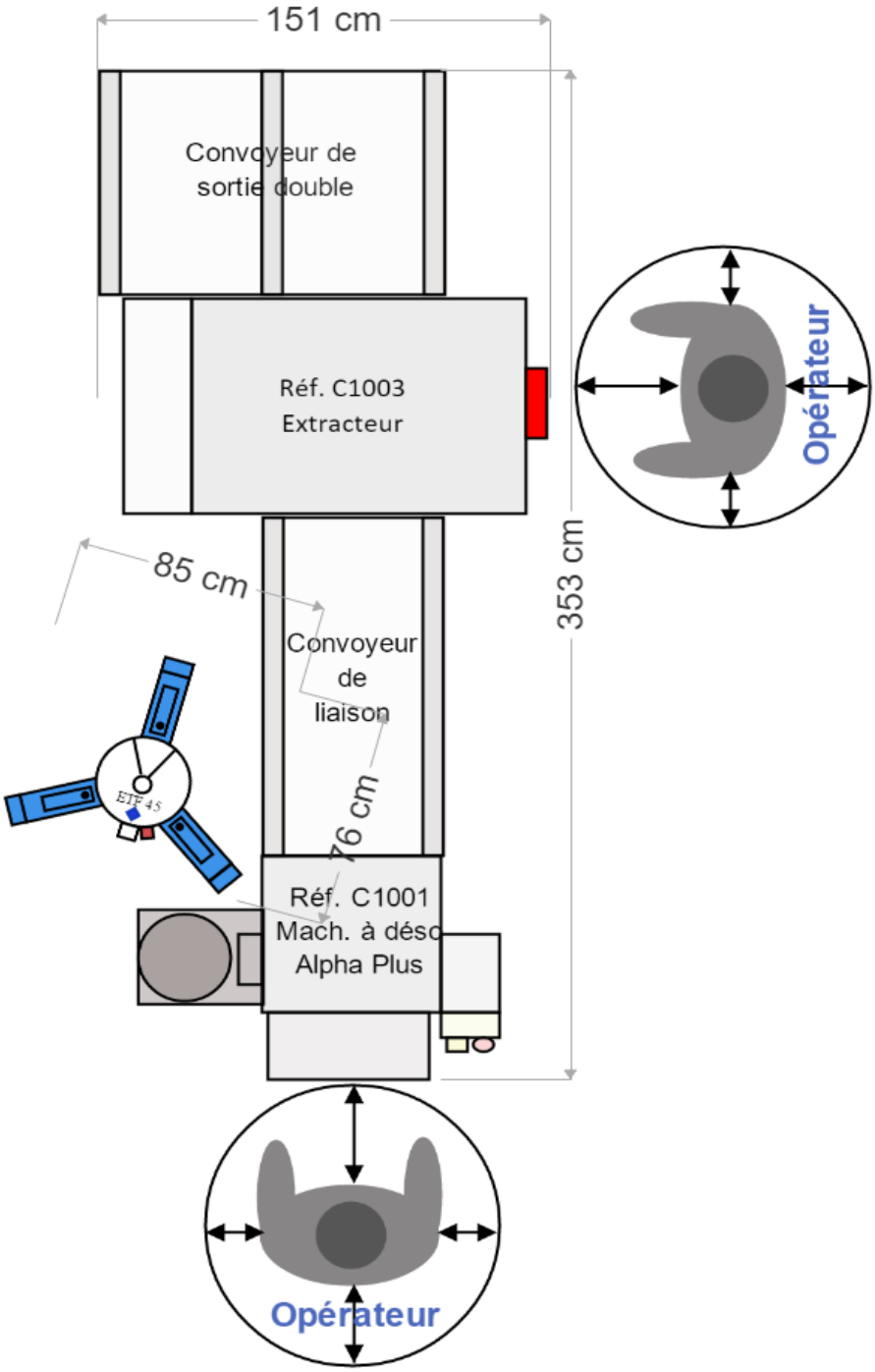
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ANNEX 1 : Standard installation
Simple conveyor



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ANNEX 2 : Compact installation
Double conveyor



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