CASE STORY

Danespo sorts up to 35 tonnes of seed potatoes per hour with new Skals line



Greater capacity and flexible production make it possible to deliver more orders when demand peaks.

The need: Handling peak demand

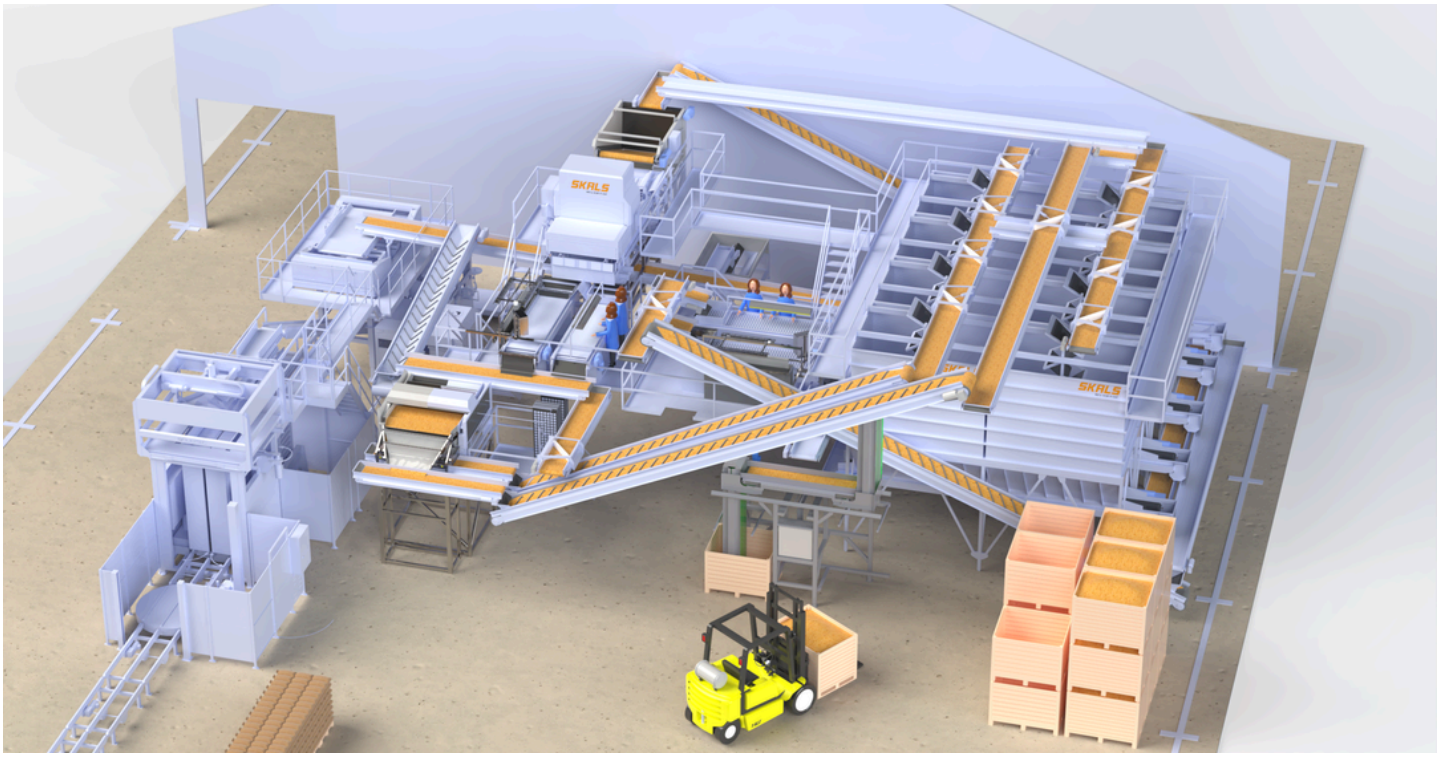
Danespo is one of Northern Europe's leading potato processing and production companies. Customers often want their potatoes at the same time. At peak times, Danespo needed to handle larger volumes in less time, so the company built an entirely new plant in Herning, Denmark.

> *"What has probably changed the most is that we're better able to deliver orders when customers want them."*

Christian Justesen
Senior Planning Manager
Danespo

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The solution: Gentle sorting and flexible production flows



Built for flexibility

The seed potato system consists of a 2.40-metre-wide Skals SDe sizer, optical sorting with the Skals PotatoCam, and silos. It has direct access to the packing hall and can also handle big bags and boxes.

Capacity is 30-35 tonnes per hour, up to five tonnes more than Danespo originally required.

The silos keep production flexible: potatoes can be dried, sent straight to sorting or stored before moving on to the packing hall.

"It's the combination: our SDe sizer is very gentle and very efficient, and at 2.40 metres it's also very wide."

Søren Lund Madsen
CEO Skals Machinery

The collaboration: From field to finished potatoes

Danespo and Skals started by visiting existing plants for inspiration. A thorough process of drawings and adjustments followed, until the solution matched Danespo's needs.

Construction began on a greenfield site in April 2026, and the first potatoes were sorted in November 2026. The schedule was tight, and Skals scaled up staffing as needed.

"The Skals team has been very flexible in providing the hours needed to finish on time. When we could see the schedule slipping a little, more people were brought in."

Christian Justesen
Senior Planning Manager
Danespo

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The result:
What Danespo has gained from the line



01 **More orders in a short time**
At up to 35 tonnes per hour, Danespo can deliver larger volumes when customers want them.

02 **Sizing and optical sorting**
The Skals PotatoCam is integrated into the system to reduce the need for manual labour.

03 **Three routes for the potatoes**
They can be dried, sent straight to sorting or stored in silos before moving on to the packing hall.

04 **Ready for the start of the season**
From greenfield site in April to the first sorted potatoes in November, as planned.

05 **Improved working conditions**
Sorting staff have an overview of the entire system.

06 **Local service and support**
As a local supplier, Skals can deliver spare parts and service quickly.



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A changing market



Søren Lund Madsen sees the line as a sign of a trend in the industry, where larger players are building new production plants with higher capacity and more integrated functions.

> *"We know Skals machines, and we know they handle the potatoes gently. We'd like to recommend Skals to others in the industry."*

Christian Justesen
Senior Planning Manager
Danespo

> *"A line like this is becoming more and more common. Ever larger players are coming in and building a completely new setup from scratch. And that's great for us. So we're ready for what comes."*

Søren Lund Madsen
CEO Skals Machinery



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