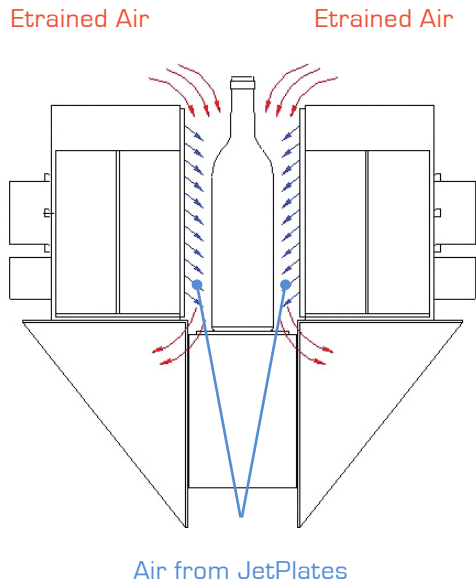


DRI-Line Series - Method of Air Delivery JetPlates

ACI's 'JetPlate' is a development of ACI's Airknife Technology and offers the most effective method of air delivery for bottle drying. Based upon parallel plenums on opposite sides of the conveyor track, JetPlates deliver high volumes of air at close proximity to the bottles.

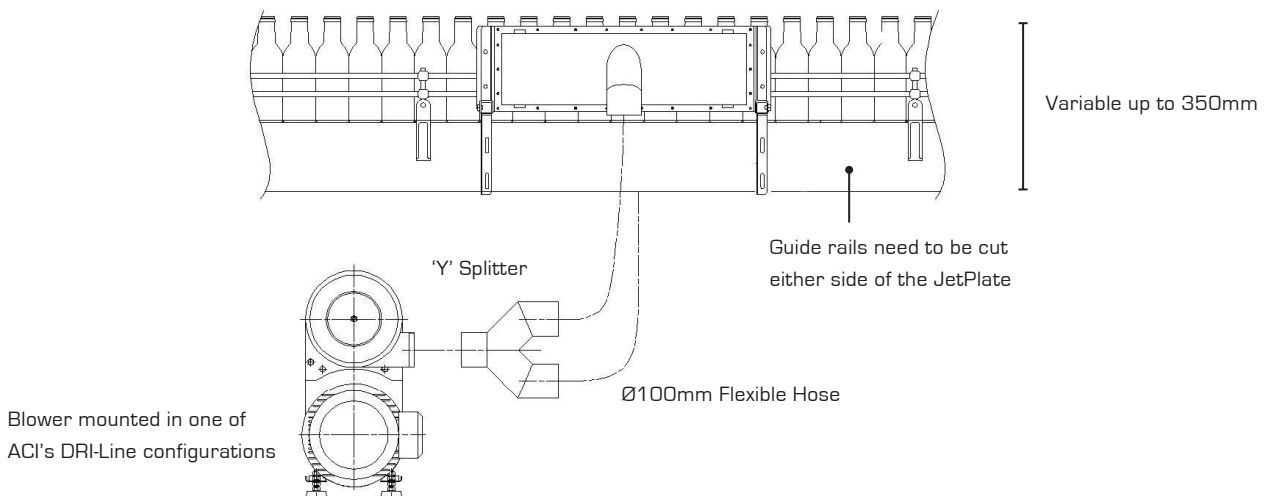


Major features of the JetPlate concept include its ability to deliver twice the volume of high pressure (comparisons made with Airknives) over the bottles from a closer position than beforehand with the entrained air ensuring that all water and spray is directed downwards to prevent possible recontamination.

JetPlates are also simple and quick to adjust whilst their positioning permits single bottles – of varying heights without adjustment - to pass through without falling. The JetPlate arrangement comprises facing plenums each with a face plate with stepped air delivery slots. This configuration ensures the air delivery pattern effectively pushes liquid down and off the product as it is conveyed between the plenums.

The new JetPlate arrangement simplifies installation and maintenance because the plenum face plates act as bottle guides thereby eliminating the need for rails. Additionally, there is no call for pitch adjustment such as might be required with conventional Airknife systems to achieve optimum drying. Throughput capacity of ACI's new JetPlate system has been proven on some of the fastest bottling lines.

Typical Outline Drawing



Please note [1] - all drawings measurements are in millimeters (mm)
 Please note [2] - above technical specifications are subject to change

JetPlate Variations:

JetPlates are available with various configurations, depending mainly on the bottle shape and size. They can be readily used in conjunction with Airknives and/or cap and neck dryers depending on the area of the bottle that requires drying; the amount of the water needed to be removed; and the speed of the conveyor/production line.

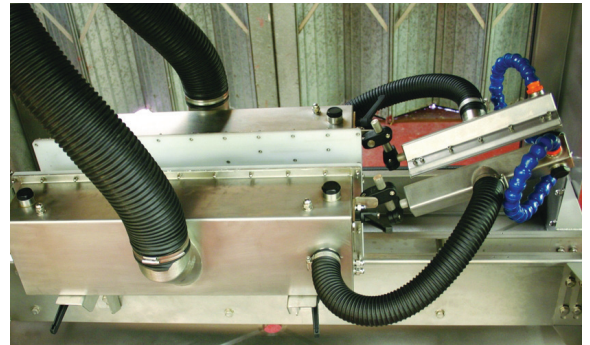
In the configuration illustrated opposite, the main function of the JetPlate is to dry the body of the bottle. The pair of Stainless Steel Airknives focuses on the part of the bottle that sits above the guide rails (for example, the neck and crown cap area). Additionally, the Airknives are easily adjustable if different bottle heights are being processed on the same line.

JetPlate Mountings:

- JetPlates are supplied with a set of mounting brackets which can be directly attached to the conveyor (fixings are not supplied).
- JetPlates must be mounted so that the slots of the dryer are in line with, and close to the neck of the bottle being dried.
- JetPlates can be moved to suit various sizes of product by simple adjustment of the mounting brackets.

Summary:

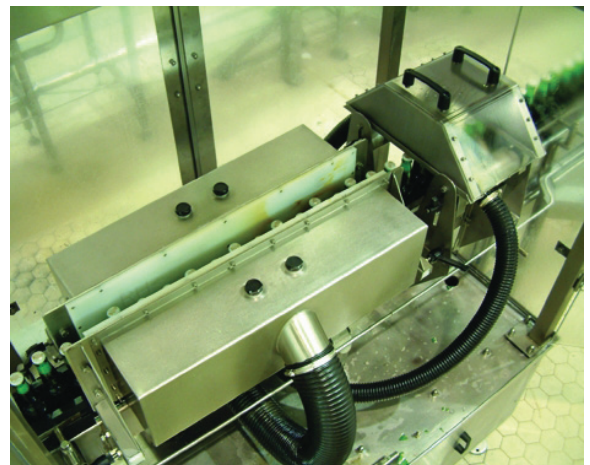
- Simple installation.
- Jet Plates act as guide rails, maximising the wet bottles exposure to the high velocity airflow.
- Little or no adjustment necessary to JetPlates during production



Configuration of JetPlates with Stainless Steel Airknives



JetPlates being fitted in ACI's laboratory for customer testing.



Configuration of JetPlates with Cap Dryer