



# CASE STUDY

## For the Food Industry

Contact:

Ed Stevens, Stevens Strategic Communications  
[estevens@stevensstrategic.com](mailto:estevens@stevensstrategic.com)

Mitch Graham, Eriez  
[mgraham@eriez.com](mailto:mgraham@eriez.com)

### **Sunny Dell Foods, Eriez® and Rep Firm Join Forces to Return to Operation with a New Metal Detector within 36 Hours**

Sunny Dell Foods, a family-owned business located in Oxford, Pennsylvania, started in 1994 as a cannery for mushrooms. Since then the company has morphed into a private label and custom recipe provider of high quality marinated and refrigerated mushrooms, pasta and other sauces, soups, dressings, marinades, pepper and capers to well-known brands.

Sunny Dell Foods' uncompromising commitment to securing quality fresh products and following strict processing procedures ensure that their finished products are of the highest standards and specifications. Mushrooms used in both the canning and freezing operation are subjected to repeated inspections as they pass through the plant. Any mushroom or other product not meeting Sunny Dell Foods' high standards for freezing or canning are removed. Only those products judged to be perfect are then prepared to the end-user's requirements.

Critical control factor checks are conducted throughout the day. Quality checks include can seam tear downs, drained weights, microbiological tests, color, texture, uniformity of size, symmetry and flavor. It is only after all tests are completed with certified results that the product is shipped to the customer.

Sunny Dell Foods' utilization of Eriez® standard and liquid line Xtreme® metal detectors is critical to its quality protocol.

Recently, an older metal detector on a USDA-certified line went down and the owner of Sunny Dell Foods, Cary Caligiuri, needed an immediate solution. He explains, "I wanted to keep my employees working and we needed to provide USDA-level performance now to be able to ship."

Produced by Stevens Strategic Communications, Inc. Phone: 440-617-0100

Web: [www.stevensstrategic.com](http://www.stevensstrategic.com) Email: [info@stevensstrategic.com](mailto:info@stevensstrategic.com)

Caligiuri contacted Steve Hilliard, Eriez sales representative with Penn Quip in Ambler, Pennsylvania.

Hilliard indicated Eriez had a unit ready to go as part of its Quick Ship Program. The next day, Caligiuri drove to Eriez to pick up the equipment.

“Eriez and Penn Quip, together with the Sunny Dell team, kept me running,” says Caligiuri. “Steve Hilliard was there to set up and calibrate the unit. I couldn’t be happier. In 36 hours, we were back in operation.”

Sunny Dell Foods has four standard Eriez Xtreme Metal Detectors and one liquid line unit located prior to packaging the hot product. Caligiuri says another metal detector is on the way.

Some time ago, the company installed Eriez plate magnets and placed them after the slicing machines to deliver powerful rare earth magnetic separation protection. Eriez combines with Penn Quip to provide field testing and annual verification and validation of its metal detection equipment.

Because Sunny Dell produces so many different products, it is critical that Eriez Xtreme Metal Detectors are easy to wash down and its complete interface is simple to adjust for various products. The company is passionate about cleanliness and appreciates that these industrial metal detectors are designed for hard wash-down.

“The auto-set up on the Xtreme Metal Detector is easy to use,” says Caligiuri. “All you do is tighten up the rectangle on the Xtreme’s monitor and you know you will spot impurities.”

Caligiuri has learned that investing in a metal detector can safeguard against machinery damage, production downtime and loss of product quality. Metal detectors are the last line of defense for detection of contaminants. “Considering the importance placed on this equipment, it is easy to understand the heavy compliance standards surrounding the operation of this equipment in food processing applications,” says Caligiuri.

Eriez metal detection products combine a precision mechanical design with state-of-the-art electronics, multiple frequency range, vibration immunity and complex algorithms to detect the smallest metals.

“Eriez Xtreme Metal Detectors are shipped with the Xtreme software and graphical interface. We can detect contaminants at levels never before possible,” says Hilliard. “With other metal detection technology, these contaminants might go undetected.”

###

Eriez is recognized as the world authority in separation technologies. The company’s magnetic separation, metal detection, fluid recycling, flotation, materials feeding, screening, conveying and controlling equipment have application in the process, metalworking, packaging, plastics, rubber, recycling, food, mining, aggregate, textile and power industries. Eriez manufactures and markets these products through 12 international subsidiaries located on six continents. For more information, call (814) 835-6000. For online users, visit [www.eriez.com](http://www.eriez.com) or send email to [eriez@eriez.com](mailto:eriez@eriez.com). Eriez World Headquarters is located at 2200 Asbury Road, Erie, PA 16506.