

BC Automation

AI-Optimized Steam Peeling for Fruits & Vegetables

Tech Primer - 03/14/25



Your time, money, and product quality are under pressure.

- **Process variability** – Produce conditions change with seasonality, storage, and pre-processing.
- **Yield loss** – Over- or under-peeling leads to unnecessary waste and inefficiency.
- **Energy waste** – Steam usage is often excessive due to lack of real-time process control.
- **Staying competitive** requires intelligent, adaptable peeling solutions—and that’s where BC Automation leads.

PROBLEM: Variability in Steam Peeling Reduces Yield & Efficient

Fruits and vegetables at different life cycle stages require different peeling conditions:

- **Fresh Produce** – High moisture and delicate skins make over-peeling a risk.
- **Process-Grade Produce** – Washed and sorted but still variable in skin toughness and moisture content.
- **Stored Produce** – Tougher, suberized skins require higher steam pressure, but excessive peeling damages yield.
- **Without real-time process intelligence**, manufacturers suffer yield loss, excessive energy use, and quality inconsistencies.

SOLUTION: AI-Driven Driven Steam Peeling Optimization

BC Automation’s Steam Peeling MetaProcess integrates SWIR-enabled Advanced Spectrometry to dynamically adapt to produce conditions in real time.

- **Condition-Based Steam Control** – AI adjusts steam pressure, cycle times, and batch size based on detected moisture and skin toughness.
- **Advanced Spectrometry for Peeling Optimization** – SWIR sensors detect dirt, suberization levels, and moisture content for precise steam application.
- **Process-Grade Sorting & Infeed Adjustments** – Categorizes produce before peeling to reduce over-processing and maximize yield.
- **Exit Inspection & Dynamic Feedback** – Post-peel sensors ensure quality and continuously adjust upstream settings to refine peeling efficiency.
- **Energy & Cost Efficiency** – Adapts steam use dynamically, reducing waste and lowering operational costs.

OUR IMPACT: Higher Yield, Lower Costs, & Greater Efficiency

- **Up to 7% Yield Improvement** – Reduces over-peeling and preserves usable produce.
- **Energy Savings from Optimized Steam Use** – Less wasted steam means lower operational costs.
- **Improved Process Stability** – Maximizes cycle time, decreases process variations, and increases utilization.
- **Higher Quality & Consistency** – Reduces defects, ensuring fully peeled produce continues down the line.

BC Automation’s AI-driven peeling solutions maximize yield, efficiency, and energy savings, giving fruit and vegetable processors a smarter way to optimize their operations.



89+

clients served

610+

unique processes automated

\$2.9B+

client dollars saved

“A huge asset to any company looking to improve their cost and reliability.”

Chris Whitehair
SVP Global Operations at SunOpta

“[BC Automation’s] solutions are most thorough and comprehensive.”

Ned Mitenius
Founder & Sr Consultant at Periscope Consulting

Let’s Transform Your Manufacturing Together.



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