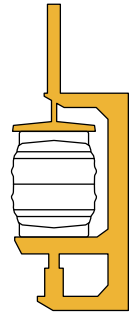


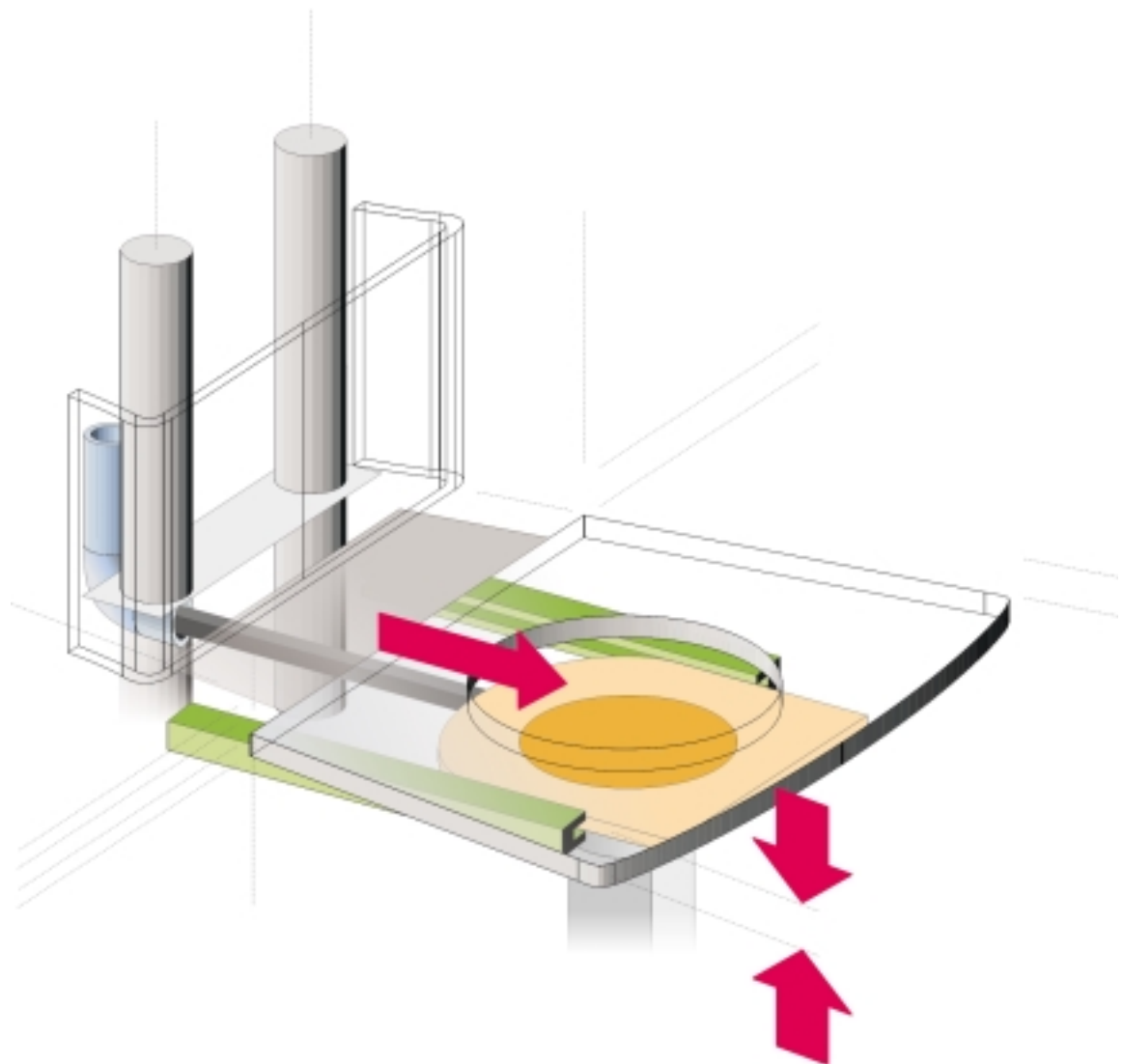
# Innovation: CIP-Caps

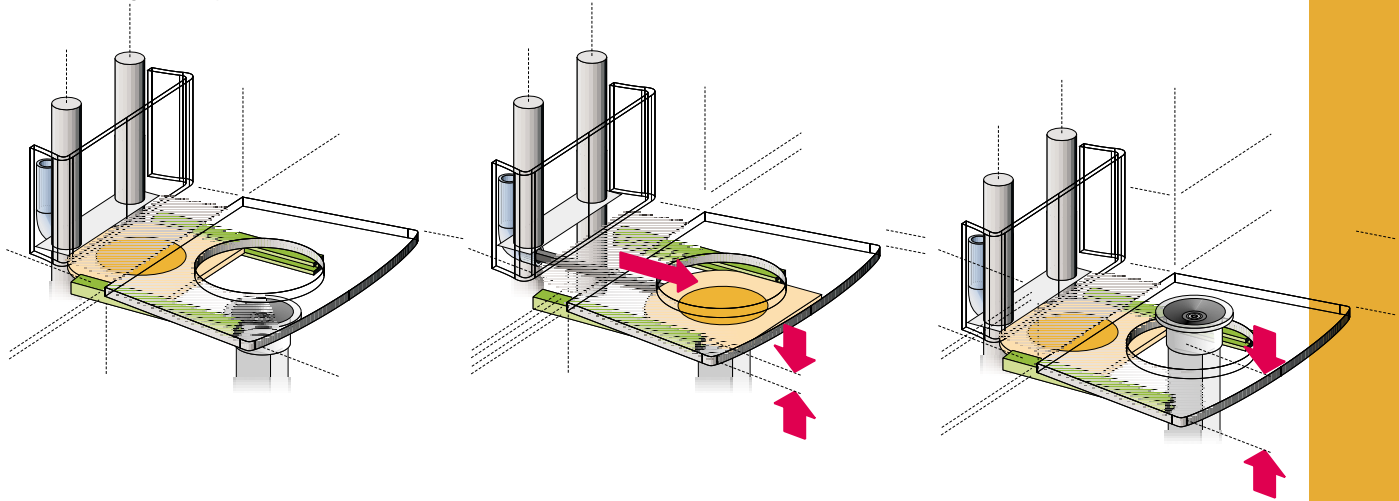
Automatic CIP-Caps offer numerous advantages



CIP caps are placed on the treatment head of keg fillers to ensure closed circulation of cleaning agents during CIP operation. Customers that fill several different types of product on one line also need CIP caps for product changeover. Until now, it was necessary to place and fasten them by hand. This is no longer necessary due to the newly developed automatic CIP caps that are now integrated in the lift table and are thus part of the machine. The advantages of this new technique are increased availability assurance and faster machine use.

IKHS Till, leader of the market in the field of keg cleaning and keg filling, places special emphasis in increasing ease of maintenance at all times in new and further developments. Improved ease of maintenance was of course an issue during the development of automatic CIP caps ...





The automatic CIP-caps of the rotary Contikeg are moveably mounted in guides underneath the lift table. They are moved pneumatically by the treatment head as required and pressed in place by the lift table. The CIP-caps are cardanically suspended their guides to provide mechanical alignment. This simultaneously ensures that the bond to the treatment head is tight and secure. An overall simple and clearly arranged mechanical design.

#### CIP-Cap Changing Now Possible Within Seconds

The entire CIP-cap changing process is now completed within seconds with the new automatic CIP-caps; the CIP process can begin. The CIP-cap swings in place; the lift table is lowered allowing a pneumatic cylinder to press the spring-loaded cap against the treatment head. Punctures are easily avoided; the cardanic mounting provides a safeguard against slight alignment errors. Once the CIP process is completed, an additional advantage comes to light: No cap removal work is necessary.

#### Time and Money Saved During Product Changeover

Automatic CIP-cap changing also offers those customers that fill several different types of product considerable advantages for product changeover.

The automatic CIP-caps can be swung over the treatment heads at the push of a button in this instance as well. Manual intervention is unnecessary; the complete product changeover process is completed automatically. Kegs are not filled during the period of product changeover. This means product savings by avoiding unnecessary keg filling on the one hand, and time-consuming draining of kegs filled with "mixed product" (mixing zone) on the other. The CIP-caps are automatically cleaned with hot water before and after each product changeover to remove any clinging contaminants. Maximum microbiological safety is ensured.

#### Bearer of Innovation Contikeg

The innovative CIP-cap system is available for all models of the Contikeg product line. KHS Till is currently working on a "retrofit solution" in a next step to enable users with previously installed Contikeg machines to take advantage of this optimized equipment.

Excerpt from an article of KHS Journal 3/2001