

Title: Tomorrow's Growth Opportunities in Food Processing & Handling. 2020 – 2025.

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The global food and beverage industry is in a moment of unprecedented complexity and transformation. From the impact of advances in technology —with artificial intelligence and processing automation—to growing demands for organics and fresh ingredients, the food processing sector is undergoing a period of fundamental change.

Globally, the food processing and handling sector has become increasingly important as the world's population has grown and dietary preferences have evolved, reflecting higher incomes and a shift to 'value-added' products. The demand for fresh, quality and locally sourced ingredients, alongside ready-to-eat convenience products, have escalated production and strained the processing industry.

One example of an advance in food processing technology includes the integration of sensors and robotic processing and handling equipment that have been developed to provide better product traceability. Consumer requirements for better traceability—due mainly to animal welfare concerns—have also spurred changes in ways of working in sub-sectors such as the meat, seafood and poultry processing industry, where sensing and measuring technologies are being used in plants to improve food-testing. Paired with the increased adoption of robotised processing and packaging technologies, the change has brought about a reduction in human contact in processing plants, reducing the likelihood of material contamination.

In this new study we attempts to focus a lens on some of the biggest challenges the processing and handling industry is facing—supported with financial analysis, executive surveys, interviews and industry research.

Biography:

Industry expert Steffan Knoedler has worked with some of the world's leading food processors in his 20 year career at Watson-Marlow Fluid Technology Group, a global engineering company that specialises in manufacturing technology for the food processing and handling industry. He offers a chance for conference attendees to learn about the latest in processing and handling trends based on a new independent global study

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