Nuts and Dried Fruit Sorting Solutions.
Nuts and Dried Fruit Sorting from Bühler. Equipment and Solutions.

1. The Bühler Advantage 3
2. Nut and Dried Fruit Applications 4
3. Specialist Applications 7
4. SORTEX® F Optical Sorter 8
5. SORTEX® A Optical Sorter 11
6. SORTEX® E Optical Sorter 12
7. SORTEX® B Optical Sorter 15
8. Innovative Technologies 16
9. Model Variants and Specifications 18
10. SORTEX® Customer Care 20
Bühler in partnership with processors.
An integral part of the nut and dried fruit processing industry.

Bühler is a leading global supplier of optical sorting solutions to the food and non-food processing industries and has been at the forefront of pioneering optical sorting technology since 1947.

With a commitment to substantial investment in research and development, Bühler’s proprietary sorting technology delivers excellent results in removing the most challenging defects and foreign materials in a wide range of applications.

Nut and dried fruit processors, whether primary or secondary, can be confident of world-class performance when placing Bühler’s SORTEX® optical sorters in their processing line for in-shell, natural and blanched nuts, as well as dried fruit applications.

Key benefits
- The most hygienic optical sorters, lowering the risk of contamination
- Exceptional colour, shell and foreign material detection
- Flexible solutions for small and large scale processors
2 Flexible optical sorting solutions. At all stages of the processing line.

In-shell

SORTEX® optical sorters reduce the levels of foreign materials and rotten kernels amongst in-shell applications to improve the efficiency further down the processing line.

Colour, size and shape grading early on also ensures a consistent input to the cracking and shelling process with only the highest grade nuts being approved as fit for further processing.

Natural

The most subtle visible defects are removed from natural nut applications as well as foreign materials which may have been missed by mechanical cleaners or introduced during further processing. SORTEX® optical sorters are equipped with the most advanced optical sorting technologies to ensure stringent safety and quality specifications are achieved every time.

Blanched

Adhering skin, foreign material and subtle colour defects especially those enhanced by the blanching process are removed with pinpoint precision for top quality blanched kernels ready for snacks, ingredients and toppings.
3 Serious about food safety. Specialist sorting applications.

Aflatoxin reduction

Bühler has been at the forefront of pioneering aflatoxin reduction since the 1980s after tests in Senegal, using the SORTEX® 1161, prove optical sorting could substantially reduce aflatoxin levels amongst ground nuts.

Shell and foreign material removal

Bühler’s SORTEX BioVision™ detection system has revolutionised the nut processing industry, helping processors meet strict food safety standards with a zero tolerance approach for shell and foreign materials in the good product stream.

The technology can be positioned at all stages of the processing line, acting as a defence against shell, hull, membrane or foreign materials from the harvest process or as a final barrier against foreign materials such as glass and plastic which often occur during transportation or further processing.
4-in-1 defect and foreign material detection on our most hygienic platform. SORTEX® F.

The industry’s most hygienic optical sorter, enhanced for nut and dried fruit processors with a high capacity 600mm or 1200mm viewing area, built-in climate control and dust extraction kits. Available now with SORTEX® BioVision™ technology.

SORTEX® F.

The SORTEX F, available with the SORTEX BioVision™ detection system offers processors 4-in-1 detection with advanced camera technology which targets colour defects, shell, shape and foreign materials simultaneously in a unique open design frame which lowers the risk of contamination thanks to its hygienic grade fixings, sloped surfaces and easy cleaning access.

The pioneering sorter can be configured for all areas of the nut and dried fruit processing industry, from primary to secondary processors including manufactures of snacks, nut spreads and nut milks for a versatile solution which focuses on hygienic and efficient sorting, seamlessly, at all stages of the processing line.

- SORTEX BioVision™ detection system
- Adjustable 600mm and 1200mm chute
- Open receptacle
- Custom-built colour cameras
- High definition InGaAs HD cameras
- PROfile™ (shape) technology
- MultiVision™ technology
- LED-Xenon lighting
- 17 inch touch screen user interface
- Re-sort capabilities
- ProSortX™ operating software
- Climate control system
5 Colour and foreign material removal. 
SORTEX® A.

Available in three difference frame sizes and technologies, including the MultiVision™, ColorVision™ InGaAs and DualVision™ inspection systems, the SORTEX A provides nut and dried fruit processors with dedicated customised options to handle unique and challenging sorting requirements, regardless of processing size.

SORTEX® A.

Equipped with Bühler’s custom-built inspection and lighting systems, the SORTEX A removes a range of defects including yellows, mould, light, dark and black spots and shrivelled kernels as well as various foreign materials such as glass, stones and plastic.

Featuring Bühler proprietary technologies including Product Tracking, Auto-Calibration, High-Lumen LED Lighting and the new SORTEX ProSortX™ operating system, the SORTEX A offers ease of use, removing the need for manual intervention whilst delivering consistent high sorting performance.

- MultiVision™, DualVision™ and standard inspection systems
- High capacity feeding with up to 5 chutes
- Custom-built colour cameras
- InGaAs cameras
- PROfile™ (shape) technology
- SmartEject™ technology
- Broadband LED lighting
- Re-sort capabilities
- ProSortX™ operating software
Flexible shell, colour and foreign material removal.
SORTEX® E.

The SORTEX E is designed for nut and dried fruit processors looking for a hygienic sorting solution at lower processing capacities. Available with Bühler’s advanced SORTEX BioVision™ detection system which detects shell and foreign materials up to 50% smaller than other industry solutions today.

SORTEX® E.

The SORTEX E offers processors a high performance sorting experience in a small footprint. Designed to bring the benefits of larger sorters to smaller processors, whilst delivering nothing but the highest quality product at all stages of the processing line.

Available with the advanced SORTEX BioVision™ detection system, state-of-the-art high definition InGaAs® cameras and PROfile™ detection technologies, the SORTEX E is capable of handling multiple nut and dried fruit varieties for best in class foreign material detection.

- SORTEX BioVision™ detection system
- 600mm chute
- Custom-built colour cameras
- High definition InGaAs® cameras
- PROfile™ (shape) technology
- SmartEject™ technology
- Broad spectrum lighting
- Re-sort option
- ProSortX™ operating software
Ideal for nut processors looking for a typical, mainstream sorting solution with proven technologies and trusted performance. Available in three frame sizes in up to five modules, the SORTEX B MultiVision™ and the SORTEX B DualVision™ incorporate Bühler proprietary feed and vision systems including PROsize™ technology, a detection solution which sorts objects based on size characteristics to maximise product uniformity and value.

Mainstream sorting solution with Bühler proprietary technologies for trusted performance.

Features a combination of new and improved camera, lighting, ejection and detection systems to deliver a reliable sorting performance for mainstream nut and dried fruit sorting applications. The SORTEX B range offers processors dependable solutions for conventional sorting applications to remove color defects and foreign materials for uniform and consistent quality.
8 Innovative technologies.
Leading the way through innovation.

SORTEX® BioVision™ technology
The advanced SORTEX BioVision™ detection system is a unique configuration of detection technologies which includes BioCam™ combined with either high definition InGaAs®HD, colour cameras, or both.

Innovative BioCam™ technology targets the spectral and spatial differences between the nut and shell, new high-definition InGaAs®HD cameras detect foreign materials in the near invisible infrared spectrum and custom-built visible cameras remove colour defects including dark, rotten, yellow and spot defects.

Custom-built visible cameras
Bühler’s high resolution colour cameras, which are designed and custom-built in house, remove gross and subtle colour defects and reduce aflatoxin contaminated kernels from a variety of applications to increase product quality, safety and uniformity.

InGaAs®HD technology
The next generation infrared detection technology from Bühler now comes in high definition with double the resolution to detect foreign materials down to half the size. With twice as many pixels, InGaAs®HD detects the smallest pieces of hazardous materials that cannot be seen in the visible spectrum for an added layer of assurance.
**PROfile™ technology**

PROfile™ technology can intelligently detect and virtually separate touching objects, allowing for higher capacity shape sorting. It can also use a combination of multiple shape parameters to remove stems and under or oversized products at the same time.

**Intelligent Ejector technology**

SmartEject™ - high speed, high flow ejectors efficiently remove defects with pinpoint precision and accuracy.

Ejector+ technology, Bühler’s most powerful ejectors are available on the SORTEX E and SORTEX F optical sorters to remove heavier objects such as stones and glass.

**SORTEX® ProSortX™ operating software**

The latest update of Bühler’s proprietary operating software comes with a fresh new interface that’s modern, clean and intuitive to use. Featuring innovative FingerTipControl™ and all-new Bühler ATOM™ board for faster processing and navigation between screens.
Model Variants and Specifications.

Models and variants

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>SORTEX BioVisio**m</th>
<th>SORTEX F</th>
<th>SORTEX E</th>
<th>SORTEX A</th>
<th>SORTEX B</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Flexible Colour Cameras</td>
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<tr>
<td>InGaAs**m</td>
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<td>PROFe**m technology</td>
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<tr>
<td>LED-Xenon lighting</td>
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<tr>
<td>Halogen lighting</td>
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<td>Broadband LED lighting</td>
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<tr>
<td>Climate Control</td>
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<td>SORTEX ProSortX**m</td>
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<td>Remote access</td>
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<td>ATEX</td>
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<td>CE Certification</td>
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- ** Standard
- ** Long chute

Dimensions, air and power requirements

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>SORTEX F</th>
<th>SORTEX E (long chute)</th>
<th>SORTEX A</th>
<th>SORTEX B (available in 5 sizes)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>FB1</td>
<td>FB2</td>
<td>includes infeed vibrator</td>
<td>One module</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Width (mm/in)</td>
<td>1610, 63</td>
<td>2216, 87</td>
<td>1514, 60</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Length (mm/in)</td>
<td>3010, 118</td>
<td>2985, 117</td>
<td>3194, 126</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Height (mm/in)</td>
<td>2112, 83</td>
<td>2112, 83</td>
<td>2657, 105</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Weight (kg/lbs)</td>
<td>850, 1874</td>
<td>1200, 2645</td>
<td>680, 1500</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Typical air requirements (L/s)*</td>
<td>32</td>
<td>65</td>
<td>32</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Typical Power consumption (kW)**</td>
<td>2.4kW</td>
<td>6kW</td>
<td>2.5kW</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
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* Figures will vary based on throughput and input contamination levels.
** Figures will vary based on machine specifications.
Bühler customers have access to a network of over 140 Sales and Service offices worldwide, offering customisable service packages, stock on spares and upgrade kits, to ensure your optical sorters perform at maximum possible efficiency. Training courses and Competence Centres offering application and product trials are also available at regional sites and from local offices around the world.

TotalCare™
Create a customised service package, composed of individual service features from the list below. From maintenance visits, downtime cover to refurbishments and preventative - basic to fully comprehensive. Designed to ensure your optical sorters perform at its maximum performance.

- **TotalCare Protect**
  - Minimise Downtime
  - Based on an agreed number of annual visits, Bühler engineers will replace key wear parts, provide consultation and advise on future maintenance requirements.

- **TotalCare Perform**
  - Performance Optimisation
  - Aspiring to keep downtime to under 24 hours, sorters will be safeguarded against any failed components. Bühler engineers will ensure first-rate performance once the repair is carried out.

- **TotalCare PerformPLUS**
  - Ejector Refurbishment
  - Making certain that sorters are running at peak performance, ejectors are replaced when the stipulated life-cycle is reached. Performance is maintained for the future.

- **TotalCare Anyware**
  - Supervised Functionality
  - Provides a working record of operational information as well as reports that enable machine health to be monitored and preventative maintenance scheduled.

- **TotalCare AnywarePRO**
  - Remote Access and Assistance
  - Sorter performance can be viewed remotely by customers and Bühler engineers. Faults can be diagnosed and performance optimised in any location using a laptop, tablet or smart phone.

  All contract options are available for variable durations.

**SORTEX® Spare Parts Promise**
Customer satisfaction is our priority. This is why we strive to deliver both spare and wear parts within 48 hours - maximising your profitability.

**SORTEX® Upgrade Kits**
Bühler have designed various upgrade kits, for existing customers who are seeking to upgrade sorters with an additional module, new technology features or processing software.

**SORTEX® Spare Parts**
Various kits to suit different optical sorters are available for customers who wish to have spare parts available on site.

**Optical Sorting Training Courses**
Available from various regional Bühler locations. From operator to management, basic to advance, speak to your local representative for course selection and availability.