

# SKYFEED

SPREADER/FEEDER WITH  
COMPACT BUFFER RAIL SYSTEM



**CHICAGO**<sup>®</sup>



## HOW IT WORKS

Chicago's SkyFeed is the world's first spreader/feeder with a compact built-in buffer rail storage system. Meticulously designed for continuous high volume production and a flawless precision vacuum laydown of difficult-to-process items, up to three operators can simultaneously load pieces which automatically advance to the buffer. SkyFeed's compact rail can store approximately 22 large pieces in preparation for spreading, producing a consistent continuous flow of linen into the ironer and a high quality hand-fed finish.

## SKYFEED MODELS

	ITEMS	AVAILABLE WIDTHS
SKYFEED	Flat and Fitted Sheets (including King Sheets), Duvet Covers, Table Linen	120" (3050 mm), 136"(3543 mm), 161" (4090 mm)*
SKYFEED WITH SMALL PIECE BYPASS	Flat and Fitted Sheets (including King Sheets), Duvet Covers, Table Linen, Pillowcases, Napkins, and More	120" (3050 mm), 136"(3543 mm), 161" (4090 mm)*

*\*Please Consult Factory for Other Widths*

## KEY CHICAGO® ADVANTAGES

### BUILT-IN STORAGE BUFFER RAIL

SkyFeed's compact built-in buffer rail system is the first of its kind. Once fed, linen automatically advances to the rail, which can store approximately 22 large pieces with an optional 52 piece buffer available. The linen buffer eliminates interruptions (such as cart changes) in work flow that would otherwise disrupt the flow of pieces being processed—allowing SkyFeed to continuously feed the ironer for increased throughput and production.



### VACUUM POWERED QUALITY

For high quality hand-fed results, SkyFeed's multiple vacuum systems make all the difference. Once fed, the top of the item is held by a powerful vacuum box which pivots in a rotating motion to lay the leading edge of the item onto perforated advancing conveyor ribbons. This unique pivoting motion allows the vacuum box to position linen as close as possible to the surface for a straight and accurate leading edge. Compressed air blasts through a unique venturi chamber, creating powerful suction to induce and treat the linen's trailing edge, keeping the piece straight and taut as it enters the ironer for an impeccable wrinkle-free result.



## OPTIONAL FEATURES

### Fourth Loading Station

A fourth loading station is available to offer additional productivity, meet the demands of the very highest speed ironing lines, and enable easier handling of labor-intensive pieces

### Small Piece Vacuum Bypass

SkyFeed is not just for large and cumbersome items. The small piece vacuum bypass option allows for rounds, pillow cases, napkins, and any other linen items requiring hand feeding to be processed with vacuum assist through to the ironer for the highest possible quality finish



### Rotating Smoothing Brushes

SkyFeed can be supplied with additional rotating smoothing brushes at the end of the exit conveyor to further laterally spread linen prior to entering the ironer

### Single-Two Lane Operation

This feature enables automatic feeding in a choice of single or dual lanes as programmed. Perfect for two lane feeding of table linen and other linen items

### Thickness Detection

If a linen piece is knotted or contains a foreign item, SkyFeed will detect the item as “too thick” and will allow removal of the piece to prevent jams that can cause costly down time

### Extended Buffer Rail

An extended buffer rail is available for increased storage of up to 52 pieces resulting in greater throughput

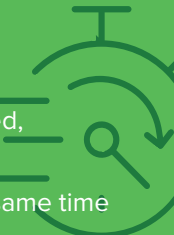
# WHY CHICAGO

## QUALITY

- Loading station height allows for loading directly from cart or conveyor, preventing linen from touching the floor
- Programmable linen shakeout ensures a fully open piece during spreading. This is especially useful for heavy items like duvet covers
- Backlit linen inspection system allows operators to inspect linen and pause to manually remove rejected pieces or have them automatically reject at a folder equipped with stain/tear reject
- Leading edge pivoting vacuum box ensures the leading edge is as close as possible to the ribbons
- Venturi chambers create powerful suction to treat the linen's trailing edge
- Three areas of spreading assist belts and brushes ensure optimum preparation of the entire piece for the best possible laydown
- Dual “sandwich style” stretching exit conveyors keep the piece taut and straight as it travels between conveyors for a wrinkle-free result

## PRODUCTIVITY

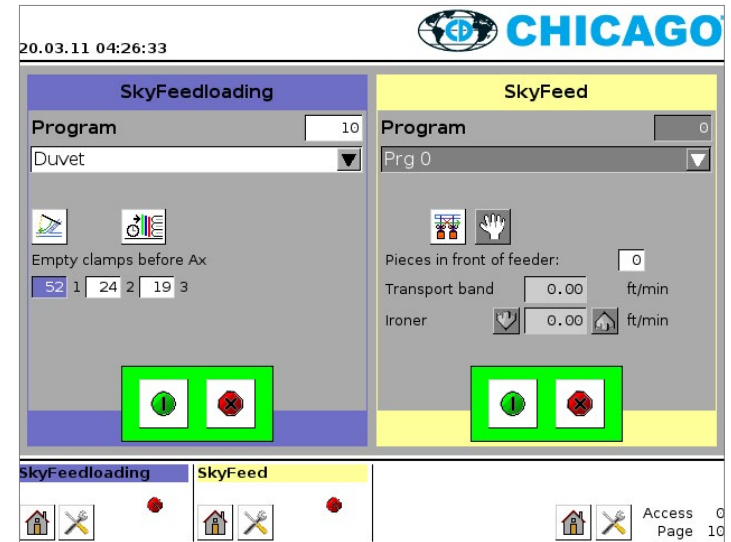
- Programmable lift assist advances the first clamp after it is loaded, allowing the operator to more easily find the second corner
- Three loading stations allows multiple operators to work at the same time
- 46” (1168 mm) loading height for operators means carts can be positioned directly under the stations, eliminating time spent by operators untangling pieces before feeding
- The same set of loading clamps is used throughout the entire feeding process, eliminating extra linen transfers and reducing drops or poor corner grabs as well as increasing throughput





## TOUCH SCREEN CONTROL SYSTEM

SkyFeed utilizes a robust PLC control with hundreds of programs. It has an intuitive, easy-to-learn interface that is effortlessly customizable to your needs. It gives you enhanced control over your equipment and is flexible enough to record, store, and export virtually any production parameter you want to monitor for data analysis and reporting.



Please visit our website for direct access to other product brochures, detailed floor plans and specifications, as well as videos of Chicago equipment in action. Call our factory sales office for additional assistance and help finding your local distributor.

Designed and manufactured in the U.S. for quality control and prompt availability of replacement parts.



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