



Technologies

INNOKEG X

Two in one

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Washing and racking kegs in just one operating step saves time, money and space. Packed with lots of new functions and options, the Innokeg X module from KHS is destined to prove extremely popular with craft brewers especially.

KEG

PHOTOGRAPHY / ILLUSTRATION

Frank Reinhold, KHS GmbH

COVER PHOTO

Flexible, hygienic, expandable, low on space, quick to load and operator friendly: the Innokeg X washing and filling module for kegs boasts a number of highlights.

Six years ago the compact Innokeg module was successfully launched for the low capacity range, supplied as either a filler (Innokeg AF) or a washer (Innokeg AC). KHS is now once again proactively approaching the ever-growing microbrewery segment: in its semi-automatic Innokeg X washing and filling module the Dortmund systems supplier combines both functions on a single station that can process up to 25 returnable kegs an hour holding up to 58 liters. This provides smaller fillers of craft beer and medium-sized and large breweries who offer special seasonal or event-related beverages in small batches with an innovative, space-saving and efficient system.

Two functions in a single step

The Innokeg X is innovative in several respects. For example, the new multiple processing head that replaces the previous two heads – one for cleaning and one for racking – performs both functions in a single step, meaning that the keg now only has to be connected up to the module once. This cuts down on the amount of time needed and reduces wear on the fittings, the filling and tap valves on the containers. The consistent hygienic design of the washing and filling module is also new: here, all previously horizontal surfaces have been slightly sloped to facilitate the runoff of liquids. The sampling valve has been positioned so that it is readily accessible and the tank has an easy-clean cylindrical shape with no corners or edges. The machine also features smart technology: thanks to the integration of IO-Link the module is equipped with intelligent sensors and actuators for measuring pressure or the level probes, for example.

AT A GLANCE → THE KHS INNOKEG TEAM

	Multibloc F	Contikeg	Transversal	Transomat	CombiKeg	PETBoy	AF and AC modules	^{New!} Innokeg X
Returnable		👍	👍	👍	👍		👍	👍
Non-returnable			👍			👍	👍	
Party can	👍							
Capacity (kegs per hour)	400–700	< 1,200	250–700	78–800	< 90	40–60	< 50	25
Keg sizes (liters)	3.1–5	7–100	7–58	7–58	7–58	15–40	10–58	10–58
Filling	👍	👍	👍	👍	👍	👍	👍	👍
Interior washing		👍	👍	👍	👍		👍	👍
Exterior washing					👍			

You can find more information about our Innokeg X keging system on

[KHS.COM](https://www.khs.com)

What's more, the new development boasts several highlights regarding its footprint and efficiency: besides the cost of investment being lower than that for larger or specialized modules, first and foremost the time and space needed to operate the machinery has been minimized. The Innokeg X takes up just 1.8 square meters of space in production – about a third less than that required by semi-automatic systems with separate washing and filling stations. Moreover, as the keg only has to be positioned on the module once instead of twice, the time needed by the operator is halved. The level of convenience has tripled, however: firstly, the table height has been lowered so that kegs are easier to lift and position. Secondly, the operator panel is at exact eye level. And thirdly, all valves are easy to access, making not only operation but also maintenance easier, the extent of which has been considerably reduced by the lower

number of spare parts. “We’ve optimized the ergonomics of our new module right down to the last detail,” states Roger Daum, keg product manager.



Roger Daum
Keg product manager, KHS

»The new Innokeg X is a plug-and-produce system that can be used immediately on delivery, with little effort needed for installation.«

Flexible expansion

The new machine also scores on flexibility: the key options here include subsequent expansion of the Innokeg X by up to four modules that can all be easily managed by just one operator. This is what the “X” for “expandable” in the product name refers to. “To further increase the ease of operation, we also offer a number of bookable extras,” Daum announces. “These include, for instance, a preparation platform for the next kegs, a keg slide that enables the full barrels weighing over 60 kilos to easily slide onto the pallet and customizable media preparation packages.”

The marketing campaign is also to explore new avenues to mirror the innovative nature of the module. “We’ll initially focus on those markets where small batches are especially relevant,” says Daum. “We’re planning on offering the new Innokeg X online. After all, this is a plug-and-produce system that can be used immediately on delivery, with little effort needed for installation. And the delivery time of about four weeks is also reasonably short.” This final selling point is surely reason enough to persuade prospective buyers to invest in the new Innokeg X sooner rather than later.



Scores on space: with a footprint of just 1.8 square meters the new Innokeg X washing and filling module takes up about a third less space in production than semi-automatic systems with separate washing and filling stations.

Any further questions?

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