



The city of Sastamala saves lots of money by using MAPAX®

All parties were happy when catering service Sastamalan Ruoka- ja Puhtauspalvelut started using shielding gases.

Sastamalan Ruoka- ja Puhtauspalvelut has approximately 350 elderly customers. Previously the company delivered warm meals to each customer on a daily basis; now they deliver ready-made meals only twice a week. The change might sound like a step in the wrong direction but Production Director **Marika Toivonen** assures that everyone has gained from the change:

“Customers gained some personal freedom as they do not need to stay at home waiting for the food delivery”. Toivonen also admits that Sastamala city saved hundreds of thousands of euros. This change was made possible when the Sastamala catering service decided to adopt shielding gas packages, extending the meals’ shelf life.

A Natural Choice, without Compromising on Quality

“When Sastamala was making so called “warm deliveries”, they needed to be kept at 60-degrees until delivery. Achieving this with warming boxes is difficult without compromising on quality. Shielding gas packages allow for safer, microbiologically better quality food that also looks good. This means the customer can rely on quality”, states Key Account Manager at AGA, **Ritva Poutanen**.

Sastamala catering service also gained flexibility and savings as now the meals can be cooked in the morning and packed in the afternoon. The fact that no Sunday cooking is needed, also adds to the savings.

Challenges to Success

Even if the shielding gases keep the meals looking good, the cold deliveries make it more difficult to make them look delicious. Appearances are still important.

“For example, salads cannot be mixed and if we are serving apple pie with vanilla sauce, the sauce has to be under the pie, not on top, as it would otherwise impact the consistency”, explains Toivonen.

Sastamalan Ruoka- ja Puhtauspalvelut Oy Servi

Employees: 150

Services: Catering services for children, youth, the elderly and hospital patients. Home meal services, lunch restaurant services and coffee breaks

Customers: Over 5000 daily

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