Basic Vision – Customer Need
The Skaltek Reel Container System X–Y is designed for winding of lightweight products, such as flat and round aluminium tubes. The system is based on the reels being permanently mounted with ball-bearings in steel stands, which makes it possible to rotate the reels within the stands. This eliminates the need of pintles and opens new possibilities for unconventional machine design.

The original idea – Reel Container – dates back to 1975.

The Skaltek Reel Container System X–Y offers complete applications for winding and unwinding, as well as automatic material handling. Many of these applications are demanding, as they require high winding speeds, fast acceleration and deceleration with maintained low tension in the product.

Main Advantage – Customer Value
The advantages of eliminating conventional handling of reels are obvious:
- Eliminated damage of the product
- Eliminated damage of the reels
- Eliminated damage of the equipment
- Increased operator safety

Better control of material flow
Better control of inventory
Lower cost for reels and equipment
Better winding quality
Organized production leads to Customer Confidence and higher product Quality.

Result – Reward – Return of Investment
Elimination of handling/transport damage leads to substantial cost savings. Careful reel handling without forklifts results in better control of material flow, a much improved working environment and better End-Customer Confidence.

Basic Product Information
1. The machines are equipped with PLC-controls, digital Servo Control, and AC-servos for high laying quality, as well as durable automotive rubber tires for the rotation of the reels, powered by AC-motors.

2. Skaltek Reel Container System X–Y offers a wide range of applications, where take-ups can operate in dancer controlled aluminum press applications, pay-offs in Cut-to-Length lines, etc.

3. The Reel Containers can be handled by pick-and-place crane, AGV and even forklift. They can be stacked on top of each other to save floor space. The container stand is precision built to enable reliable transportation on steel rollers mounted inside the AC/UC1600 machines and the changing stations.

4. The system includes a high degree of automatic material handling. The AC/UC1600 machine traverses into a reel container changing station, where Reel Containers are automatically changed. As the new reel container has entered the AC/UC1600, it is
automatically and firmly locked in a secure position. In some layouts it is possible to change up to six Reel Containers simultaneously. A complete Reel Container changing cycle can be done in less than one minute, including sideways transportation of all machines from operating position to the changing stations and back again.

5. To shorten the hook-up and simplify for the operator, the hook-up hole will be automatically positioned. After the machine has picked up an empty Reel Container, it will slowly rotate the reel while traversing back to the starting position. A laser photocell will detect the hook-up hole.

6. While the machines are in operation, the changing stations can be prepared with new Reel Containers. The reel container changing stations are equipped with polyurethane rollers for positioning of the reel containers, when loading with an overhead crane. The changing stations will automatically center the Reel Containers to prepare for trouble-free changing function.

7. The operator panel includes a touch screen panel for operator interface.

Reference – Product History
The new Reel Container System X-Y has been delivered since 2003, to customers in Europe and North America.