

MACHINERY

UPDATE

Issue 2, Volume XXXI, March/April 2020

The machinery only journal for processing & packaging | www.machineryupdate.co.uk

Sustaining production

Drinks are demanding more sustainable production methods to match their materials choices, but quality being delivered in a robust way is still key across both soft and alcoholic brands



INSIDE

NEWS

With coronavirus wreaking havoc across the world, it could yet scupper plans for the upcoming UK and global exhibitions, but you won't miss out on new launches

NEW MACHINERY

An integrated combination label verification, check weighing and metal detection system that offers space saving and traceability benefits as well as sharing data between machines to generate real-time results is launched

INSTALLATIONS

Check weighing has led to a sustainable increase in efficiency and quality for Playmobil



PLUS

Free registration is now open for the fourth UKIVA Machine Vision Conference that takes place on 14 May www.machinevisionconference.co.uk

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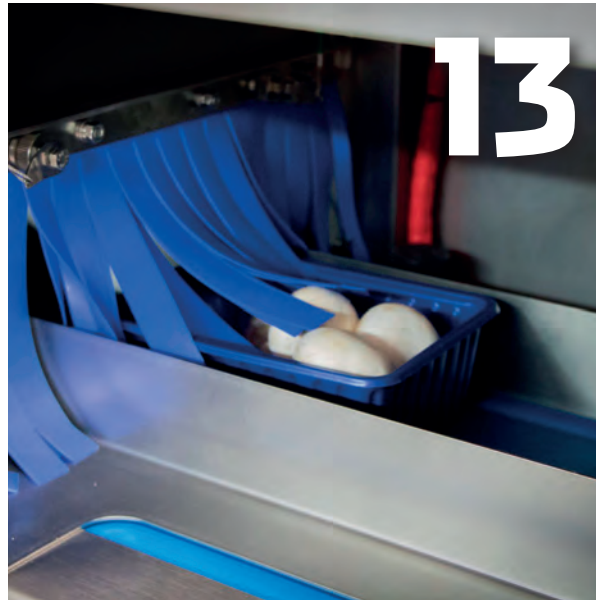
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MACHINERY UPDATE

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PPMA matters

PET is for life, not just for Christmas!



Tim Paul

CHAIRMAN PPMA GROUP OF ASSOCIATIONS
(INCORPORATING PPMA, BARA AND UKIVA)

It still seems somewhat surreal that, 47 years after joining the European Community in 1973, the trading comfort blanket has finally been removed. For some, leaving the EU signifies new-found prosperity; while for others, it's a time of trepidation.

Whichever category you fall into, one thing is for sure: our need to succeed in a competitive global marketplace remains undisputed.

The demand for new products and high-end consumer deliverables has, arguably, never been greater, so has the need to protect the integrity of those products. And our eco-challenges around single use packaging undoubtedly presents one of the biggest areas for growth and innovation.

This is certainly fuelled by marketing initiatives and buying trends around fast-moving consumer goods; particularly soft drinks and alcoholic beverages (our Drinks feature starts on page 66). There is clearly a need to embrace a more circular economy due to rising amounts of packaging waste in landfill.

“Wherever we sit in the supply chain, it's clear that we all have a responsibility to change

Polyethylene terephthalate (PET) products may not necessarily be the long-term solution; however, PET has its place and is sure to become more prevalent in how we shape the recycling future.

Wherever we sit in the supply chain; whether as a manufacturer, retailer or consumer, it's clear that we all have a responsibility to change our habits to recycle more products.

For years, there has been a drive for perfect products to be presented in a perfect way, but consumers seem to recognise that recycled packaging may not quite be pristine in its appearance, and that is still OK.

Recycled plastics may be slightly cloudy in appearance and therefore not as perfect, but rPET has shown that the integrity and safety of the product is uncompromised.

Whatever changes prevail in our packaging materials, there will inevitably need to be trade-offs in other areas. And machinery suppliers need to design their equipment to process these new materials just as efficiently as virgin options. We all have a role to play in adopting a uniformed approach to processing, packaging and recycling.

Sustainable innovation will certainly be on show at interpack in Düsseldorf this May – our preview of just some of these developments starts on page 46, and we've also included a preview to the UK's Foodex exhibition taking place at the NEC, Birmingham in April in this issue (starts page 24). ■

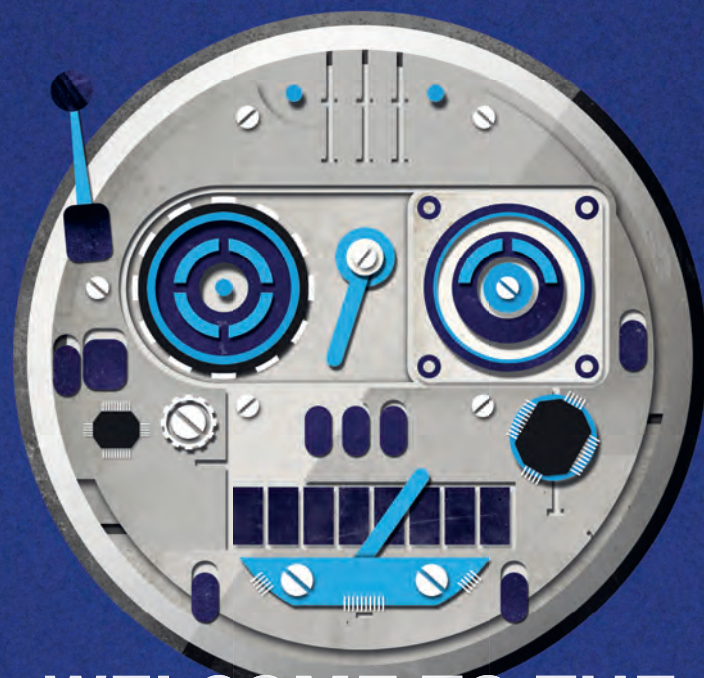


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News



Richard Love speaks first on the day

Embedded vision will take centre stage at machine vision event

The Keynote address at the 2020 UKIVA Machine Vision Conference and Exhibition will be given by Richard Love, EMEA marketing manager for NVIDIA's Jetson embedded processor at 10am on 14 May at the Marshall Arena, Milton Keynes.

"With embedded vision currently one of the major development areas in machine vision, this will be an excellent opportunity for visitors to find out about the use of embedded platforms in a range of applications that include vision, robotics and more," says UKIVA chairman, Allan Anderson. Find out about the other seminar topics and register for free at: www.machinevisionconference.co.uk

Global trade show is planning to gather the world of packaging

Interpack 2020 is still set to open its doors on Thursday 7 May in Düsseldorf (when *Machinery Update* went to press in March).

And if it goes ahead, visitors to the week-long exhibition will be greeted by about 3,000 exhibitors at the Düsseldorf trade fair grounds.

A current statement on the exhibition's website reads:

"We take the concerns of our customers, guests and partners regarding the coronavirus very seriously. Your safety is always our top priority.

For interpack there are no intentions to postpone the trade fair. We will re-evaluate the situation in good time in consultation with health authorities and partners in order to make the appropriate decisions. As exhibitors and visitors, you can expect a high level of hygiene, safety and good medical care at the Düsseldorf trade fair grounds as usual.



interpack is set to open on 7 May

Messe Düsseldorf is closely monitoring current developments and is in direct contact with the health authorities."

Whether the exhibition takes place or not, you can still find details of new equipment on show in our 20 page preview that begins on page 46.

www.interpack.com

Will robots help in post Brexit UK?

According to new research, the majority of workers in the UK not only want robots to take over the dirty, dull and dangerous work; but about 70% believe that the use of robots will be essential for the competitiveness of the UK economy going forward.

Produced by the German trade-fair organiser Automatica, the report surveyed 1,000 Brits with just over half saying that digitalisation and robotics will bring back jobs that were previously located abroad. Meanwhile, 68% think that working hand in hand with robots without safety fences will improve manufacturing.

Mike Wilson, chairman of the British Automation and Robot Association (BARA) said the increased use of robots in the workplace was a key route for British businesses following the country's EU departure.

"Over many years, the UK has attracted workers from other countries, with businesses preferring to hire people rather than invest in automation equipment," he said at an event held in London in March. "After Brexit, businesses have to ensure that they use their workforce effectively and find alternative ways of performing tasks for which they have a shortage of staff and I believe robot automation is an obvious solution," he explained.



Robot technology could be key for UK companies post Brexit



THE PPMA IS OFFERING A 'WALK ON STAND PACKAGE'

Take part in dynamic event

Following several successful years of introducing members to high-level customers in the Middle East, the PPMA is once again organising the UK pavilion at Gulfood Manufacturing that takes place between 3 – 5 November this year at the Dubai World Trade Centre, United Arab Emirates. Interested parties should contact Janette Lane on 020 877 5508 or email: janette.lane@ppma.co.uk

HSE is carrying out inspections following a new safety alert

The Health and Safety Executive (HSE) is reminding employers that they must protect their workers' health by controlling the risks from welding fume. HSE's current programme of inspections will review health and safety standards across the country and businesses are encouraged to visit HSE's revised guidance to remind themselves of the changes. The safety alert was issued in February after new evidence showed exposure to mild steel welding fume can cause cancer and the HSE has updated its guidance to reflect this.

www.hse.gov.uk

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The first courses to be run by the brand new PPMA Academy, in partnership with Make UK, take place this summer and are designed to broaden the skillset and key competencies of engineers on the factory floor to be more adaptable within the workplace. Courses are available to employees of members and non-PPMA members.

Through the PPMA's partnership with Make UK (The Manufacturers' Organisation), the PPMA Academy will provide classroom style based courses at Make UK's technology hub in Aston, Birmingham, starting this summer.

A SKILLS SHORTAGE

"There is an inherent skills shortage within the processing and packaging industry and so attracting the best talent, but also retaining skills labour is paramount," says Danny Reed, head of education & skills at the PPMA Academy.

There will be 14 onsite practical modules available and courses will typically be delivered in three- to five-day blocks. The first three course subjects and dates have just been announced and include an introduction to TIG welding; an introduction to 3D computer aided design (CAD) and BS 4872 MIG welding.

All will take place at the Make UK Technology Hub in Birmingham and for PPMA members will cost £825 + VAT and for non-members, it is £1,070 + VAT. Preferential rates are available for accommodation.

More information on courses and dates are available from the PPMA.

T 020 8773 5523

W www.ppma.co.uk/ppma/services/ppma-academy

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Precision gearbox manufacturer warns against fake products

Supplier of high-precision gearboxes to the food, packaging and automation sectors Apex Dynamics is urging its customers to be on their guard against a wave of counterfeit products that have infiltrated the UK.

Apex products are designed with patented features around the bearings and seals of the gearbox and the company is warning of the consequences of customers purchasing counterfeit products that do not meet its quality or warranty standards.

UNUSUALLY LOW PRICES

Customers are warned to be wary of Apex branded gearboxes being offered for unusually low prices.

"These fake goods do not match our products in terms of performance capability and safety standards, and we advise customers to only buy our products from authorised dealers and distributors," says managing director of Apex Dynamics Mike Gulliford. All purchases of legitimate Apex gearboxes come with a five-year warranty across the complete product range as well as lead times of three weeks or less. Anyone having doubts about purchases are invited to contact Apex direct.



3D models can be downloaded

Components are now easier to order

Engineering components and standard parts supplier WDS says its new website is designed to help busy engineers to find the parts they require easily and quickly. As well as the intuitive search function, users also have access to their online accounts.

www.wdsLtd.co.uk

Dedicated training centre is first for UK cobot users

RARUK Automation has opened the UK's first Universal Robots Authorised Training Centre at its headquarters in Shefford, Bedfordshire. This development will allow the company's certified UR trainers to provide tuition in collaborative robot programming, empowering UK customers to get the very best return from their investment.

Universal Robots is central to RARUK Automation providing easy and flexible automation solutions for its customers. Its range of cobots are lightweight, space-saving and easy to re-deploy to multiple applications with the help of a wide variety of UR-approved apps and accessories. Indeed, one of the main objectives in RARUK Automation moving to its new premises was to extend its applications engineering facilities to assist customers in the development of bespoke solutions based on off-the-shelf automation elements.

To meet the need for a skills



The new hands-on classes will help manufacturers extend their cobot use

development pathway, the Universal Robots Academy created on-line training modules to provide the necessary tuition. The formation of its Authorised Training Centre Network, of which RARUK Automation is now part, allows these modules to be delivered in a local, classroom environment. They cover core to advanced cobot programming, including cobot scripting, preventative maintenance, system troubleshooting and parts replacement.

Beyond that, RARUK Automation has the benefit of its new showroom and R&D laboratory facilities to provide hands-on experience of real-life applications to broaden users' understanding of the cobots' wide-ranging potential. This knowledge will allow UK manufacturers - and SME's in particular - to raise production quality while increasing productivity with minimal additional cost and manpower requirements.

www.rarukautomation.com/training/

Technology days demonstrated the benefits of the new 4Sight print inspection solution

The recent Technology Days held by AutoCoding Systems and Sick UK demonstrated the versatility of 4Sight, the new automatic print inspection solution.

Visitors attending the events held in Runcorn and St Albans, heard how 4Sight was able to deal with varying qualities of code and check for presence, legibility and location of print and then, rejecting any



The two Technology Days were well attended

products falling below specific user-defined parameters.

A short presentation was delivered by md of AutoCoding Systems Mike Hughes followed by demonstrations of the 4Sight software.

These demonstrations, which were supported by hardware supplied by OEM partners Domino and Markem-Imaje, showed how the 4Sight software differentiated between 'good' reads, 'poor' reads and 'bad' reads using parameters set by the user.



Save the Date for the most important event in the vision calendar

Don't forget that the 2020 UKIVA Machine Vision Conference and Exhibition will take place on 14 May at the Marshall Arena in Milton Keynes. With year on year growth since its inception in 2017, the event is rapidly becoming a fixture in the industry's calendar, says organisers UKIVA (UK Industrial Vision Association).

This year, visitors will be greeted by a comprehensive programme of 60 technical seminars (for beginners up to expert) supported by an exhibition of 55 leading companies in the industry, along with a new panel discussion session which is being included for the first time.

You can find further information on the free-to-attend event on the website.

T 020 8773 5517

W www.machinevisionconference.co.uk

Facilitating customisation via range of sensor Apps

Sick UK is working to make downloading a SensorApp to a programmable device a routine expectation for end-users and system integrators alike. Machine builders can access Apps as ready-made independent software solutions from Sick, while developers can create and adapt custom apps for their own needs using the AppSpace software development suite.

A range of applications are emerging from machine builders and robot integrators that incorporate this flexibility on Sick devices, including Kubik Automation GmbH, a specialist in customisable test and assembly cells for automotive, electromechanical, medical technology and consumer goods industries.

Kubik's new sCube Anyfeeder robot machine cell incorporates Sick's PLOC2D vision system for 2D part localisation. Anyfeeders replace bulk parts feeders,



Sick has helped Kubik Automation on a customisable test and assembly cell

fixed conveyors and parts recirculation systems with a more flexible, space-saving solution based on mechanical feeding of randomly-arranged parts onto a vibrating tray, combined with vision-based recognition and robot pick-and-place.

The Anyfeeder system comprises a magazine which feeds a vertical oscillation vibration unit, where parts are separated, flipped and realigned sufficiently for the vision system to recognise those in the correct orientation. The Sick PLOC2D robot guidance system reliably detects the position of the

parts and transmits position data and orientations to the robot control system.

Using this information, the robot can pick the correctly aligned parts and place them in the next process. Once no more correctly-aligned parts are available to pick, the system intelligently mixes up the components again using the pulsed vibration unit.

• Visitors to the UKIVA Machine Vision Conference and Exhibition can see Sick's 2D and 3D part localisation solutions being demonstrated.

T 01727 831121

W www.sick.co.uk

Complete modular system including camera, illumination, analysis module and software can handle all vision tasks

wenglor's new VisionSystem2D is a modular image processing system which has been developed for all vision applications. It consists of up to 16 digital cameras, lenses with various fixed focal lengths, external illumination components and a control unit (IPC) with all common standard interfaces, as well as uniVision software to configure parameters for image recording, and for subsequent image analysis.

The components of this



Components can be individually combined and adapted for any application

modular system can be individually combined and adapted to the respective application. In this way, focal length, focusing, resolution,

lighting and type of evaluation can be separately selected to get the best result.

Up to 16 digital cameras with integrated image chips

from Sony's Pregius series deliver high-resolution images with 1.6 or 5 MP in colour or monochrome – even in dynamic applications. Thanks to the compact housing, they are ideal for installation in systems with limited space.

Any desired C-mount lenses can be attached to the digital cameras, in order to implement applications in both close-up and distant ranges.

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W www.wenglor.com

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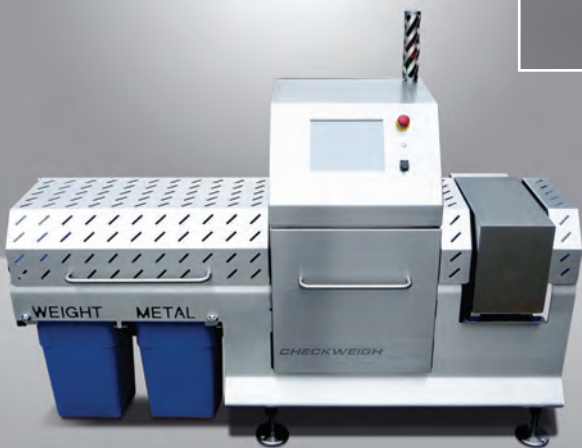
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Metal Detector



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Matrox Imaging has released Matrox 4Sight XV6, an expandable vision controller designed specifically to handle intensive vision applications on the factory floor including warehouses, plants, and manufacturing or fabrication facilities. It is billed as offering expansive capabilities at entry-level pricing.

The latest addition to the established Matrox 4Sight series of vision controllers, the XV6 provides a reliable platform with significant expansion capabilities for video acquisition. Powered by an eighth-generation Intel Core processor, it is capable of supporting intensive machine vision applications.



It is housed in a rugged casing

Matrox 4Sight XV6 has been designed to make communicating with enterprise systems simple. The PC can capture directly from GigE Vision and USB3 Vision cameras, and its RS-232/RS-485 ports support connections to legacy automation devices.

“Matrox 4Sight XV6 builds off the enduring success of the Matrox 4Sight GP, expanding both power and performance through the embedded Intel Core processor and four expansion slots,” says Fabio Perelli, product manager at Matrox. “It promises desktop-level performance, substantial expansion capabilities, all packaged in a small casing.”

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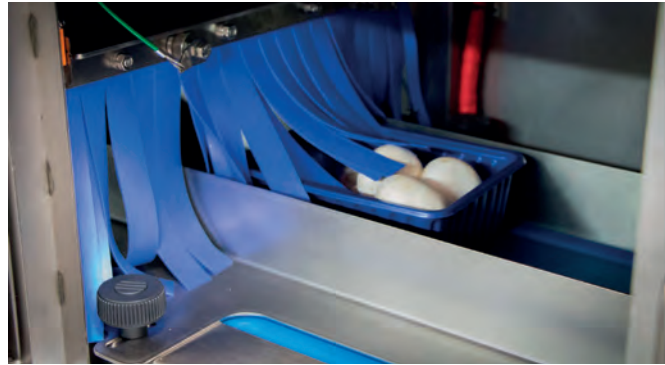
Latest UV machine enriches mushrooms with Vitamin D

JenAct – part of the Jenton Group of companies – has worked with USA-based Xenon Corporation's pulsed light system to develop a machine for enriching mushrooms with Vitamin D within any food processing environment.

A 100g portion of sun-grown mushrooms contains about 10% of the recommended daily allowance (RDA) of Vitamin D but almost all commercially grown mushrooms contain about 1 – 2 % of RDA. However, by exposing them to UV light, this can be increased to more than 200% of RDA.

Xenon Corporation had been working on a system for enhancing Vitamin D levels in mushrooms that was only suitable for use in laboratories. Based on the process approved by the FDA and the EU, JenAct has further developed this technology for the food production environment.

"This truly multi-disciplinary project required in-depth understanding and



This mushroom project was one of the most complex ever undertaken by JenAct

knowledge not only from the food processing and UV industry, but also expertise in automation, electronics, radiometry and high-voltage circuits," explains JenAct director Dr Jaromir Bilek. "With so many important and competing technical and financial factors, it was probably one of the most complex projects ever carried out within the Jenton Group's 40 plus year history.

"In order for it to be a success, it required taking a relatively fragile piece of technology and creating

a robust and easy-to-use machine, requiring the level of training associated with, for example, a metal detector or checkweigher," he says.

Xenon Corporation's pulsed lamps, which generate the high intensity UV light, can achieve the desired Vitamin D levels in fresh mushrooms within a few seconds. However, the pulsed UV systems must be carefully controlled and integrated into the machine otherwise they can pose significant health and safety risks.

To achieve the correct UV

dose for the mushrooms, it was necessary to ensure that a defined UV light energy was applied to each punnet. This required careful design of the UV treatment zone to ensure that uniform UV light reached the final irradiated product while reducing light leakage to almost zero.

JenAct's machine has been designed to minimise pulsed light leakage for the protection of operators. Produced from stainless steel, it allows standard punnets of mushrooms to be either automatically or manually loaded and fit within the normal dimensional confines of the food processing environment.

Capable of operating continuously on a multi-shift basis, JenAct's UV system requires minimal operator intervention for maximum production uptime. In addition, the UV dose delivered to each punnet of mushrooms is consistent and easily verifiable.

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New Machinery

Run-Wet specification offers high-care gains

The latest IQ4 metal detector conveyor from Loma Systems is a new specification called Run-Wet – a solution that offers cleaning efficiency for high-care environments.

Incorporating an open frame that uses multi-angled surfaces and minimal welds, as well as quick removable covers, Run-Wet follows some of the EHEDG principles by assisting to reduce excess water and cleaning chemicals that typically pool on machine surfaces. This helps prevent the risk of corrosion and the accumulation of bacteria that could potentially contaminate foods.

Motors, lamp and sounder, controls and enclosed pneumatics are all high-pressure and high-temperature wash-down proof to IP69K ingress rating. And with no drying time required following cleaning, the immediate start functionality offers fast-paced food manufacturing and processing facilities further efficiency gains.



The IQ4 metal detector conveyor provides cleaning efficiency for food areas

Further design considerations included bearings, test switches and the bin lock monitor, all of which have been designed away from the surface to provide open access for thorough cleaning. The newly designed, easy to clean reject bin comes with a raised window providing easy viewing, together with a lower grid base with drainage holes for quick draining following wash-down cleaning.

Height adjustable feet have been designed to eliminate

exposed screw threads, thereby helping to remove the risk of bacterial accumulation points and food debris traps within the system. The use of metal cable hoops removes the need for cable ties and allows for thorough cleaning. In addition, the system uses blue plastic components including pushers, guides, wear strips and PEC mounts throughout the design of the machine to allow for easy visible inspection.

T 01252 893300
W www.loma.com

Taking control of the gluing process is now easily done

Robatech has introduced the concept of the Robatech Control System, an integrated all-in-one platform that combines all functionalities around the gluing process: straightforward system integration as well as easy and centralised control, operation, and monitoring.

With the Robatech Control System, the company has designed what it describes as a coherent and sophisticated solution. A standardised user interface allows all functions of the gluing process to be centrally controlled and monitored: on the control system, on the melter, or on a mobile device.

The functionalities already integrated into the system such as process control, quality control, system and component monitoring, bring efficiency and transparency to the industrial gluing process. Operating and performance data, for example, facilitates the planning of maintenance intervals or adjustment of adhesive application rates for greater sustainability and efficiency in production.

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Cutting machines provide accuracy



Several cheese types can be handled without the need to change any tooling

To cut a multitude of products at fixed and variable weights, ixapack Global has further developed its cutting range to meet quality and precision criteria, as well as hygiene standards across the industrial sector.

Ultrasonic options include a dividing machine for cheese; a cutting module for pies, quiches, pizzas, pastries or cheese and the SPM portioning machine for cutting blocks into smaller sizes that is suitable for cheese, pastries, confectionery or cooked meats. The dividing machine has

been developed to meet the needs of the cheese sector, and cuts cheese wheels into angular portions. Equipped with rounded trays able to support the blades' blows without altering them, its feeding system allows speeds that can reach up to 180 cuts a minute (depending on the product).

Meanwhile, as well as cheese, the dividing machine can also handle frozen products at speeds up to 48 cuts a minute while the portioning machine is ideal for fixed weight cuts.

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Transportation of heavy loads is safe and stable

The scope of the MiR autonomous mobile robot application has been extended with the MiR shelf lift. This new device from RARUK



The new ready-to-use MiR shelf lift

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The MiR shelf lift is compatible with the MiR500 and MiR1000 models from the company and enables carts, cages, pallets and heavy loads of different shapes and sizes to be freely moved without the need for pallet racks or other loading stations.

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New Machinery

Label verification, check weighing and metal detection in a single unit

Dimaco has launched a fully integrated combination label verification, check weighing and metal detection system that offers major space saving and traceability benefits as well as the sharing of product specification data between machines to generate real-time results.

This new machine can verify multiple parameters in a single pass in high care food production environments, helping reduce waste and improve carbon footprint.

Using one-third less line space than installing individual machines, Dimaco's new system is specially designed to offer multi-parameter product verification within the smallest physical footprint. Using Dimaco's Veri-CENTRAL database, it also allows easy data capture, storage and analysis.

While the physical problems of check weighing, metal detection and verifying labels of food products such as



The three components are often found together as part of a QA system on a manufacturing line

ready meals can be solved by individual systems, it is often not physically possible to install four discrete machines. Even in cases where space is not a problem, data sharing is also often an issue.

Dimaco, part of the Jenton Group, has developed a single machine incorporating its label verification system, CEIA metal detector and Starflex checkweigher within an extremely compact design. And it is capable of sharing

both product specification data and real-time results in line with increasingly stringent audit requirements.

"Having three discrete inspection systems poses a number of problems both physically and operationally on a production line," explains Dr Russell Sion, managing director at Dimaco.

"Working with both CEIA and Starflex, we designed a machine that fully integrates all three functions with

high performance label verification, check weighing and metal detection operation, and provides the significant benefits of data sharing.

"For example, all machines can be set from one batch of data and without any more operator intervention than scanning a single product code," he tells *Machinery Update*. "Plus, all test results from the three machines will be stored in a single secure and auditable database."

Dimaco's Veri-CENTRAL database is capable of being fully integrated into a food processor's production systems. It is the key to allowing the vision system, checkweigher and metal detector machine to share production and inspection data in real time.

The easy to install, low maintenance combination system is operated via a single touchscreen and can be set up from one barcode for reduced operator error.

T 01234 851515

W www.dimaco.co.uk

Two new online tools help users to choose the best pump or even the layout for a complete vacuum system, easily

Vacuum technology company Leybold has developed two new online tools to assist users in their choice of pump and layout of complete vacuum systems: The Pump Finder and the calculation tool LEYCALC.

With these new web-based tools, users can select and build their vacuum solutions online.

They are designed to be used for two different use cases: The homepage <https://calc.leybold.com/en/lp> leads to both the Pump Finder and LEYCALC, the vacuum system

calculation tool. Users with vacuum know-how can use LEYCALC to calculate the behaviour and performance of vacuum systems in detail. The Pump Finder guides even beginners to suitable products by a questionnaire.

REFINING PUMP CHOICE

Throughout the selection tool, pumps can be refined by entering values for chamber size, target pressure and pipe dimensions. There are two calculation options for

modelling different vacuum applications: process flow and vacuum chamber pump down.

A process gas flow is a continuous gas flow where the constant pressure is conveyed. Modelling a vacuum chamber pump down is an application where the chamber is pumped/evacuated to a specific target pressure.

The result is a selection of vacuum pumps that meet the customer's requirements.

LEYCALC can be used for detailed engineering of

vacuum systems using the same powerful algorithms as the Leybold application team. The tool allows customers to calculate their vacuum systems fully independently.

"With the publication of the new calculation tools, Leybold makes its vacuum know-how collected over decades available to its customers," says Hannes Kamecke, the IT manager responsible for the online configurator.

T 01372 737300

W www.leybold.com

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New Machinery

Products are on 3D digital content site

HepcoMotion says that a wide range of its industry leading products are now available on the TraceParts CAD content platform, one of the leading providers of 3D digital content for engineering.

Committed to improving customer usability and convenience, HepcoMotion chose TraceParts as it is one of the primary resources for engineers and design professionals from all over the world to download 3D CAD models for industrial parts. With over 3.5 million registered users, many of HepcoMotion's existing customers will already be using TraceParts, making HepcoMotion's presence a welcomed addition.

WORLDWIDE ACCESS

As a global company, it was key for HepcoMotion to find a solution that would meet the needs of its customers worldwide. TraceParts is available in 24 languages, including core markets for HepcoMotion such as China, Korea and the US, ensuring that customers worldwide can quickly and easily access models.

3D CAD models are available from TraceParts in over 60 formats, thereby maximising compatibility with all commonly used CAD systems.

As with many industrial component suppliers, CAD downloads play a key role in providing sales leads.

"The CAD download leads are very valuable to our sales force," says Peter Jones, marketing manager at HepcoMotion. "This is a clear signal that a customer is thinking about using our products and gives our experienced sales engineers the opportunity to assist project engineers and to provide advice on the application."

T 01884 243400

W www.hepcotion.com

Next generation whole bird option is launched

The horizontal flow wrapper now builds on the strengths of the Artic C model



Ulma Packaging UK has evolved its machine portfolio to include the FM300C horizontal form, fill and seal flow wrapper, in a bid to meet increasing poultry processor demand for whole chicken packaging.

The FM300C builds on the strengths of its Artic C model to bring a solution that has all its features, but which is solely designed for the packaging of whole trussed and untrussed birds at a rate of up to 60 packs per minute.

Key attributes include an extra 25 mm height capacity

that increases the jaw opening size to 200 mm, to deal with the packaging of larger poultry, such as turkey, with ease.

To facilitate quick materials changeover, a double reel holder makes it simple to alternate between using laminated and BDF films. The electrical cabinet, which is usually found in a separate box, has also been integrated into the rear cabinet with the mechanical movements providing ease of access to all components because everything is in one place.

To reduce downtime

and improve hygiene, the machine's motorised triangle belt comes with a quick release system intended for thorough cleaning. A new bridge-type sponge system is also featured along the length of the belt, to aid the removal of air as the product is moved along the packaging line.

Modifications can be made to offer further benefits such as the option for a split belt infeed, which is guaranteed to automatically bridge gaps so that manual labour is reduced.

T 01909 506504

W www.ulmapackaging.co.uk

A standalone unit for source extraction and industrial cleaning formed part of a display

Dustcontrol UK exhibited its range of high-performance extraction equipment at the Southern Manufacturing & Electronics 2020 exhibition in February.

The DC11-Module on show, which comes in several models, is an optimised standalone unit for source extraction and industrial cleaning. It has been designed to service up to six normal extraction points or several cleaning outlets at a time and is modularly built, so that

it can be tailor-made to suit any manufacturing and production environment.

It can be fitted with HEPA 13 filters, meaning exhaust air can be safely returned to the work environment.

"The exhibition provided us with an excellent opportunity to show the manufacturing and electronics industry how we can help businesses stay healthy," says James Miller, md of Dustcontrol UK.

T 01327 858001

W www.dustcontroluk.co.uk



Dustcontrol UK offers HEPA 13 filters on all of its range of products

Collaboration allows products to be authenticated to combat crime

TRACE Technologies, provider of supply chain security applications for anti-grey market and anti-counterfeit, and Leuze have integrated the iTRACE 2DMI with the Leuze DCR 200i camera-based code reader for Blockchain registration and authentication which means customers are now able to capture transaction and authentication information automatically anywhere in the supply chain.



Leuze's camera based code readers

“The integration of the Leuze code reader is using our standard mobile application infrastructure which allows these industrial sensors to automatically capture the same information as the iPhone and Android devices anywhere in the supply chain,” explains iTRACE founder and CEO Mark Manning. “This means that any system can now automatically participate in track, trace and authentication of any item or component and push that data to a blockchain or tracking database via the iTRACE Blockchain Gateway.”

Using iTRACE 2DMI and the DCR 200i allows the part being scanned to be securely identified and the transaction recorded on digital ledger technologies like blockchain, enabling a secure connection between the physical product and the digital ledger which is necessary to complete any blockchain tracking or authentication application.

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W www.leuze.co.uk



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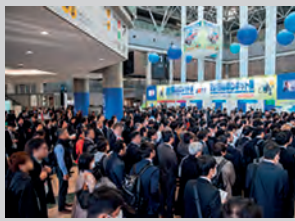


linkxpackaging.com
aps.uk@westrock.com





Review



Visitors flocked to the robot event

The robot world gathered in Japan at the end of last year

iREX 2019, the International Robot exhibition held last December saw 637 exhibitors gather on 3,060 stands which marked the largest number ever, breaking the record of the previous iREX in 2017.

Organised by the Japan Robot Association (JARA), the theme of the event was: 'The way towards a friendlier society, bridged by robots'. The purpose of the show is to see exhibits from industrial/service robots and related equipment from around the globe under one roof. The organisers believe this helps to improve the technology and market development, while contributing to the creation of new markets and the promotion of industrial robot technology.

Here you will find details of just some of the PPMA members taking part last December.

Digital technologies seen helping industry progress

ABB's stand featured a number of the latest digital technologies designed to empower industrial development, including a new 3D Printing feature for its RobotStudio simulation and offline programming software, which enables users to program ABB robots for additive manufacturing in just 30 minutes.

iREX visitors saw ABB's new RobotStudio Virtual Reality Meeting. For the first time, participants from different locations can meet and share the same RobotStudio virtual room using VR goggles.

All participants will be able to see the same simulation and follow real-time changes with engineering and commissioning processes viewable during the meetings.

This will allow virtual commissioning teams to better visualise, design and run the factory offline before the production line is built, solving problems collaboratively and in real-time, no matter where



The 3D Printing feature for the RobotStudio software was popular with visitors

participants are in the world.

ABB also launched new harsh environment versions of its IRB 1100 robot and OmniCore controller, designed with enhanced protection against water and dust. The entire body of the IRB 1100 has an IP67 rating, with all electrical components sealed against contaminants, enabling the robot to be used in applications that generate substantial dust, water and debris including 3C polishing,

wet grinding, buffing and deburring.

The new OmniCore C90XT extends the OmniCore controller family bringing all the benefits of its motion control and path accuracy to harsh environments. The C90XT is a rugged yet compact controller with full IP54-rated protection enabling it to be installed close to dirty, wet and dusty processes.

T 01908 350300

W www.abb.com

Two new collaborative robots were seen as part of a live parts assembly demonstration at the Japanese exhibition

Toshiba Machine launched two new collaborative robots (cobots) at iREX and was supported by the company's official robot distributor for EMEA and America, TM Robotics at the event.

Boasting a 6 kg maximum payload for each arm or 10 kg when used in combination, the humanoid cobot has been developed to meet demand for human-machine collaboration in parts assembly and inspection processes.

The SCARA model, which



Two versions of collaborative robots were demonstrated at the exhibition

is also collaborative, expands on the company's established

expertise in manufacturing traditional SCARA robots. At iREX, the SCARA display demonstrated how a cobot can be used in delicate electronics handling and packaging applications — a task usually limited to highly accurate industrial machines.

iREX also hosted the Japanese launch of Toshiba Machine's THE600 SCARA robot which boasts twice the speed and a 60% higher payload capacity than competing SCARA models in

the same price range.

"Toshiba Machine has been carefully developing its new collaborative machines for several years," explains Nigel Smith, president and ceo of TM Robotics. "iREX provided an ideal opportunity to showcase the impressive engineering behind these two models — as well as providing visitors with live demonstrations of how these machines operate."

T 01707 290370

W www.tmrobotics.co.uk

Lightweight collaborative robot is easily installed for many tasks

With a view to tackling global skills shortages and the need to increase production flexibility, Fanuc launched its first ever lightweight collaborative robot (or cobot), the CRX-10iA, at iREX.

While all six models in the company's current 'green' CR series of cobots are closely based on the company's widely used industrial robots, the new CRX-10iA cobot is a completely new category. It is intended to broaden the scope of collaborative work able to be undertaken between robots and manufacturing employees.



The CRX-10iA cobot was launched

Unlike the existing CR series of cobots, the new CRX-10iA is significantly lighter, weighing just 39 kg. As such, it can be easily installed across a broad range of applications such as driverless transport systems and automated guided vehicles (AGVs).

The CRX-10iA is available in two different variants: a standard-arm version with a reach of 1200 mm and as a long-arm version with a maximum reach of 1400 mm. Both variants have a maximum payload of 10 kg.

Special to the CRX-10iA is the ability to replace the Teach Pendant with a tablet computer.

T 024 7605 3000

W www.fanuc.eu

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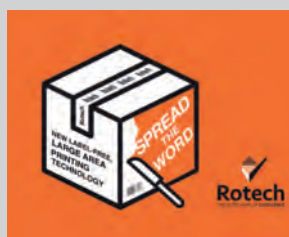
30 MARCH - 1 APRIL 2020
NEC BIRMINGHAM

New food and drink options demonstrated

Foodex returns to the NEC, Birmingham from 30 March to 1 April and promises to be a major UK trade event for food and drink producers wanting to learn more about processing, packaging and logistics developments.

The next 11 pages cover just some of the new kit on show.

www.foodex.co.uk



Show launch for thermal inkjet

Latest technology helps to eliminate all carton labelling

Rotech Machines will demonstrate a new range of Seiko thermal inkjet technology at Foodex which enables food and drink manufacturers to eliminate all carton labelling and barriers to recycling.

A further star of the show will be its 200th Special Edition RF Lite. Introduced for the first time at Foodex 2016, this simple, low-cost offline carton feeder halves the cost of entry level automatic coding machines, allowing companies to automate their date marking process for the first time or apply a dedicated marking system on production lines.

Visitors to the stand will be able to collect a voucher for a special show offer to celebrate this significant milestone.

The Seiko thermal inkjet printers allow customers to print in high resolution on both primary and secondary packaging, on areas of up to 500mm wide and allows these printed cartons to be widely recycled.

STAND S218

www.rotechmachines.com

Inspection range offers a safe option for foodstuffs

MDS, the UK distributor for Ceia inspection equipment, will be showcasing the MS21 Multi-Spectrum technology built to the latest retailer codes of practice and BRC requirements on its stand at Foodex along with live demonstrations of the THS production software and IXC card showing real time event logging and data capture.

Also on show will be the reduced height G series throat detectors, and the PH21 N detector ranges designed for the pharmaceutical and nutrition market.

The MS21 Multi-Spectrum metal detector can use multiple frequencies simultaneously, giving it an advantage over conventional multi frequency detectors which only use one of their available frequencies at any one time, says the company. "This means the MS21 can deliver an improved sensitivity of up to half the test sample size of a conventional frequency metal detector,"

says David Hale, sales and marketing director at MDS. "To put this into perspective, half the diameter is an eighth of the volume, giving the MS21 much greater ability to find small irregularly shaped contamination."

Visitors to the stand can also see the THS production software in action, an exclusive program to CEIA machines that enables an in-house factory program to be used to generate reports from CEIA metal detectors. Facilitating THS production allows key people to view live alerts from each metal detector remotely, and it can work for multiple machines simultaneously to allow complete visibility.

Benefits include live fault alerts, email alerts for specific events and automatic generation and production report printing.



An MS21 unit will be on MDS stand

The G Series of throat detectors to be shown are available in a wide range of sizes and performance options, making them suitable for many different product types in the food industry. Completing the display will be pharma and nutrition market detectors.

All pharmaceutical detectors are manufactured from AISI 316L and parts compliant with FDA 21 part 210 and 211 requirements.

STAND L220

www.mds.org.uk

Shrink wrapping film solutions for poultry reduces material volumes but not quality

First time exhibitor Yorkshire Packaging Systems (YPS) will be demonstrating shrink wrapping film solutions on its stand and invites visitors to see its OXBTEC polyolefin, a dedicated poultry film that is 100% recyclable and boasts anti-fog properties, hermetic leak-proof seals, high puncture resistance and outstanding optics.

"We are proud to say that OXBTEC is also officially the thinnest gauge poultry shrink film on the market



Thinnest gauge poultry shrink film will be shown

today, meaning it reduces the volumes of plastic used without any compromise on yield or performance," explains managing director at YPS Glyn Johnson.

The 'Bolfresh' specialist food-contact approved films from Bollore will also be displayed. All films are 100% recyclable and have BRC and OPRL approval. Meanwhile, samples

of a plant-based renewably sourced film with a base of 46% sugarcane ethylene, will also be available.

STAND U281

www.yps.co.uk

foodex Preview

30 MARCH - 1 APRIL 2020
NEC BIRMINGHAM

European food processing systems are demonstrated for the first time

Holmach will debut Portugal-based Perfinox's food processing systems at Foodex for the first time following a deal signed between the two companies. The exclusive partnership with Holmach will allow Perfinox's food processing systems to be available to the UK industry.

Following a European wide evaluation process, Holmach signed an exclusive agreement to add Perfinox's range of food processing systems to its portfolio of technology solutions. Celebrating its 21st year in business, Perfinox manufacture components and systems for cooking, cooling, CIP and rapid heating and cooling from its factory near Porto.

"We spent six months evaluating a number of cooking system suppliers across Europe and decided that Perfinox offered the best solutions for the UK," explains managing director of Holmach Chris Holland. "Their wide experience in sauces, ready



Perficlean offers a cost effective and eco-friendly Clean-in-Place solution

meals and baby foods was particularly important given that the UK is one of the most dynamic markets for these products, and we are already finding substantial interest."

Included in Perfinox's range of technologies is the Perfitech, a compact production unit for processing liquid-based food products with various viscosities and densities, with or without particulates. The multi-functional Perfitech

has a range of functions including heating and cooling, homogenisation, emulsification and built in CIP, with vessels ranging in size from 300-3000 litres.

Another leading technology is the Perfitherm, a scraped surface heat exchanger. This compact piece of kit features a vertical design, with double jacket for a maximum surface and efficient exchange. The system combines the advantages of the tubular

heat exchanger, with a slow and gentle stirring system, equipped with scrapers to provide several processes including rapid heating and cooling, aseptic cooling, crystallisation, sterilisation, pasteurisation and gelling.

Other technology within the portfolio includes the Perficooker, Perficooler and Perficlean which are all high performance and highly efficient manufacturing solutions, tailored to the bespoke needs of each production line.

The Perficooker is designed for efficiency while maintaining gentle product handling for a range of applications including sauces, soups, creams, ready meals and jams; the Perficooler is a high efficiency cooling vessel and the Perficlean offers a cost effective Clean-in-Place solution that not only reduces operating costs and machinery down-time but also reduces disinfectant and water consumption.

STAND J180

www.holmach.co.uk



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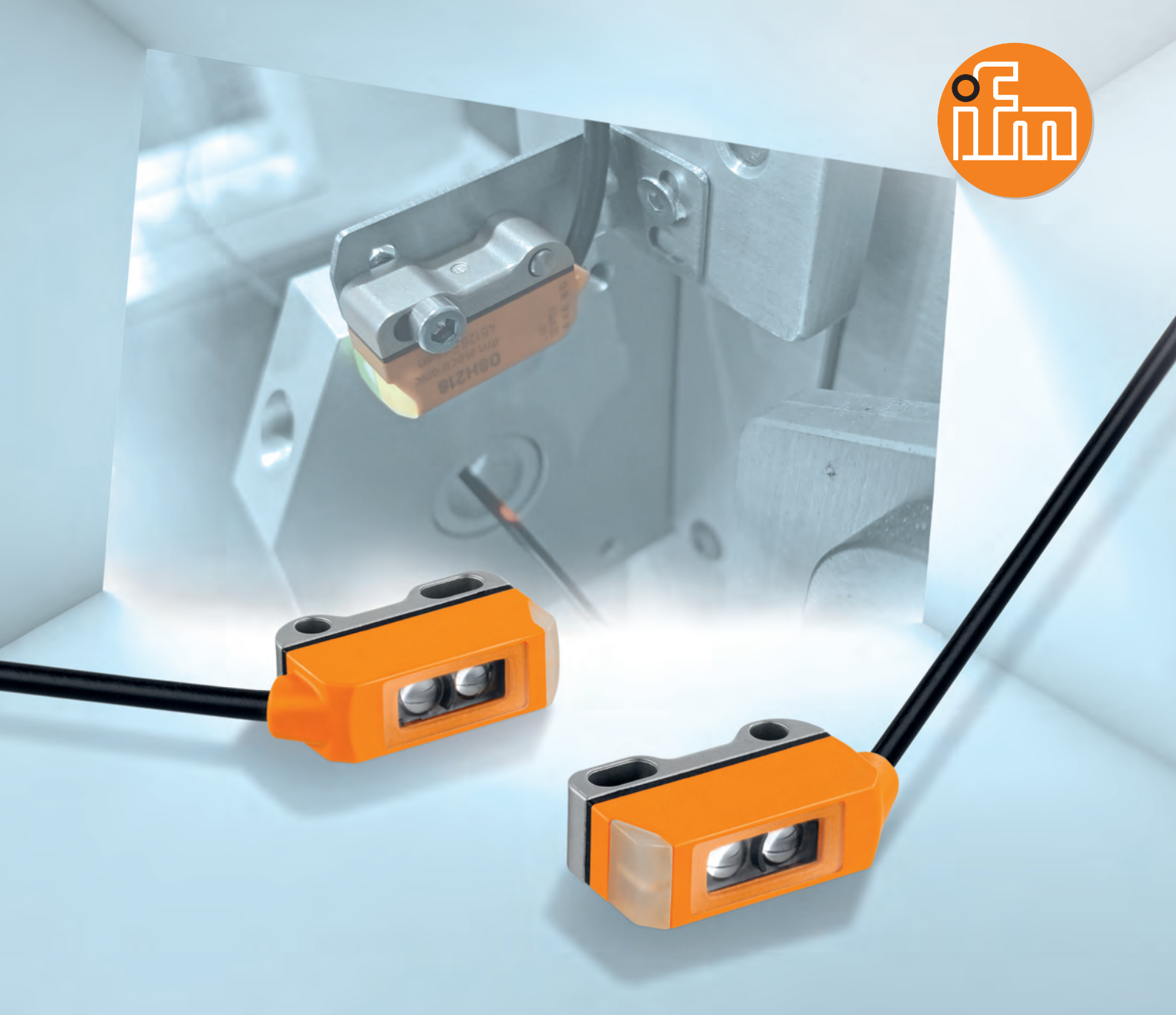
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Depositors and fillers deliver food benefits

Riggs Autopack will be exhibiting volumetric depositors and filling machinery at this year's Foodex exhibition.

Visitors to the stand will be greeted with a varied range of semi and fully automatic filling machines that are designed for small, medium or large-scale food producers. This includes a Model SD servo depositor, a Model 1002 PLC filling machine with conveyor, and the Model 1000 filling machines and transfer pumps.

The Model 1000 depositors are designed for artisan producers and start-ups that need small batch runs with quick product changeovers, through to medium to large scale food producers that use conveyor filling lines and off-line depositors.

"They provide damage free depositing of hot or cold liquid, semi-liquid pastes and suspended solid food products, and accurately fill most types or size of container," says Scott Riley, marketing manager at Riggs.



Depositors can be designed for artisan producers with smaller batch runs

The Model 1000 transfer pumps are designed for small, medium or large-scale food producers, and to keep in-line with health & safety regulations, they eliminate the need for operators to manually lift or handle products. In operation, they provide damage free transfer of a wide range of hot or cold liquid, semi-liquid pastes and suspended solid food products. They are designed to take product from tote

bins, IBC's and cooking kettle outlets, and then transfer it into low or high-level depositor hoppers.

"With exceptional performance, reliability, hygiene and build quality, Riggs Autopack's depositors and filling machinery have provided increased production capacity for a huge variety of customers over the decades," says Riley.

STAND J211

W www.riggsautopack.co.uk



Many foods are accommodated

Belt conveyors meet a host of food sector needs and demands

UPM Conveyors will exhibit operational belt conveyors to demonstrate to visitors the versatility of belts to suit applications in all sectors of food processing. The display will highlight the company's experience as manufacturers since 1971, catering for meat; fish; poultry; dairy; confectionery and dough.

Meanwhile, different belt types available from UPM will also be on show, such as the swan neck; radius and horizontal conveyors along with a range of controls for servo drives to stop/start plus variable speed control via inverters to operate with checkweighers; depositors; x-ray inspection units as well as print and coding options.

Conveyor construction complies with all regulations for operation in Hi-care areas.

STAND E239

W www.upmconveyors.co.uk

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The doors reduce energy costs

Helping to choose the correct door

Efaflex UK will be showcasing a selection of industrial high-speed doors, each designed to solve specific industry requirements on its stand at Foodex.

Whether users want to improve hygiene, want easy to clean options, or something to reduce the risk of cross contamination, or to safeguard users from the risk of incidents, or increase workflow and therefore drive efficiencies, the company says it has doors to suit all individual needs.

With nearly 50 years of experience, the company bills itself as a one stop manufacturer for the food and beverage industry, with door options to match every element of processing, preparation, packaging, logistics and storage facility demands. The fabric, folding and spiral door options can be designed, installed and maintained to act as internal partitions between halls, or insulated high-speed loading bay and warehouse doors.

Each of the door options combine to improve traffic flow, provide user comfort and reduce energy costs by as much as 50%.

Working models will be on display, and visitors are invited to check out its latest technology that allows doors to be designed at the click of a button. Door opening speeds of up to 4 metres per second are achieved.

STAND E209

www.efaflex.co.uk

Sustainable solutions for pack and process benefit

Multivac will demonstrate better packaging and processing solutions from its growing portfolio designed for the food industry at this year's Foodex.

Following the recent launch of four new machines at its Oktoberfest in Swindon event last year, the company will highlight its latest technology. From processing and portioning to sustainable packaging solutions, visitors can discover a range of new equipment, including its newly expanded X-line traysealing series and high-speed slicer system.

The new traysealing packaging machine is one of the latest additions to the X-line machine generation from Multivac. The traysealer covers a wide spectrum of packaging applications and can run a variety of packaging materials including the eco-designed Halo pack which is 89% recyclable and can reduce plastics packaging by 75%.

Thanks to its robust, space-saving design and special machine control, the machine can pack with maximum flexibility and consistent reliability at outputs of up to 25 cycles per minute, while also providing the highest pack quality and production efficiency.

Meanwhile, the compact R 105 MF thermoforming packaging machine will be on display for smaller manufacturers looking to make the entry into MAP and vacuum skin packaging. Visitors will be able to see sustainable packs in production and then integrated into the H 130 automated handling module for loading into crates. Separately, the L 310 full-wrap conveyor



The new B 525 chamber belt machine provides users with cost effective vacuum packs

belt labeller and I 410 visual inspection system will be shown for the application of full wrap labelling and reliable inspection at maximum processing speed.

The company will also showcase the new B 525 chamber belt machine which provides producers with a high-performance,



A PaperBoard MultiFresh with label

user-friendly and cost-effective model for the automated vacuum packaging of food products in film pouches. The B 525 is defined by its high level of product flexibility, excellent pack quality and its small footprint.

When it comes to packaging food in pouches, Multivac will exhibit its smaller chamber machine range at the Farm Shop and Deli Show (Hall 6, Stand K86) adjacent to the Foodex show.

In-line with the demand for sustainable packaging solutions, a range of concepts which contribute to the reduction of packaging material consumption, as well as solutions that meet current recyclability requirements will be demonstrated. Visitors can take part in its Pack Challenge where visitors can challenge the company to improve its existing packaging in terms

of packaging weight, recyclability and size. Multivac's PaperBoard range, which is made up of a wide variety of paper fibre-based materials for producing MAP and vacuum skin packs on thermoforming and traysealing packaging machines will be displayed.

Another alternative solution to be shown is the fully recyclable one polymer pack, which is OPRL labelled and suitable for MAP and vacuum packaging (including pouches).

A number of live slicing demonstrations can be seen for the first time on the stand, efficient portioning systems will be seen and processing solutions from exclusive partners Laska and Risco will complete the line-up.

STAND S220

www.multivac.co.uk

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OAL offers ingredients handling

Robots and cooking technology will take centre stage

OAL will be demonstrating its robotics and automation solutions, as well as its patented cooking technology alongside its academic partner the University of Lincoln at Foodex.

The latest advancements in materials handling using robotics technology and how artificial intelligence-based label and date code verification can replicate human vision to boost productivity and accuracy will greet visitors.

New developments in micro ingredient handling with the University's project that uses cobots to replicate human operators will also be on the stand. As will OAL's larger system that is designed to automate minor ingredient handling.

The APRIL robotics ingredient handling system that helps reduce costs can also be seen.

STAND J219

www.oalgroup.com

Inspection and detection solutions are showcased

Yamato Scale Dataweigh UK will be turning the spotlight on to some of its weighing machinery at Foodex 2020 as well as demonstrating the vital role that x-ray and metal detection inspection, checkweighers and multihead weighers play throughout the food packaging process.

On show will be the YX20 x-ray solutions, metal detection and checkweigher combinations and a range of its multihead weighing machines.

"Foodex gives us a valuable opportunity to engage with customers and discuss how they can best achieve their objectives with Yamato's inspection solutions, checkweighers and range of weighing machines – particularly when it comes to complying with food safety and quality requirements," explains Andrea Spencer, commercial operations manager for Yamato Scale Dataweigh UK.

Fresh food producers have long been concerned with the compliance of their products to



Many technologies are on the Yamato stand

consumer health and hygiene regulations and to supermarket standards for quality and safety, she says. And x-ray inspection and metal detection solutions add an extra layer of checks at the end of the production line which help to ensure the quality and safety of the end product.

Solutions like Yamato's tabletop semi-automatic Dataweigh unit will be shown to provide the perfect low impact solution for fruit products that are delicate or fragile in nature.

Thanks to its dimpled surfaces, Epsilon multihead

weighers can handle sticky or fragile products. Large radius buckets and linear feeder pans are easy to remove without stopping the machine thanks to an auto-inhibit function so the Epsilon can be cleaned without any downtime.

Intrinsically hygienic and safe in structure, the Dataweigh Epsilon

is IP 66 compliant – making it ideal for harsh environments such as fresh produce factories or frozen food processors.

The weigher is also robust, with load cells that can withstand loads of up to 150 kg.

"All the packaging and weighing solutions we develop are tailored to the customer's products by our team of highly skilled engineers and Foodex is our opportunity to showcase how we apply our extensive knowledge to help solve customers' processing problems," says Spencer.

STAND P269

www.yamatoscale.co.uk

A new rotary vane vacuum pump that offers Industry 4.0 advantages and benefits will form part of demonstration

At Foodex, Busch Vacuum Solutions will be showcasing several of its latest vacuum solutions that match customer requirements and processes in food processing and packaging applications.

For the first time, Busch will be exhibiting its new rotary vane vacuum pump, the R5 RA 0760 A PLUS, which is an intelligent vacuum solution ready for Industry 4.0. Thanks to its design, advanced control system and variable speed drive,



The rotary vane vacuum pump will be shown

the new R5 PLUS offers a pumping speed range from 440 to 760 m³ an hour while

reaching an ultimate pressure of 0.1 millibar.

This, says the company, makes it the ideal vacuum solution for many applications in food processing and packaging. By following an intuitive menu structure on the display, users can set the operating mode that best suits their process

needs, ensuring that vacuum supply matches demand. This results in energy savings

while also enabling improved packaging rates, by ensuring that the right vacuum is provided when needed.

The company will also demonstrate how existing vacuum pumps can be operated up to 40% more efficiently by retrofitting a variable speed drive. To find the right custom solution, Busch will visit a site and use a vacuum audit to achieve the best results.

STAND J160

www.busch.co.uk

Processing and packaging units can offer sustainable flexibility

GEA will showcase its comprehensive portfolio of processing and packaging equipment available in the UK at Foodex.

GEA says its performance-focused solutions provide manufacturers with the flexibility they need to produce a variety of processed foods and to quickly take advantage of new market trends. Visitors will have the opportunity to see FoodTray, the latest development in food packaging which is made from recyclable materials, including paperboard and plastics film. The FoodTray is compatible with GEA's thermoforming equipment – ensuring recyclability is delivered with efficiency and profitability. This eco-friendly solution will be demonstrated in conjunction with GEA's PowerPak – the group's thermoforming packaging system. It provides full visibility at the sealing station during production, automatic top and bottom film alignment for sealing and has changeover



Seen here is the PowerPak-PLUS thermoforming system from GEA

and set-up times that require just minutes.

Also on display is the coating solution called GEA OptiFlour, the bespoke solution that operates dust-free, delivering superior performance for a wide range of applications – from a thin pre-dust to seeded flour types and light to medium crumbs.

The GEA SmartPacker TwinTube high-speed packing systems will also be demonstrated. Delivering improved flexibility and operational efficiency, this machine has a combined production output of up to 500 bags per minute and

features a new re-enforced modular design.

TwinTube can run paper-based materials side by side with recyclable plastics materials.

Virtual reality tours on the stand will allow visitors to explore the inside of a complete dairy plant or to get a taste of the inner workings of SuperHeatSmoke via the GEA CookStar. This award-winning solution for in-line smoking of meat, poultry, seafood and meal components, SuperHeatSmoke combines double spiral oven technology and uses purified smoke condensate from which the

tar and ashes have been removed to deliver 'BBQ magic'; it can be used for smoking at temperatures above 100deg C.

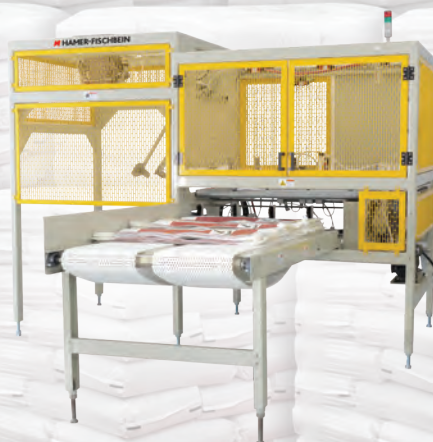
Visitors can also discuss the GEA OxyCheck and DualSlicer. OxyCheck is an in-line quality control system that checks the oxygen content and seal integrity of every single MAP pack produced on a thermoformer, while DualSlicer was developed for integration into fully automated lines, working at an output of up to 1,600 kg per hour.

STAND P130
W www.gea.com

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30 MARCH - 1 APRIL 2020
NEC BIRMINGHAM

Contamination detection can meet the evolving food trends

At this year's Foodex, Fortress Technology will showcase how it is staying on top of the evolving food trends with its range of hygienic, easy clean and 'Never Obsolete' range of gravity fed, horizontal conveyor and pipeline metal detectors.

Along with the rise of veganism, increased product ranges, changing consumer tastes, new sustainable packaging formats and a heightened focus on food safety and allergens are pushing food and drink manufacturers to consider the future flexibility of their

contaminant inspection equipment, says the company.

Designed to enhance food safety and safeguard brand integrity, Fortress is exhibiting three systems designed to meet changing demographics and eating habits. From meat free alternatives to single-serve snacks or compostable packaging formats, all Fortress inspection machines have been specifically designed to help food manufacturers keep pace with the new retail trends and codes of practice, adapt to different SKUs as well as reduce waste, product giveaway and eradicate false rejects.

"Each type of food – protein, salad, vegetable, carbohydrate, etc – has different conductive properties and therefore behaves differently in a metal detector," says Fortress managing

director Phil Brown. "And if each item is individually wrapped, then the overall packaging will be thicker, and sensitivity might be affected.

"Fortress metal detectors can run multiple frequencies simultaneously, which makes it ideal for these kind of elevated convenience products, as the machines can accurately inspect a variety of conductivities at the same time."

Manufacturers catering to the rapid rise in UK 'flexitarian' eating habits will also need to keep in mind processing challenges, according to Fortress. Just like snack products, the ingredients used to make meat alternatives are often dropped into a drum before being pressed into the required shape. The use of gravity metal detectors at this processing stage can help

prevent metal contaminants being flattened and crushed in the drum rollers.

Also, with allergen compliance demanding the highest levels of sanitation, the IP69K-rated Hygienic Fortress Pipeline now has 60% less surface area, helping to address cross contamination and the spread of allergen risks.

STAND P191

www.fortresstechnology.co.uk



The Hygienic Pipeline from Fortress is easy to clean and its design helps stop contamination



Gravity metal detectors are ideal for meat-free foods

A twin tank tray washer will be launched and join utensil and boot washers on display

Industrial Washing Machines (IWM) will be exhibiting its brand new T400 twin tank tray washer, the CW13 EX BT general-purpose cabinet utensil washer and the new range of boot washers at this year's Foodex.

The CW13 EX BT cabinet washer is renowned for its solid construction and user-friendly operation. This new cabinet washer provides efficient batch washing for a wide range of items including trays, machine components/

change parts, weigh pans, buckets and utensils – making it ideal for food preparation operations. It has an internal self-cleaning function and the interior of the machine is completely rounded with no right angles.

PULL-OUT WASHING TRAY

This machine is supplied with standard reinforced pull-out washing trays measuring 1320 mm x 700 mm and can accommodate items up to 820 mm high.

Also on show will be IWM's T400 twin tank tray washer and also the new boot and shoe washing stations.

STAND H201

www.indwash.co.uk

The boot and shoe stations are designed to be used in food manufacturing plants

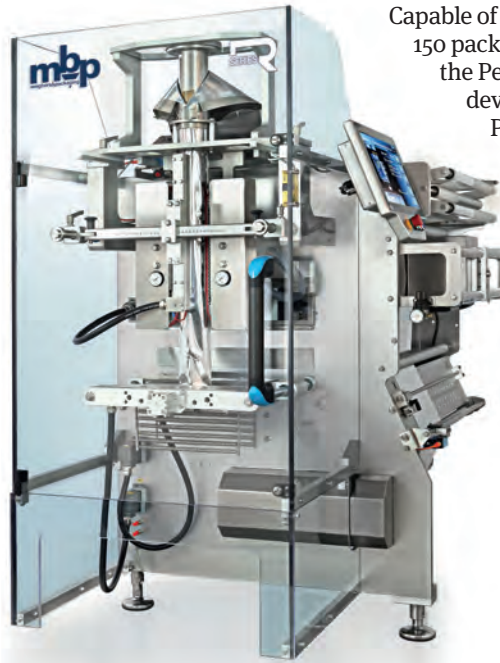


Vertical form, fill and seal will take show centre stage

PFM Packaging Machinery's vertical form, fill and seal (VFFS) technology will be the centrepiece – among the company's range of automated solutions for the food sector – at this year's Foodex.

The R700 is a flexible, compact solution for producing bags sealed on three sides, such as pillow-bags and block bottom bags, including four corner seals, with speeds of up to 120 cycles per minute. It is one of PFM's R series of VFFS machines that feature automated film reel set-up, eliminating one of the most difficult and time-consuming tasks for operators.

Alongside the R700 VFFS will be the Pearl horizontal flow wrapper constructed in stainless steel for hygiene benefits. The Pearl is becoming increasingly popular for a wide range of applications in the food industry, as well as for pet food, cosmetics, pharmaceuticals, durables and houseware items, says PFM.



PFM Packaging Machinery will show model R700 VFFS

Capable of up to 150 packs a minute, the Pearl has been developed by PFM to provide all the efficiency advantages of multi-axis servo drive, but at an entry level cost.

Also on show is a multihead weigher that has been specifically designed for high-speed weighing of granules, and pellet type product.

In addition

Compact, with a short infeed, the flow wrapper is a flexible packaging solution offering reduced downtime for reel changes, automatic film web tracking and a space-saving footprint.

to the equipment on show, PFM's team can discuss any of the company's full range of solutions as well as automating complete lines.

STAND K260

W www.pfmuk.com



End-to-end solutions are offered

Machine automation solutions can be discussed on stand

Lenze says any food company wanting a high degree of reliability, productivity and efficiency should rely on its scalable products. "Today, we bring you intelligent, connected machine automation solutions which support the industry move towards the smart factory," says Neil Beaumont, marketing communications manager at Lenze.

Visitors to the company's Foodex stand can learn about its automation solutions and digital engineering platform. "No matter whether static or dynamic, lifting or lowering, moving or positioning our solution expertise in the control of motion saves companies time and makes projects run faster," says Beaumont. Efficient software engineering is also offered by the company thanks to ready-made software modules.

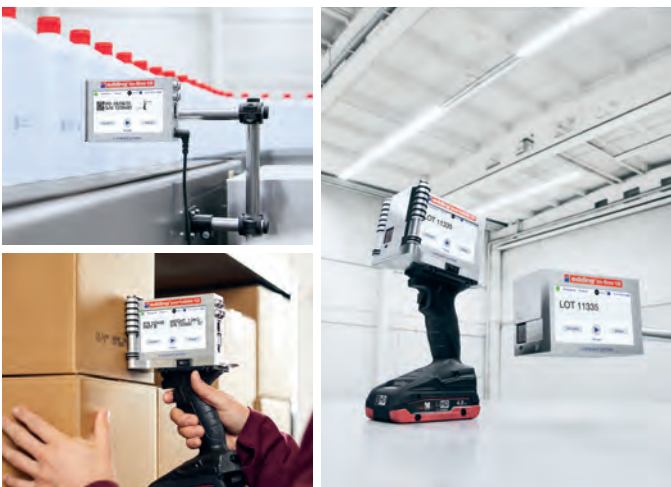
STAND G189

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foodex Preview

30 MARCH - 1 APRIL 2020
NEC BIRMINGHAM

Food processing line features robots to deliver top hygiene

CME will feature its specially developed hygienic robotic processing technology on its stand at Foodex, following its successful launch at the PPMA Total Show last September. This new precision food packaging system, designed as one of the most hygienic on the market, utilises robots from Staubli's new HE hygienic range.

A MODULAR APPROACH

This HFPC cell has been designed with EHEDG's standards in mind and utilises a modular approach to allow the cell to be customised to match the requirements of individual customers lines.

It is capable of handling and packing a diverse range of products at up to 120 picks per minute per module including meat products, fish, cooked and baked products. The company says the cell will enhance productivity levels through the packaging process as well as helping to reduce headcount and associated costs.

The CME team will also be available to discuss its other bespoke automation equipment with visitors to its stand.

STAND M161

www.cme-ltd.com

Latest systems handle new materials for life

The ability of tray sealing company Proseal both to provide continual customer support throughout the lifetime of its equipment to maximise performance and efficiency, and to help customers meet ever-changing packaging trends, will be a key theme of the company's participation at this year's Foodex exhibition.

Proseal will demonstrate a number of specially developed technologies for the further enhancements of speed and quality in its tray sealers' operation, and the provision of valuable production data, including the launch of two new systems.

In addition, the two models on display from its extensive tray sealer range – the

automatic in-line Proseal GT1e and semi-automatic Proseal TTe – will showcase its capability to perform



Peelability can be tested by Proseal

any style of heat seal to a pre-formed tray, and to handle the latest alternatives to plastics, including Halopack, the first fully hermetic cardboard MAP packaging, and Huhtamaki Fresh, a fibre-based ready meals tray that is both oven and microwave safe.

Making their debut at

Foodex will be ProVision, an advanced automated platform that captures and analyses

important machine data to improve the efficiency and performance of the entire production line, and

ProPosition, a new tray positioning system for faster and easier machine set up.

Also being demonstrated will be Proseal's ProTect security system that meets retailer quality and safety requirements by preventing unauthorised access to equipment and providing comprehensive audit data. This range of technology is complemented by the ProTest seal quality testing system that enables food manufacturers and processors to determine the ideal seal and peel strength for individual products.

Both the Proseal GT1e and TTe offer users effective future proofing. As well as their ability to handle all types of heat sealing, these various options can be added or removed as required. This provides the flexibility for customers to easily deal with changing packaging trends.

Similarly, both machines can seal the latest alternative materials to plastics.

STAND N210

www.proseal.com



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Installation News

Robotics answer labelling needs

Achieving the required speeds, position, precision and repeatability to place labels onto straps, rather than the pallet, has been a challenge met by robots from Kawasaki for a manufacturer of cans for the drinks industry.

The can-maker wanted to avoid any possibility of contact between the cans and the adhesive labels that must be applied to every pallet dispatched to its customers, so the company decided on a novel approach that would effectively reduce to zero the chances of it occurring. It was decided to place the labels onto the retaining straps (which are 12mm wide) that secure the load, instead of directly onto the pallets themselves. To put the idea into practice, the company



Kawasaki robots are used to apply labels direct onto the retaining straps

sought the guidance of a business it had relied on previously for packaging and automation engineering solutions, Blackstar Handling of Skelmersdale.

COMBINING DEMANDS

“Applying the label direct onto the strap, rather than onto the pallets themselves, was not in itself a major challenge, other than identifying the correct adhesive,” says Blackstar md Ian Pegler. “But achieving the combination of the required speeds, position, precision and repeatability made us think very carefully about the best ways to automate the process.” According to Pegler, one of the key drivers behind the success of the Blackstar business has been as much to do with attitude as it has the engineering skills on tap. ▶



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The RS10-N has proved to be ideal for the precision label placement on pallet straps without damaging cans

“This is how we came to work with Kawasaki Robotics in the first place,” he continues, “and why we have eschewed the approaches of other robot suppliers over the years.

“Although we are well versed in the field of packaging and conveying, we have always enjoyed the advantage of Kawasaki Robotics’ specialist knowledge of robots and how to make them work best as part of our systems,” he says.

For the Kawasaki Robotics team, its part of the new process involved supplying a robot (in this case, a standard RS-10N model) that would position the labels accurately, repeatedly, and on an unbroken 24-hour shift pattern, sometimes for months on end if required, and with minimal maintenance involved. Operating as part of the bigger package at Blackstar’s customer plants, the RS-10N applies two labels per pallet direct onto the retaining straps and typically works through sixty very large pallets an hour, or one every minute.

The required accuracy on the project was for label placement to be within +/- 1 mm in both the X and Y

axes, with appropriate pressure to physically attach the label on contact: well within the capability of a robot that is supplied as standard from Kawasaki with a guaranteed accuracy of +/- 0.03mm when carrying a 10 kg payload at a reach of 1450 mm.

Pegler says that an additional advantage of working with the Kawasaki team was that on this project Blackstar could also do away with using a PLC on the robot system, thus reducing costs and complexity, while also seeing efficiency improved.

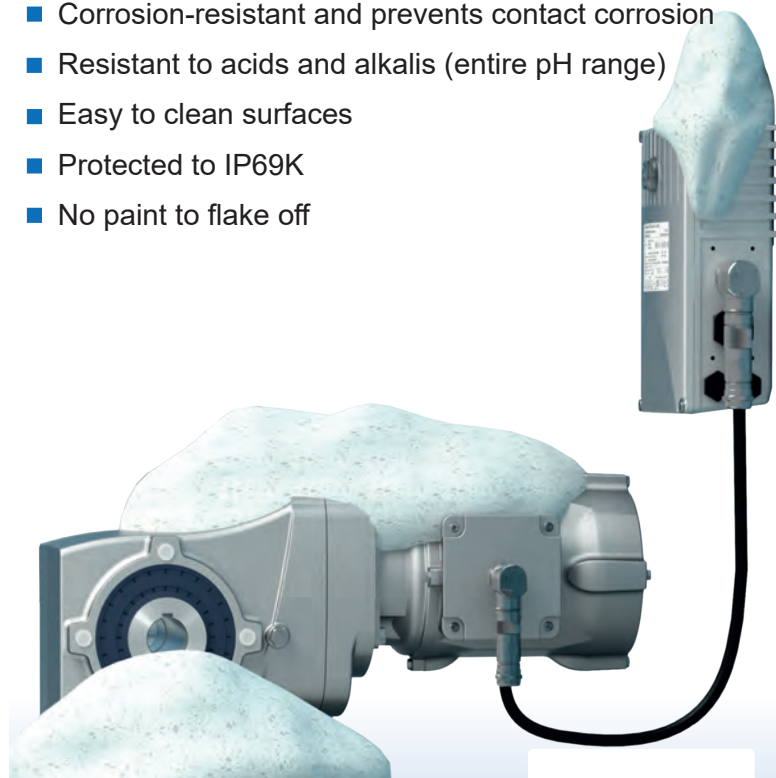
Working on a cycle time of 25 seconds per pallet for labelling, the RS-10N robot and system has thus far proved faultless. Almost 9,000 cans are contained on each of the hundreds of pallets being delivered by this Blackstar customer weekly and, to date, not a single instance of can/label contact has been reported.

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For more information on the latest equipment designed for drinks, our special feature starts on page 66



Installation News

Vacuum conveyors are linking process steps for supplements

Austrian company Kora Füll demanded easy product changes, compliance with all food and pharmaceutical standards and energy efficiency when it specified a vacuum conveyor from Piab to handle its contract filling of nutritional supplements and cosmetics.

When filling 300 different products a year and running between one and three days per variant, product changes must be fast and easy to ensure plant efficiency. Also, the premium segment of dietary supplements and

cosmetics have to meet the requirements of EU directives for food and pharmaceuticals, as well as the regulatory safety requirements for the handling of hazardous substances.

In operation, the powdered products or granules are filled into small stickpacks - similar to sugar sticks for coffee in the catering trade. These sticks - usually plastic or coated paper - run from a roll on the side into the stickpack system. The corresponding product is fed from above. In addition to the filling quantity, the size of the stickpack can be set



Product is sucked out of the bag

and the tear point defined via the control of the stickpack machine.

When deciding on Piab's piFLOWp in this process, the rapid product change features played a decisive role, as these powdered superfoods are filled in serving units in sizes between 1 and 80 g.

"The simple and uncomplicated cleaning of the Piab vacuum conveyors was the decisive factor in our purchasing decision," explains Merlin Wintersteiger, managing director of Kora. "Thanks to the quick-release system with filters and gaskets, the entire conveyor

can be disassembled, cleaned and reassembled for the next production run in just a few steps, and it was important to us that the conveyor can be cleaned not only in the shortest possible time, but also thoroughly so that no residues of the previous production contaminate the next - especially in the case of allergens which is an absolute no-go."

The modular design of the vacuum conveyors was also important to Kora for it to remain highly flexible in this fast-moving market. "Because Piab's systems can just as easily be retrofitted and expanded or supplemented with additional modules, we are prepared for new requirements," explains Wintersteiger.

The company plans to convert its entire demand for vacuum conveyor technology to Piab in the future as employees have appreciated the significantly lower noise level on the new vacuum conveyor.

T 01509 857010

W www.piab.com



The vacuum conveyor is easy to clean which helps with product changeovers

Scandinavian snack giant is benefitting from processing equipment including fryers, weighers, slicers and feeders

Fabcon Food Systems has supplied two high capacity potato chip batch fryers, alongside new weighing, slicing and feeding equipment to Scandinavian snack giant KiMs for its production plant in Skreia in southern Norway.

"To supply one of Scandinavia's most respected snack manufacturers is another milestone for us as it shows again that our products and designs are in high demand," says Trevor Howard,

managing director of Fabcon Food Systems.

"The project saw us delivering important energy savings through the fryer design while upgrading existing equipment which has increased output and quality," he continues. Capacity at the plant is now in excess of 400 kgs per hour.

"We chose to work with Fabcon as their British-built equipment is of the highest quality, while their after-sales service offers us the technical

support if we need it," explains Jens Helge Sandberg, technical manager at Orkla's C&S Skreia facility. "Our production line in Skreia was ageing but now we have a higher output machine on the same footprint as the old system," he says.



The new equipment has made the plant more efficient

T 01603 482338

W www.fabcon.co.uk

Xmas bakes made safer with inspection systems

Christmas tradition includes the addition of coins to the pudding mix: but in modern food production keeping bits of metal out of seasonal food products is a serious business. One bakery is using product inspection solutions from Mettler Toledo to make sure we can have our Christmas cake and eat it – safely.

Family-owned Kuchenmeister GmbH produces more than 90,000 tonnes of cakes a year, and these are distributed worldwide both under the ‘Kuchenmeister’ brand as well as food retailer brands. The company, which is certified at IFS Higher Level, maintains ten production lines in three-shift operation at its main factory. Mettler Toledo’s product inspection equipment is used for foreign body detection and product conformity along the entire production line, from incoming goods through processing to checking packaged products.

Kuchenmeister uses a variety of product inspection techniques at different points in the process to uphold safety and quality. For example, the company sources pre-washed raisins for use in its Christmas stollen, but subjects these to further cleaning prior to processing and then checks them for foreign bodies using x-ray inspection. “By checking incoming goods for foreign bodies, we minimise the risk of small stones or metal parts causing damage to production machines and resulting in downtime further down the line,” explains Thomas Engel, head of quality management at Kuchenmeister.

The ingredients inspected in goods-inwards are processed into various



Final checks for foreign objects are carried out by x-ray systems and metal detectors at the bakery

products such as stollen or pound cakes and baked. Dynamic checkweighers determine whether the cake moulds are filled with the intended amount of batter. “The right amount of batter is not only an important factor in achieving the correct final weight, but it is also a central quality parameter for ensuring the optimum level of cooking and browning,” he says.

Dynamic checkweighers therefore continuously optimise the filling process by means of fully automated feedback control.

Meanwhile, the x-ray inspection systems and metal detectors at critical control points also carry out checks for foreign objects before the baked goods are shipped. The individual product, its ingredients and the type of packaging determine which technologies are used. For homogeneous products such as pastry cases or croissants, the company relies on metal detection technology, while foreign bodies in products such as pound cakes are detected using x-ray inspection systems. These have a horizontal conveyor belt and inspect up to 3000 units an hour. Contaminated products are removed from the production line by means of a pusher reject device.

The company also has a Comprehensive Care Service Contract in place with Mettler, which not only covers the costs associated with labour and spare parts, but also regular maintenance and cleaning measures; as well as functional tests including the exact scheduling of maintenance procedures.

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Kuchenmeister relies on Mettler Toledo product inspection to ensure quality and safety of goods

Installation News



Chris Childs with the new kit

Pet food has been handled well for ages

Vertical form fill and seal packing machinery manufacturer GIC's working relationship with the specialist small animal pet food manufacturer Supreme Petfoods began in December 2001 when it installed a VFBI machine at its pet treat bakery site.

The VFBI is still operating efficiently today, packing pet treats into small 200 g gusseted FFS bags and has been running at speeds in excess of 1,200 packs per hour since it was first turned on. The company decided to add a second GIC machine – a GIC4100 – to its operation last year when its previous machine became obsolete.

The GIC4100 runs large block bottom packs in polyethylene using constant heat coated jaws and has been designed with a remote HMI station as specified by the pet food company.

"We are very pleased with both machines," says Chris Childs, managing director at Supreme. "The VFBI is reliable and efficient; it never let us down, and so when we needed a new machine, we didn't hesitate to get in touch with GIC," he says. "We were really impressed with how their machines compared to other manufacturers."

In the six months since the GIC4100 was installed, downtime has reduced by about 15% and productivity has increased.

T 01427 611885

W www.gic.uk.net

Fruit producer meets its need for space and speed

A tray sealer and integrated conveyor from Proseal are providing a fruit producer with greater throughput and ample production line space for packing, allowing it to meet increased demand from its customers.

Spalding – based HP² – short for Hawthorn Produce, Packaging and Handling – required a high-speed tray sealing machine to meet growing customer demand for top-sealed packs of grapes. The machine had to be capable of sealing 120 packs per minute and to meet these needs, HP² chose the Proseal GT2s tray sealer with a fully integrated flat-belt SC conveyor, making a total line length of around ten metres.

"As ever, Proseal's service was second-to-none," says Nick Bossley, managing director at HP². "Installation was completed on the day of delivery – including control links to existing end-of-line equipment to enable staggered controlled stoppages – and



The conveyor is controlled and managed from the Proseal machine's interface

production was able to commence on day two.

"The GT2s and integrated conveyor have been fantastic for us in terms of extra throughput and added stability and have truly helped us deliver for our customers' needs," he says.

The large-capacity Proseal GT2s tray sealer is meeting HP²'s need for speed with an average throughput of 127 packs per minute, thus enabling the company to comfortably meet customer

demands and even take on extra orders.

The integrated infeed conveyor ensures that there is maximum space for product loading so operators can always keep up with the demands of the line. Crucially, the conveyor is controlled and managed from the Proseal machine's interface, so there is no need for the addition of a conveyor cubicle, which creates space for additional operators.

T 01625 856600

W www.proseal.com

A digital enhancement press is the first UK installation and allows a new service offer

Precision Printing has become the first company in the UK to invest in a new Scodix Ultra 101 digital enhancement press.

Purchased through Friedheim International, the UK distributor of Scodix technology, the new machine will replace two first generation S74 Scodix models and enable the company to add digital foiling to its expansive range of services.

Speaking about how the new Scodix machine will

support Precision, chief executive Gary Peeling says that the device is five times faster than the previous models, and this will enable the company to address a rising demand for its services.

HIGHER PRODUCTIVITY

"We have operated two older Scodix machines for over five years, and as enhanced products are popular across all three of our operating sectors, the new machine will offer higher productivity

to deal with the increased demand from our customers," he tells *Machinery Update*.

The Scodix Ultra 101 has been installed at Precision's fully automated production hub in London, where it is now running alongside two offset and eight digital sheet feed presses. The Scodix sits alongside laminating and flood UV enhancement, prior to cutting, creasing and full bindery.

T 01442 206100

W www.friedheimpackaging.co.uk



New line allows a cheese company to expand its business

Extens Foods has invested in equipment from PFM to help the producer of cheese slices to churn out about 80 tonnes of grated cheese every week which in turn, is meeting the needs of its full order book.

PFM has installed a line featuring a product elevator, cross feeder, support gantry, multihead weigher with a 14 head rigidised finish C2 weigher as well as a Vetta bag maker with rotating crimpers, tape and zip applicators. Grated cheese is now being packed in a variety of bag styles, branded and plain, including 2 kg pillow packs, 200 – 220 g stand-up Doy style bags with a zip re-close system and 200 – 220 g Easy Pack bags with a tape re-close feature.

The Vetta bag maker allows for easy changeover between bag styles by the operator, rather than an engineer, carried out in less than half an hour.

T 0113 239 3401

W www.pfmuk.com

Checkweighers cope with the Playmobil challenges

For the Playmobil toy manufacturer geobra Brandstätter Stiftung, the check weighing of packaged small parts always represents a challenge. The lack of precision when weighing small toy parts had previously been compensated for by over filling to be on the safe side.

However, Minebea Intec devised the ideal solution for the specific challenges faced by the Playmobil manufacturer.

Production-related disruptive influences are present in almost all industrial environments but in injection moulding, it is temperature fluctuations and electrostatic charges that can affect the subsequent weighing process. Electrostatic charge can be caused by transferring plastic components from one container to another, for example, which makes it more difficult to obtain precise and repeatable measurement results in the downstream process steps. Ventilation can help to compensate for the inherent temperature



All checkweigher features have combined to protect the weighing of small toys

fluctuations, but this does create draughts, which can also affect the weighing result.

“The checkweigher WK+ has a protective cover that ensures draught-free weighing processes that are designed specifically for the challenging production environments in the plastics industry,” explains Willy-Sebastian Metzger, director marketing, strategy & business development at Minebea. “Our checkweighers’ load cells also have integrated temperature compensation that automatically readjusts the weighing.

“At the same time, the WK+ is also available with an optional ioniser for minimising electrostatic charge, and all these features combine to protect the weighing process against disruptive factors found in injection moulding,” he says.

Playmobil manufacturer geobra Brandstätter Stiftung was also convinced of the technology, as the use of checkweigher WK+ has led to a sustainable increase in efficiency and also product quality since installation.

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Installation News

Laser profile sensor has delivered gains for a robotic grinder project



A 2D laser profile sensor from Micro-Epsilon is being used by the Nuclear Advanced Manufacturing and Research Centre (Nuclear AMRC) in a project to develop a smart robotic grinding/deburring solution for welded components to replace this traditional manual task.

The sensor is mounted on a robot end effector and measures the profile of welded joints and planar surfaces.

“We developed an integrated end-effector for the robot with a Micro-Epsilon 2910-100 BL laser profile sensor on one end and a pneumatic spindle on the other – to eliminate the need to use a tool changing system, which would stand out as an expensive item,” explains Ozan Gurdal, research engineer at Nuclear AMRC.

SCANNING THE AREAS

In operation, the scanCONTROL 2910-100_BL laser sensor held by the end effector is used to scan the areas of interest in the part, which are welded joints and planar surfaces used for reference. The sensor provides the axial and lateral distance (2D) measurements between the scanned object and sensor frame, which is not sufficient for reconstruction.

Therefore, the 2D data obtained from the laser sensor is combined with the position of the robot flange, which is read in real-time from the robot controller using a LabVIEW-based central controller. Combining these two, the central controller generates the 3D reconstruction of the as-welded part as a point-cloud and converts it into the desired CAD format.

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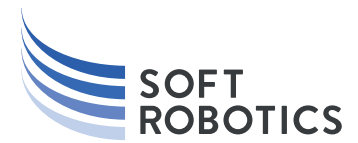
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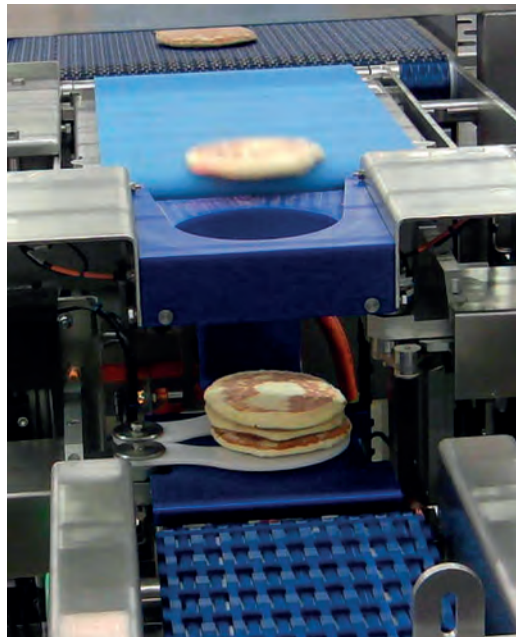
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Stacking solution meets frozen pancake demand

WMH has added to its portfolio of stacking solutions with the completion of a stacking and packing conveyor developed for a large European bakery. The latest system is designed to handle up to 15,000 individual frozen pancakes per hour exiting a freezing tunnel and feeding stacks of product to two wrapping lines.

This new system provides a continuous flexible solution that can feed products to two stacking units in parallel or divert all the pancakes to feed one stacker only.

To ensure continuous and seamless operation, the system was designed to incorporate a third stacking head which will move automatically into position in the event of either of the two operational stackers



The WMH system is designed to fit a single size of pancake

slides into place. This then ensures that production continues uninterrupted and minimises any potential product losses, too.

The stacking system was designed to fit a single size of pancake and uses a servo controlled pneumatically actuated jaw arrangement to provide a continuous stacking motion. A short acceleration conveyor upstream of the stackers creates space between the products to ensure each item is stacked cleanly, first time.

As with most WMH systems, operation is via a user-friendly touch screen HMI with menu selections for choice of stack height which can vary between 3 to 6 pancakes.

T 01579 383788

W www.wmh-uk-ltd.com

suffering a product jam or other type of failure.

During any fault of this nature, the upstream divert system will activate which then feeds all the product to the operational stacker while the spare stacker

Automated printing machine pad prints two variants of switch body for power company

A leading power management company approached RNA Automation to design and develop a fully automated printing machine to perform pad printing of two variants of switch body. The system was manufactured in a compact design, equipped with a switch body feeding system, a 4-station rotary indexing table, a high-speed colour pad printer, the main controller and an operating panel.

In operation, the operator loads switch bodies into an

elevating bulk feeder which stores and transfers them to a vibratory bowl feeder. The switch bodies are then fed and orientated by the bowl feeder to a vibratory linear track, which is fitted with a pneumatic escapement to push one part at a time onto a 4-station rotary indexing table. The rotary indexing table then presents switch bodies to an Alien 130 high speed pad printer for the pattern to be applied in a single colour.

This indexing table then moves the printed parts to an ejection station to be transferred via a chute into the customer's storage containers.

EASY CHANGEOVERS

The machine is designed for two variants of switch body, and changeover between the two is achieved via quick release change tooling and a 2-position switch on the control system.

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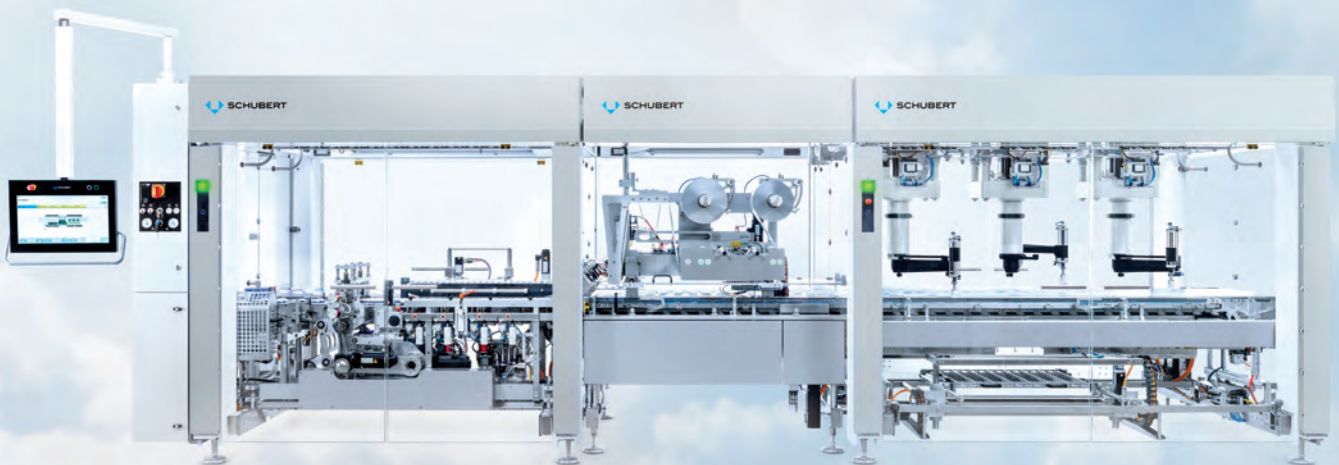


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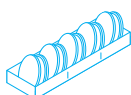
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interpack Preview – introduction

PROCESSING & PACKAGING

Vertical form, fill and seal bagger will debut at show

BW Flexible Systems' Sandiacre group will launch its new continuous motion vertical form, fill and seal (VFFS) bagger, called the Verus CM.

In addition to bringing continuous motion bagging to the Verus series, the machine employs the best features of BW Flexible Systems' Hayssen, Simionato, and Sandiacre brands, providing a VFFS solution that leverages the company's proven technology and features.

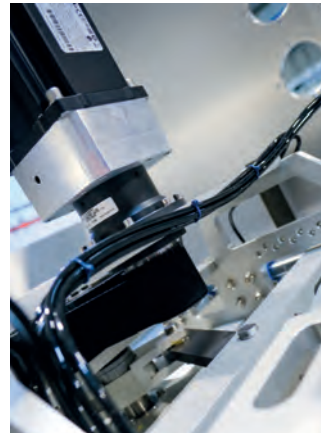
Special attention has been paid to constructing an ergonomic and intuitive machine.

The Verus CM features a frame built to provide quick, easy access to vital components. As a result, the machine is easy to clean and maintain, ensuring that the Verus CM will meet today's hygiene requirements, a characteristic that BW Flexible Systems understands is important to the market.

Operators will achieve faster changeovers between different packaging formats, product SKUs, and materials. And staying true to its Verus pedigree, the Verus CM can seal a wide range of film structures, including recyclable films, and can

create an extensive variety of bag formats.

The Verus CM will also employ a new intuitive HMI that will feature programs to assist in training, troubleshooting, and provide comprehensive



Decades of knowledge is being used to come up with a flexible machine

performance management for factory operators.

"With the launch of the Verus CM, we have put our strongest performing technologies and decades of vertical form, fill and seal knowledge at the service of customers," says Ian Bickerdike, commercial director EMEA at BW Flexible Systems.

HALL 6 STAND D62

W www.bwflexiblesystems.com



The new bagger is being built for the exhibition

The global exhibition interpack is planned to happen this May

Global exhibition interpack is where the world of processing and packaging meets every three years and the 2020 event is planned for 7 – 13 May in Düsseldorf, Germany.

Over 3,000 exhibitors from approximately 60 countries will present their solutions in 18 halls and to help plan your visit, here are 18 pages of the latest developments from PPMA members that will be on show. Further information on planning your visit can be found on the exhibition website, as can details of the 'Life Without Packaging' conference and all related costs of buying e-tickets in advance of the week-long event.

Let's hope coronavirus doesn't spoil the party...

W www.interpack.com



Will the packaging world meet?

Smart and sustainable adhesive application solutions for primary and secondary packs

Robatech will present smart and sustainable adhesive application solutions for primary and secondary packaging at interpack.

The focus of the stand is on the Robatech Control System (RCS), which is an all-in-one platform designed for easy control, operation, and monitoring of all adhesive application functions. With the RCS, the Swiss manufacturer is presenting an electronic platform that has all the functionalities

for controlling, operating, and monitoring the gluing process included. Visitors to the stand can access the integrated all-in-one platform – live via a tablet, while the company will demonstrate how RCS helps to bring great flexibility and more sustainability to gluing processes.

One way to increase sustainability is the AMS Adhesive Measuring System. It ensures a reduction of the adhesive consumption and, at the same time, a safe

bonding without the usual safety margins. Robatech will demonstrate how reliable adhesive measurement, data acquisition, and trend analysis can be used to compare production lines, adhesives, and application patterns in adhesive consumption.

The AntiSlip Gluing pallet stabilisation system will also be on display. It does not require any plastics wrap.

HALL 11 STAND G70

W www.robatech.com



The AntiSlip Gluing pallet system stabilising pallets without plastics

interpack Preview

PROCESSING & PACKAGING

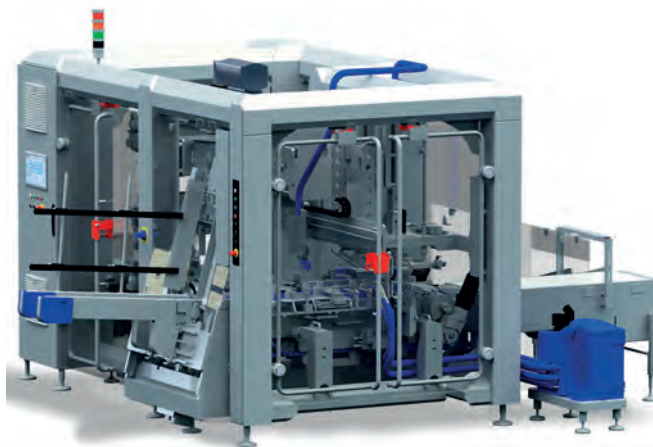
Optimum functionality gains on three end of line machines

From initial design, through simulation and testing and onto optimum in-field operation, Cama Group says its new machines will help deliver better, faster, more focussed packaging solutions that will enable its customers to increase throughput, shorten time to market, slash downtime and quickly and easily undertake format changes.

A design exercise, which started back in 2013, has been based on constructive customer feedback coupled with new technologies that have led to the development of many new equipment features. Key among these is the introduction of digital solutions that create added value at every stage of a machine's lifecycle.

At interpack, Cama Group will showcase three machines, each of which will highlight different aspects of the company's new value proposition for a production line.

The first is the Mini Wrap FW, an extremely compact case



One of the pieces of equipment on the Cama stand will be the Mini Wrap FW, billed as an extremely compact case & tray wrapper for shelf-ready packaging

and tray wrapper for shelf-ready packaging. With fully automated changeovers, thanks to advanced servo technology, the machine will also demonstrate how Augmented Reality (AR) is used for both changeover routines and maintenance operations.

The second example is the company's IF robotic forming, loading and closing machine,

which exploits Cama's Breakthrough Generation sanitary, user-friendly design. Modular and flexible, the IF318 exploits both RFID/radar technology and AR, for fast and precise changeovers. Maintenance-based AR will also feature on this unit.

Finally, the IG 12 Triaflex Multi-Delta Robot loading unit will highlight the company's new machine

structure, with the electrical cabinet integrated into the main columns. This creates a reduced overall machine envelope, ideal for applications with limited space available. The IG will also demonstrate Industry 4.0 technology, with a digital twin simulation demo for virtual commissioning.

"We are now able to precisely define a machine's value proposition – even at the design stage – thanks to modern concepts such as simulation-based design & engineering and virtual commissioning," explains Daniele Bellante, ceo at Cama Group. "As well as making our conceptualisations more realistic and the design and test phase a lot more robust, accurate and application specific, these digital technologies – coupled with our new mechanical designs – will create the core platforms upon which our new machines are based."

HALL 13 STAND A33

W www.camagroup.com

Integrated solutions in processing and also packaging will be demonstrated with a multitude of technologies on show

On Multivac's main exhibition stand, the company's focus will include four fully automated packaging lines as well as concepts for producing sustainable packaging options and also solutions for digitalisation of processes and business models.

A fully automated line for packing products into trays will include the compact TX 710 traysealer, while another line will be packing products into board trays run on an R 245 thermoforming

packaging machine. An automated line for slicing and packing processed products will feature the high-output S 1600 slicer while a fully integrated line for portioning and packing fresh meat will see a TX 730 traysealer at its heart.



A fully automated line will include the TX 710 traysealer

These lines will also feature conveyor belt labellers,

handling modules to load pots into boxes, direct web printers, transfer conveyors, the new cross web labeller, a singlecut meat portioning unit and a visual inspection system. The new TX 810 traysealer will be shown at interpack for the first time. Thanks to its two-track design, this model enables a significantly higher output to be achieved.

HALL 5 STAND A23

W www.multivac.co.uk

FFS units deliver range of benefits

New high-speed form, fill and seal (FFS) technology will be on display on the PFM Group stand at interpack, featuring a range of the latest solutions targeting the food, pharmaceutical, cosmetics and other non-food sectors.

PFM's stand will include the new Solaris Evo, a time saving vertical FFS wrapper. The Solaris Evo will demonstrate to visitors the smart two-way film transport system that enables standard pillow bags, steelo-bags, block bottom bags and doy style bags to be produced without the need to rotate the reciprocating sealing unit.

Designed in stainless steel for hygiene benefits, the R700 series of flexible VFFS machinery will also be exhibited. These solutions which can process a range



The Solaris Evo is billed as a time saving vertical FFS wrapper that can produce a range of formats

of different bag styles, feature automated film reel set-up, eliminating one of the most difficult and time-consuming tasks for operators.

In addition to the Solaris and R-Series, PFM's team will be promoting two horizontal flow wrappers – the Scirocco Combi Zip and the Levante high speed flow wrapper.

HALL 13 STAND A03
W www.pfmuk.com

Throat metal detector helps new 'snackification' trends

At this year's interpack, Fortress Technology will reveal how its top selling Vertex metal detector, equipped with automatic testing, is saving money, inspecting multiple snack formats and flavours and enhancing product quality.

Stand visitors will see how the slim-line Vertex metal detector system, measuring just 125 mm in height with a circular aperture, can easily slot into existing VFFS packaging and snack checkweighing turnkey lines

to enhance quality. Supporting fast product changeovers, this throat unit incorporates an advanced automatic testing program, to address productivity issues.

Designed specifically to inspect free-falling snacks, more than 700 new Fortress Vertex units were installed by snack manufacturers last year. To help future proof equipment, all were fitted with Halo automatic testing.

HALL 12 STAND E60
W www.fortresstechnology.co.uk













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interpack
PROCESSES AND PACKAGING

**Hall: 14
Stand: C52
7 - 13th May**

interpack Preview

PROCESSING & PACKAGING



Optima's digital portfolio includes using augmented reality glasses

Looking to production of the future

Optima will be showing solutions focusing on flexibility, safety, digitalisation and sustainability across new machine solutions, technologies and processes at interpack.

The Group offers technologies across pharmaceuticals, consumer goods, paper hygiene products and medical devices sectors and two innovation projects will be introduced on the stand.

The cosmetics industry is particularly affected by changes in demand which is why Optima is developing a flexible machine platform that can be individually configured to cover all customer requirements – from start-ups to global corporations. The advantage of the concept is that it is possible to have many different variants – from semi-automatic to completely automated.

Depending on the application, different modules (transport systems, kinematics, filling modules) can be easily integrated into the machine platform.

The second machine exhibit also demonstrates how Optima supports manufacturing companies in terms of flexibility. The TB300 packaging system on show consists of a stacker and a packaging machine that can process paper packaging as well as foil pouches made of PE material or biodegradable materials. The company will also be showing a CFL filling and closing machine for capsules /pads.

HALL 16 STAND F54 - F55

W www.optima-packaging.com

New viewing windows reassures x-ray workers

At interpack, Sparc Systems will unveil its unique rationale for designing viewing windows on its high-spec food x-ray range and how the removal of stainless steel doors reassures processing operatives.

Safety issues around radiation and dealing with potentially high-voltage components means that many manufacturers steer clear of x-ray inspection systems because operatives fear what they cannot see.

To help eliminate this fear factor, Sparc Systems has designed a protective high-density acrylic window on its Apollo (x-ray) and Theia (x-ray and checkweigher combination) systems. The result: operatives can literally see up to 200 packs per minute travelling through the system without compromising their personal safety as the x-ray beams are fully contained.



Also, food debris, product accumulations or bottlenecks etc are instantly visible. Rather than carrying on unaware, operatives can halt production lines instantly, slide open the doors to clear and clean the conveyor, which minimises disruption and reduces the likelihood of product damage.

“Having a clear side removes the mystery and fear

factor, especially when there's a stainless steel box with a big radiation sign on the side,” explains Sparc's European sales manager Charlie Graham.

An additional benefit of this inspection visibility is it negates the need for bulky safety guards. Temptation to lean in to resolve an issue is also significantly reduced, addressing workforce Health

The fear factor is removed

& Safety. Consequently, Sparc has been able to shorten the post inspection conveyor, to reduce factory footprint.

“The systems we are showcasing at interpack are quite literally, the most transparent machines on the market today,” says Graham.

HALL 11 STAND G65

W www.sparc-systems.com

Bagging specialist launches the latest FFS bagging machine and a new closing system

Statec Binder is showing a new model of its System-T form, fill and seal (FFS) bagging machine at interpack as well as a patented bag closing system ‘Over Tape Bag Sealer’.

The fully automatic packaging machine combines high-quality packaging in a tubular PE bag with a high production capacity. “Thanks to the high flexibility of the FFS machine, it can be perfectly adjusted to customers' requirements,” says Josef Lorger, md at

Statec Binder.

In operation, the patented bag sealing system heat-seals woven polypropylene (PP) bags to ensure a reliable and secure seal via a PP fabric tape. The sealing technology makes it easier to handle dusty and odour-intensive products in the food and feed industry.



The System-T form, fill seal machine is demonstrated

HALL 11 STAND G19

W www.statec-binder.com

interpack Preview

PROCESSING & PACKAGING

Sustainable materials are handled on easily modified flow wrappers

At interpack, Syntegon Technology, formerly Bosch Packaging Technology, will showcase two new developments, including its 'paper-ON-form' upgrade kit for horizontal flow wrapping machines to form a cold-sealable barrier paper.

This latest solution was engineered in the company's own development centre and consists of a patented flow-wrap forming unit and sealing jaws for paper cold-sealing applications. The new kit is already being used on existing lines at international food manufacturers for packaging chocolate bars in paper.

Syntegon Technology will also present an extended stroke length for Amplified Heat Sealing applications on new horizontal flow wrappers. This development helps to optimise the thermal heat input and enables faster processing of mono-materials.

"Sustainable paper and mono-material packaging is trending," says Christoph



The 'paper-ON-form' retrofit kit for cold-sealable paper packaging allows for existing horizontal flow wrappers to be converted from plastic only materials

Langohr, project manager of sustainability horizontal packaging at Syntegon Technology. "Our upgrade kit allows customers to transition to sustainable packaging materials like cold-sealable paper on their existing horizontal flow wrapping machines – without any restrictions regarding speed or format."

The patented forming unit shapes paper without

creasing or tearing it, and the customised cold sealing jaws gently create the sealing seams. At interpack, the new product will be presented as part of the Sigpack HRM bar-wrapping line and the Syntegon Pack Series flow wrappers. "Comprehensive tests and the first field applications have repeatedly demonstrated that there are no restrictions regarding output rates, thus proving that

paper flow wrapping easily matches the performance and usability of conventional flow wrapping," says Langohr.

"The 'paper-ON-form' upgrade kit can be used for different types of paper as well as for conventional packaging materials, which makes it possible to gradually switch to paper," Langohr explains. The forming unit and sealing jaws are pre-configured by the Syntegon Technology team based on the desired pack size and the material characteristics before being installed on existing Syntegon Technology machines, such as the Sigpack or Pack Series flow wrappers.

Amplified Heat Sealing (AHS) technology was initially developed to allow for optimal sealing quality. At interpack, Syntegon Technology will unveil its new AHS that ensures accurate heat input to make it easier to process delicate mono-materials for products such as cookies and crackers.

HALL 6 STAND A30 - C30
W www.syntegon.com

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Latest generation of strapping units give flexible efficiency in operation

The StraPack SQ-800 is the latest generation of automatic strapping machine from StraPack and representatives from UK agent Gordian Strapping will be on the Japanese company's interpack stand to explain the benefits.

The SQ-800 features more efficient Brushless DC motors, adjustable table height, a cycle counter and foot bar operation, while its rounded table-top edges give it a more modern look. It offers the same speed and reliability as its predecessor, the RQ-8x, along with the intuitive operation and ease of maintenance, but at 138kg, the SQ-800 is approximately 14% lighter than its predecessor.



The SQ-800 features self-correcting technology to combat a short feed

Up to 54 straps per minute (even with full tension applied) can be delivered on the new machine and it can be ready to operate in under 25 seconds. The Brushless DC Motors mean there are fewer moving parts, less noise, less strap dust and are billed as 20% more efficient than AC Motors.

Also, the table height can be adjusted to a maximum of eight positions to make lives easier for operators.

HALL 12 STAND D29

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interpack Preview

PROCESSING & PACKAGING

Seven exhibits will show a range of fill, bag and wraps

Rovema will be presenting a fraction of its comprehensive product range at interpack with seven machines to be demonstrated that show flexibility, that handle recyclable materials and that offer a reliable investment.

The SBS 250 Single will show coffee beans being packed into an attractive stand-up bag with a degassing valve which will then be transported via the Picker EPU. The unit offers a significant increase in output rate compared to the previous model and paper packaging material with a high-barrier layer against grease and oxygen can be handled, as well as plastics.

The BVC 310 Liquid which was developed for packaging liquid and pasteurised products for the food service industry will, for the first time be presented with a 'fitment' to offer more choice in dispensers, while the BVC Flexible produces Doypack-like Stand-up bags with Zip (RoPack) all in one machine.



The SBS 250 Single will be packing coffee beans in a smart, stand-up bag

During interpack, the machine will process a high performance polyolefin film as well as a film made of polylactic acid, including a compostable Zip.

The high-speed machine BVC 145 Twin Tube in combination with a 36 head weigher that runs at 500 bags per minute will also be on the Rovema stand.

A patented development for product dosing and product infeed will be presented by

the company for the first time this year: A flexible option to dose various components into single or chain bags, allows an efficient way to handle new packaging formats, says the company. Almost all chunky products, either dosed with volumetric cup feeder, counting machines or scale, can be packed flexibly into a bag or a carton, while the new control system allows individual mixing for batch size one.

HALL 15 STAND B24
W www.rovema.com

Flexible cartoning solution joins range of complete lines

Mpac Langen will demonstrate its next generation Cartoner 4.0 at interpack which incorporates collaborative robot technology.

This compact unit is ideal for customers wanting to pick and pack a variety of products into a range of carton sizes in small batch runs. In operation, it will assess the product to be packed then select from a range of carton sizes before forming the carton and placing the item within the correct-sized carton.

Represented in the UK by Springvale Equipment, Mpac Langen will also exhibit its Vento-c continuous side load cartoner, equipped with top load placing unit, together with its newly launched ALISIO high speed side load casepacker.

HALL 6 STAND C43

W www.springvaleltd.co.uk



Collaborative robots are used

A weighing and labelling module will be demonstrated along with a dividing machine built for the cheese sector

Two machines will be demonstrated on the ixapack Global stand which form part of the range of weighing, cutting, wrapping and packing solutions available from the company.

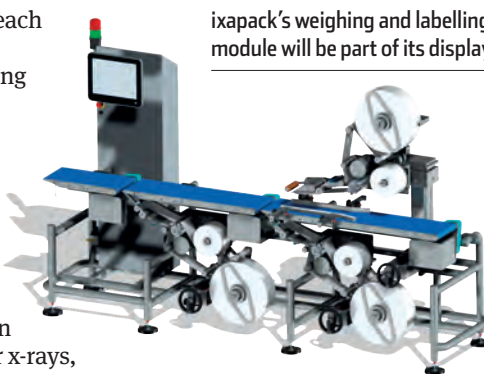
The SDM dividing machine is designed for the cheese sector and allows ultrasonic cutting of cheese wheels into angular portions.

Equipped with rounded trays to support the blades' blows without altering them, its feeding system allows a

speed that can reach up to 180 cuts a minute (depending on the product). Ideal to cut cheese at fixed, variable and calculated weights, this equipment offers a cheese modelling station with 3D vision or x-rays, to deliver ultra-precise cuts for users.

The weighing and labelling

ixapack's weighing and labelling module will be part of its display



module on the stand can label products by weight or per-kilo

price as well as including all the legal information required. With a fast and easy reel change system, the labels are applied using a suitable applicator. Several versions of this module are available, giving more flexibility and ease of use. This equipment can be added to a metal detector to control the presence of ferrous, non-ferrous and stainless steel elements for any types of product.

HALL 14 STAND D22

W www.ixapack.com



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PROCESSING & PACKAGING

Smart factory solutions in coding and marking will be demonstrated

At interpack, Domino Printing Sciences will demonstrate smart, connected factory solutions for producing customised, on-demand products, while ensuring that customer safety, compliance, and waste reduction remain top priorities.

The company will launch the next-generation, industry 4.0-ready thermal inkjet printer at the show, and visitors to its stand will have the opportunity to meet industry experts and explore topics such as: using automated coding solutions to reduce errors on product packaging; adopting late-stage label customisation to improve production efficiency; and partnering with Domino to meet packaging sustainability targets.

Domino says that utilising automated product coding solutions alongside code validation systems is the most effective way of ensuring that production lines are kept error-free. The company's coding automation software can be integrated with



Coding solutions alongside code validation equipment can be discussed at show

existing ERP and MES systems to handle product message changeover, and work in unison with external vision systems for message validation.

"Having the ability to transmit and share data between systems and software providers is essential for factories looking to maximise their efficiency," says Adem Kulauzovic, director of coding automation at Domino. "It's important to find a partner, like Domino, that has experience in integrating systems, and working

together with other companies and integrators easily and efficiently," he says.

Meanwhile, Domino's options for late-stage customisation on show offer increased control over product identification and coding, allowing manufacturers to easily adapt to smaller batch sizes, tighter lead times, and changing packaging concepts. "Our options for late-stage customisation allow manufacturers to meet more of their product identification and coding requirements within the factory walls,"

says Craig Stobie director of Domino's Global Sector Business.

Alongside smart solutions, sustainability will also be a theme of the stand. "It's important to remember that any change in packaging materials can have a significant impact on the reliability, durability, and legibility of codes," says Susan Palmer, head of Global Pre-Sales at Domino.

Domino's specialists in coding automation, late-stage customisation, and sustainability will be on hand throughout the week at interpack to discuss customer-specific requirements and deliver hands-on demonstrations from across its product range. Visitors can also expect to get a first look at some of Domino's new ink- and laser-based systems, for printing on paper, plastics, metal, and a whole range of new and improved recycled and recyclable substrates.

HALL 8B STAND C41

W www.domino-printing.com

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First time demo is for a GMP design

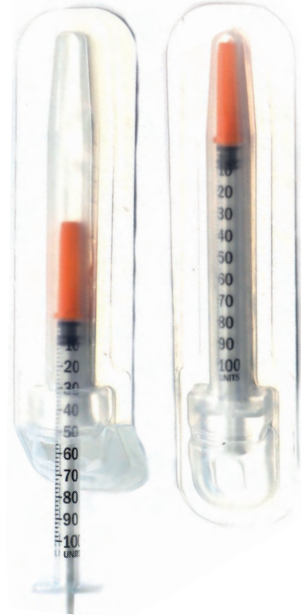
At this year's interpack, Multivac will be exhibiting packaging solutions for sensitive products on one of its two stands. The highlight will be the RX 4.0 thermoforming packaging machine in GMP design, which will be presented to visitors for the first time.

In conjunction with an integrated handling module and an Intelijet HD printer from BELL-MARK, it forms an efficient solution for producing and printing combi packs containing a syringe, filter and vial.

The packaging solution is completely enclosed in a housing. In addition to the machine's comprehensive sensor system, the new generation of intelligent dies also contributes to the high level of efficiency, process reliability, and operating security. Thanks to their highly developed actuating system, the RFID-coded X-tools enable the die to be changed quickly and reliably during product changes.

This latest RX 4.0 is equipped with an Intelijet HD printer from BELL-MARK for coding the packs, while an integrated H 242 handling module in the outfeed area removes the packs from the machine.

Multivac is also showing a carousel system with integrated H 242 handling module for loading syringes into combi packs. A high-performance vision system will be used on the carrier system to ensure that even at high throughput, all the packs are inspected for completeness, and it



Syringes form part of combi packs

also checks if the individual products are loaded correctly into the pack cavities.

Among the other exhibits is a compact solution for the wrap-around labelling of glass or plastic bottles. The L 320 conveyor belt labeller, combined with an MRT 100 rotating infeed table and an outfeed table, will be on show.

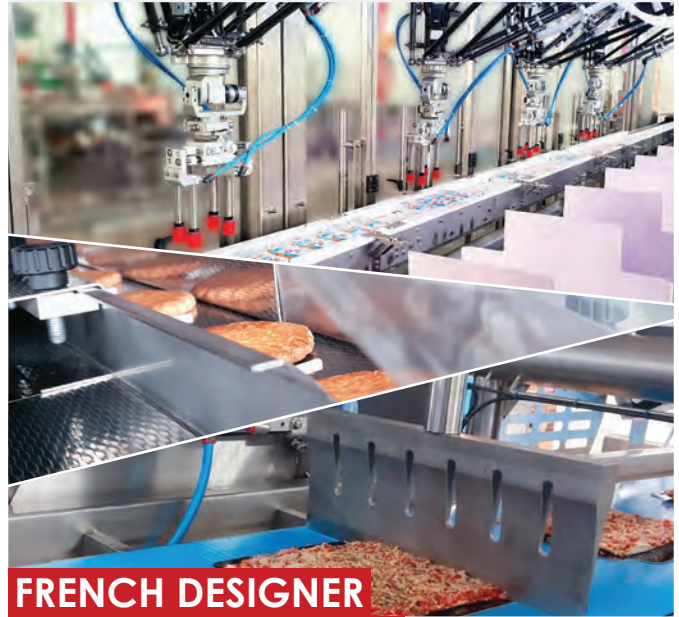
The L 320 was specially developed for rapid and precise labelling of round or oval bottles, pots, or glass jars. Since the labeller is constructed of standard modular elements, it can be designed to suit the requirements of any sector.

The model on show is also versatile when it comes to label positioning. Labels can be positioned on all sides, as well as over the pack edges or as wrap-around labels.

HALL 16 STAND B72
W www.multivac.co.uk



All-round labelling shown



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Ceia pharma detectors on show

Sensitive detection for many sectors

MDS, the UK distributor for Ceia metal detection systems, will be supporting the Italian company at interpack, where it will be exhibiting its full range of industrial metal detectors covering food, pharmaceutical, textiles and OEM applications.

The company will showcase its expertise in high accuracy metal detection technology including its THS 21 series with multi-spectrum technology (see page 25 of this issue for further details).

Meanwhile, the THS 21 range of conveyor inspection systems that satisfy the most stringent requirements for functionality, compact construction, accuracy and reliability of response in dealing with accidental contamination in food products, will also be on the stand. The range is available in many sizes to cover different application requirements.

Also on show will be the Ceia THS/PH21N pharmaceutical metal detection systems that feature high detection sensitivity towards contaminating metals, whether ferrous, non-ferrous or stainless steel, even when present in tiny quantities. The design and construction of the THS/PH21N systems comply with FDA Title 21 CFR 110 requirements.

Completing the display will be the THS/FFV21 integrated system.

HALL 11 STAND D59

www.mds.org.uk

Latest digital technologies to provide flexibility gain

Based on its modular machine concept, Schubert will be demonstrating new answers to the increasing digitalisation of machine and robot functions live on its stand at interpack. With high-level flexibility, the manufacturer is responding to the increasingly complex market requirements of greater product diversity and smaller batch sizes.

Additive manufacturing offers great opportunities here: with 3D printing, processes can be entirely rethought and optimised, says the company.

To meet demands for faster, more flexible and more sustainable packaging in an economically and ecological way, Schubert will demonstrate its new co-operative robots – the cobots.

As these cobots work without a safety cage, packaging processes for small batch sizes can be automated and significantly optimised and has seen Schubert develop a comprehensive system for its new cobot modules. It includes an intelligent and easy to configure control system, a vision system that allows it to perceive its environment, feed belts, format parts and much more with the help of artificial intelligence.

Each Schubert cobot requires no more than the space needed for a table with boxes and one or two people.

The cooperative robots are fast and relieve workers of monotonous tasks in the packaging process. For example, they can pick up jumbled products without prior separation and place



The T4 and T5 pick & place robots offer high performance in a small space

them onto a conveyor. Working with them is also very safe: when a worker approaches a Schubert cobot, the robot initially slows down and finally stops completely.

A prototype of the cobots can be seen live and in action on the exhibition stand.

Meanwhile, new pick & place robots for higher output density accommodate higher volumes, but in a small space.

Schubert's specialised T4 and T5 robots complement the

proven F4 robot, which is used in numerous picker lines from the company.

The design of the new pick & place robots is based on the well-known Delta robot.

Their compact rectangular working area makes them perfect for high performance in the smallest of spaces and in operation up to six of the

new four-axis T4 robots can work simultaneously in a single TLM frame.

At the same time, the T5 variant offers a completely different – and new – option for machine processes.

It has a fifth axis with which products can be pivoted and tilted. On the stand, a compact picker line will show how effective and flexible the new robot type can be. The machine processes both plastics trays and cardboard trays.

A total of four packaging machines with real customer applications from the confectionery industry can be seen in action at the show. Two of them, a Flowpacker and a Cartonpacker, are among the preconfigured systems in the lightline family, which offers a compact design and short delivery times. Schubert will also be demonstrating various fast format changes live on several machines.

HALL 14 STAND D01

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PROCESSING & PACKAGING

Pouch making equipment shown is handling sustainable materials

As a manufacturer of form, fill and seal (FFS) and premade pouch machinery, Mespack has developed technology to run environmentally sustainable materials, while maintaining high capacity production, efficiency and flexibility. At interpack, the company will present its latest machinery developments to ensure customers across a range of end-user sectors can produce creative, functional and sustainably packaged products.

Mespack is exhibiting eight machines on its stand that represent all categories of its portfolio.

To be seen for the first time is a new addition to the automatic spout filler or ASF Series of machinery. This new technology can be designed to

fill through any spout and so is highly adaptable and reliable. It allows a higher filling level in the pouch which in turn sees film savings of up to 15%. The biggest machine of Mespack's new ASF Series can fill up to four different products at the same time.

Also on the stand will be a horizontal FFS sachet machine – the H-170S – which will be shown running a paper based recyclable film to produce individual, twinned or strings of sachets.

Meanwhile, on the H180 FE machine that produces

doypacks, a 100% recyclable paper-based material will be used.

This material has a specially developed lacquer to reduce the gap between the sealing point required of the fully recyclable spouts being fitted and the melting

Mespack serves a varied range of product sectors



change features, this machine will be shown running two materials: non-recyclable and recyclable films.

Developed to increase ease of producing on-the-go products, Mespack will exhibit its stickpack machine MS600 – 4 lane to produce shaped sticks. This latest development enables Mespack's

customers to consider sticks with a lap seal and pyramid shaped sticks in strings as well as individual formats.

point of the film. Outputs of between 50 and 60 packs a minute can be achieved. The latest evolution in multilane sachet machines that are available from four up to 14 lanes will also be on the stand. The ML1200 – 5 lane, 4 side seal sachet machine will be shown featuring full servo technology: new motion technology with integrated PLC functions which sequences seven brushless motors. With quick reel

customers to consider sticks with a lap seal and pyramid shaped sticks in strings as well as individual formats.

Meanwhile, vertical form-fill-seal technologies are seeing positive tests to run compostable film materials as well as recyclable and biodegradable alternatives, says Mespack's UK and Ireland agent Springvale Equipment.

HALL 6 STAND B73

W www.springvaleltd.co.uk



The ASF Series will be demonstrated

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High viscosity products across product sectors are transferred

Kecol Pumping Systems, designer and manufacturer of piston pumps and pumping systems for the transfer of high viscosity products from 200 litre drums, IBC's, process vessels, planetary mixing vessels and similar containers will be exhibiting a range of products for visitors to interpack. "As an ISO9001 certified company, our aim is to consistently provide the very highest standard of products, service, advice and support to every customer, every time," explains managing director Bryan Greenaway.

HYGIENE IS MAINTAINED

Greenaway says the company can transfer virtually any type of viscous product, from shear sensitive creams and gels, concentrated fruit pastes through to high viscosity pastes as used in today's hygienic industries around the world.

All hygienic piston pump ranges are manufactured from 316L stainless steel, are available in clamp construction and have been designed for fast dis-assembly and re-assembly.

Kecol also provides many pump solutions which deliver health & safety benefits to the user and improvements in hygienic handling of the products with lower risk of contamination. These include portable pumps mounted on trolleys or lifts, articulated arm lifting and priming systems, which enable up to four drums to be emptied directly from a pallet, without having to remove the drums from the pallet. Static or mobile systems with safety guards and integrated safety controls are also offered.

HALL 4 STAND E02

W www.kecol.co.uk



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PROCESSING & PACKAGING

Multiple check & detect solutions on show in Germany

Seasoned interpack exhibitors Loma Systems will be showcasing a range of its 'Check & Detect' solutions at this year's event.

The recently launched IQ4 Run-Wet metal detector conveyor will be on display – a new system that offers cleaning efficiency for high-care environments (see more details on page 14 of this issue).

CLEANING REGIMES

The IP69K rated system has been designed using some of the key EHEDG principles, offering the best cleaning standards to withstand high-pressure and high-temperature cleaning regimes, whilst maximising production efficiencies.

For x-ray products, the X5C Combination System will be on the stand: aimed at detecting a variety of contaminants in packaged food, the system incorporates a weighing system to provide a reduction on product giveaway. An X5 Space Saver will also be on display along with the IQ4 Lock-PH metal detector range.

HALL 11 STAND F02
W www.loma.com

Equipment delivers circular economy principles to users

At interpack, Sidel will showcase its newest agile solutions and market-tailored innovations which will include the Cermex EvoPack case packing platform, as well as the M version of its cobotic palletiser. Visitors to the stand will also see sustainable and cost-effective end-to-end packaging options, designed to meet circular economy needs for the beverage, food, home and also personal care industries.

Packaging solutions for primary, secondary and tertiary packaging that successfully enable producers to meet the latest market trends will be exhibited. Sidel's packaging design capabilities encompass expertise on PET and conversion to PET as well as end-to-end packaging that optimises environmental impact and industrial production for end-users.

Visitors at interpack will be given the very first, exclusive look of the Cermex EvoPack modular case



Sidel will be revealing systems on its stand that meet environmental needs

packing platform that on the stand, will be demonstrating personal care shaped containers in wrap-around blanks. Adapted for trays and shelf-ready packaging, the solution has been designed to answer retailer's needs of smaller case counts, reducing, or avoiding repacking activities for the producers, and thus reducing waste.

Moreover, EvoPack offers a mono-material secondary packaging solution, which facilitates recycling while avoiding the previously traditional solution with film plus corrugated cardboard.

Sidel will also introduce

the new M version of its CoboAccess_Pal palletiser which allows a case payload of up to 14 kg and a reach of 1,700 mm – two important factors for palletising applications. The solution embeds the new Yaskawa HC20 cobot which is integrated for palletising tasks in Europe for the first time.

Connectivity and digital services for improved monitoring and support, alongside extended operator and maintenance assistance to reduce downtime, will be highlighted at the show.

HALL 13 STAND B47
W www.sidel.com



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PROCESSING & PACKAGING



Methodical working style offered

Delivering sustainable new options

Schubert-Consulting, the specialist packaging technology solutions provider, will be on the Gerhard Schubert stand at interpack.

The consulting specialist says it can optimise the entire process chain for both new and existing production lines, thereby creating significant added value for its clients. Real examples will be used at the exhibition to demonstrate the transfer from plastic to more sustainable packaging materials.

As a supplier-independent engineering partner, Schubert-Consulting advises its customers along the entire packaging process, combining decades of experience. The focus is not only on planning new packaging lines, but also on the realignment and optimisation of existing lines. This also includes the conversion to alternative and sustainable packaging materials – from packaging development, concept definition and all related processes, to the selection of the most suitable supplier.

Schubert-Consulting's integrated planning approach is based on a methodical working style to give customers planning, automation and implementation security for their internal project approval and investment. The consulting services range from designing future production and individualisation of final packaging, through process and material flow planning, to simulation or optimisation tasks. In this way, Schubert-Consulting enables manufacturers to address any new market requirements in a cost-effective way.

HALL 14 STAND D01

www.schubert-uk.co.uk

Upgrades to huge range of technologies are on show

A huge choice of weighing, packing and quality control solutions to handle the widest variety of product types and pack formats – including many challenging and difficult-to-handle items – will be demonstrated on the Ishida Europe stand at this year's interpack, where the company will also unveil latest additions and upgrades to its advanced tray sealer, x-ray inspection, checkweigher and multihead weigher ranges.

A key message throughout the stand will be how Ishida's integrated packing line solutions can help improve efficiencies while minimising waste as well as coping with alternative packaging materials.

The weighing area models on show include solutions

for the fast and accurate weighing of fresh protein, salads, sticky, breakable items and granular products such as sugar and powders, as well as a machine for weighing small target weights at ultra-high speeds and a 32 head model capable of handling up to eight different products simultaneously.

Another exhibit is the company's 'sugar extraction' multihead weigher that has been designed to prevent sugar compromising pack seals at extremely fast speeds and with Ishida weight accuracy.

Within the Quality Control/Inspection area, the company will show a completely new range of x-ray machine options for detecting low



Ishida Europe will demonstrate a range of technologies at interpack

to high density foreign bodies in both packaged and unpackaged bulk flow formats. The hygienically designed machines and options will display several new features including easy to clean surfaces and easy to remove reject bins.

In particular, the premium, high sensitivity IX-GN-4044/4043 models in both packaged and bulk format along with the low TCO (total cost of ownership) IX-EN-4093 with drop belt reject will be on show. Also on display will be its IX-GN-5523 model for large size products and pack sizes.

A new range of checkweighers based on the latest advanced electronic architecture that offers improved speeds and accuracies and enhanced touch screen interfaces across the board will also debut. New checkweigher models include the mid-range DACS-GN-So80, which is



Sustainability is a theme of many exhibits

MID compliant and offers exceptional speeds and accuracies at an affordable price in the monitoring of packs up to 8kg in weight. A new top-of-the-range force balance checkweigher that delivers pinpoint accuracy and incorporates Ishida's RRC (Retail Reject Confirmation) software and hardware will also be on the stand.

The new Ishida QX-900 is a high-performance tray sealer with a larger tool for enhanced performance, in particular in its ability to handle MAP cardboard trays with the most efficient use of air and gases. The machine is capable of up to 15 MAP cycles per minute and combines excellent seal quality and pack presentation with fast changeovers.

Other protein solutions will also be on the stand, along with three snacks packing lines demonstrating fully integrated solutions for the feeding, weighing, packing, inspection and case packing of pillow packs, including paper format packs.

Software solutions that provide remote monitoring and analysis will also be on the stand.

HALL 14 STAND A40

www.ishidaeurope.com

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Feature: Drinks

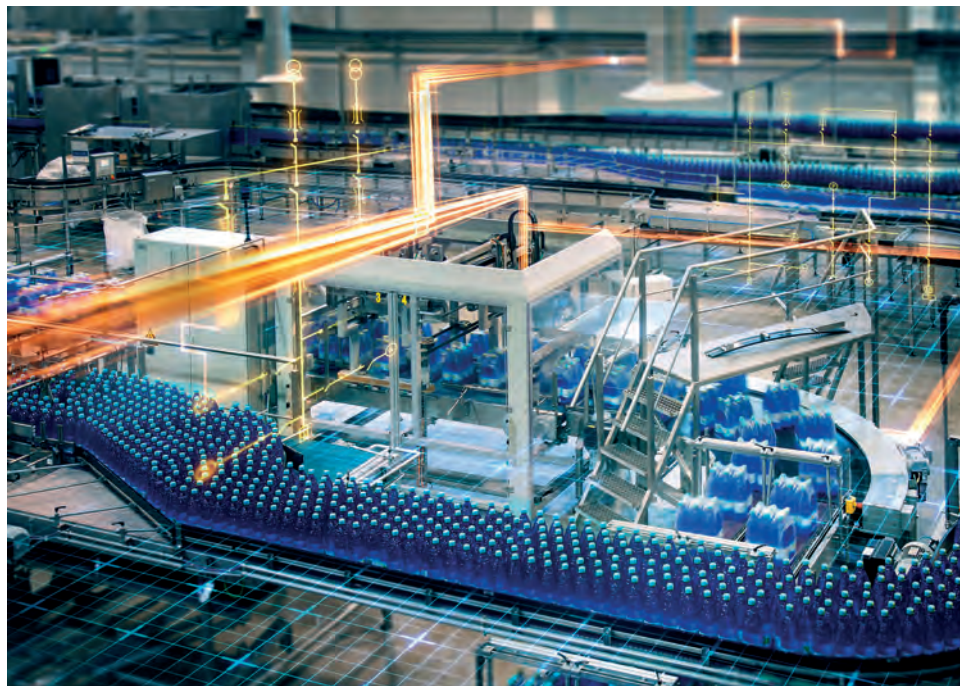
A £954m potential gain for the drinks sector is revealed

Siemens Financial Services (SFS) has released a new research paper that investigates the value of digitalisation for drinks manufacturers. New-generation digitalised technology (known as Industry 4.0) is enabling manufacturers to improve performance through increased productivity, improved planning and forecasting, enhanced competitive capabilities and greater financial sustainability.

For instance, digitalisation is enabling mass customisation in the shape of packaging personalisation. Labels can combine facial recognition and augmented reality to offer a personalised dialogue-like experience for customers. Further up the supply chain, sensor technology and machine learning are being used by the brewing industry to predict when beer moves from fermentation to the free rise phase – effectively ‘teaching’ technology to predict when it is ready for the next stage of production. Similarly, artificial intelligence (AI) has been employed to identify food hazards in milk or detect machinery faults before they occur. All these applications help to minimise downtime, prevent spoil batches and increase the operational efficiency of the production line.

Increased manufacturing productivity – the ability to either produce the same number of products for less, or more products for the same – has a clear and calculable positive effect on costs and margins. The new paper has named this positive effect as the Digitalisation Productivity Bonus and offers estimates of the potential financial gain for the Drinks Manufacturing industry.

Capturing testimony from international industrial companies, expert management consultancies and academic specialists, the paper has built a model that estimates



Digital value is calculated

New research has estimated the potential annual gains from digital transformation in the drinks sector by 2025

the Digitalisation Productivity Bonus for different industries.

The Global Digitalisation Productivity Bonus is estimated to be between 6.3 percent and 9.8 percent of total revenue.

This ‘bonus’ can only be realised when a manufacturer has upgraded production technology to new generation digitalised systems and equipment. Specialist financing techniques have been developed to fit the technological platforms and new mindset of Industry 4.0, allowing drinks manufacturers to achieve digital transformation in a sustainable fashion. These techniques allow companies to harness the future benefit of digitalised equipment

in order to fund the acquisition of that enabling technology.

The paper examines these specialist financing methods, including pay-to-access/use, technology upgrade finance, pay for outcomes, transition finance, working capital solutions, and more. They cover a range of requirements from the acquisition of a single digitalised piece of equipment, right through to financing a whole new factory.

“Smart financing arrangements tend to be offered by specialist providers that have a deep understanding not only of how the digitalised technology works, but also of how that technology can be practically implemented,” says Neli Ivanona, sales manager, Industrial Equipment at Siemens Financial Services in the UK. “They are critical in enabling organisations to access cutting-edge technology and start benefiting from the Digitalisation Productivity Bonus.”

www.siemens.com/finance

The next nine pages cover new processing and packaging developments for all drinks

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Flexibility is a key ingredient for coffee pods

Technical knowhow from **Cama** has driven an effective packaging collaboration with independent coffee roaster/packer Masteroast

Following a recent investment in the process and filling side for coffee capsules, the pressure was building to reduce costs and increase throughput on the packaging line at Masteroast, one of the UK's largest independent coffee roaster/packers. The company had to meet its customer needs for different packaging styles to create differentiation in the market. Standard 1 x 10 tube formats for Nespresso-compatible capsules are well recognised, but for a point of difference for these higher-end products, a unique format with more drama and customer engagement was required.

To take this next step, Masteroast researched the market for a suitable secondary packaging machinery supplier, and subsequently employed Cama, tasking the machine builder to develop a solution for its coffee packaging requirements.

"We've always held a unique position in the market, being known for our ability to offer flexibility, short-run capabilities and high levels of quality," explains Andy Fawkes, managing director at Masteroast. "When we moved into the capsule market, we knew we had to exploit automation for capacity and cost reasons – but we did not want to give up the flexibility for which we are famous.

"Cama offered us significant coffee packaging experience, and we knew it was already well established in this market

and its capabilities to deal with short runs and different packaging formats ticked all of our requirements," he says.

"Working in collaboration with our dedicated packaging design department, Masteroast developed a new box design that comprises a top opening tray with an insert that allows the capsules to be presented similar to a gift box," explains Mark Brooker, director of Cama UK.

And Fawkes was delighted with the result. "We knew the format we wanted, but at the time it did not exist," he tells *Machinery Update*. "The packaging design team at Cama helped us with technical advice, even relating to the best types of cardboard, how it was folded and how it was manufactured."

WORKED WITH SUPPLY CHAIN

The Cama team also talked to Masteroast's supply chain, to help bring it all together.

From a technology perspective, Masteroast needed a machine-based solution that could package both tubes and trays, using a continuous stream of individual products fed from a

downstream capsule filling and sealing machine. The machine also had to offer easy changeover, to rapidly adapt it to the different style production runs, while making significant contributions to the OEE for the company.

Cama's solution was one of its Break Through Generation (BTG) machines that incorporates precision feeding of the aluminium capsules, robotic manipulation of capsules into a single row for tubes or a double row for trays, before presenting them to a Cama CL intermittent-motion side load cartoner.

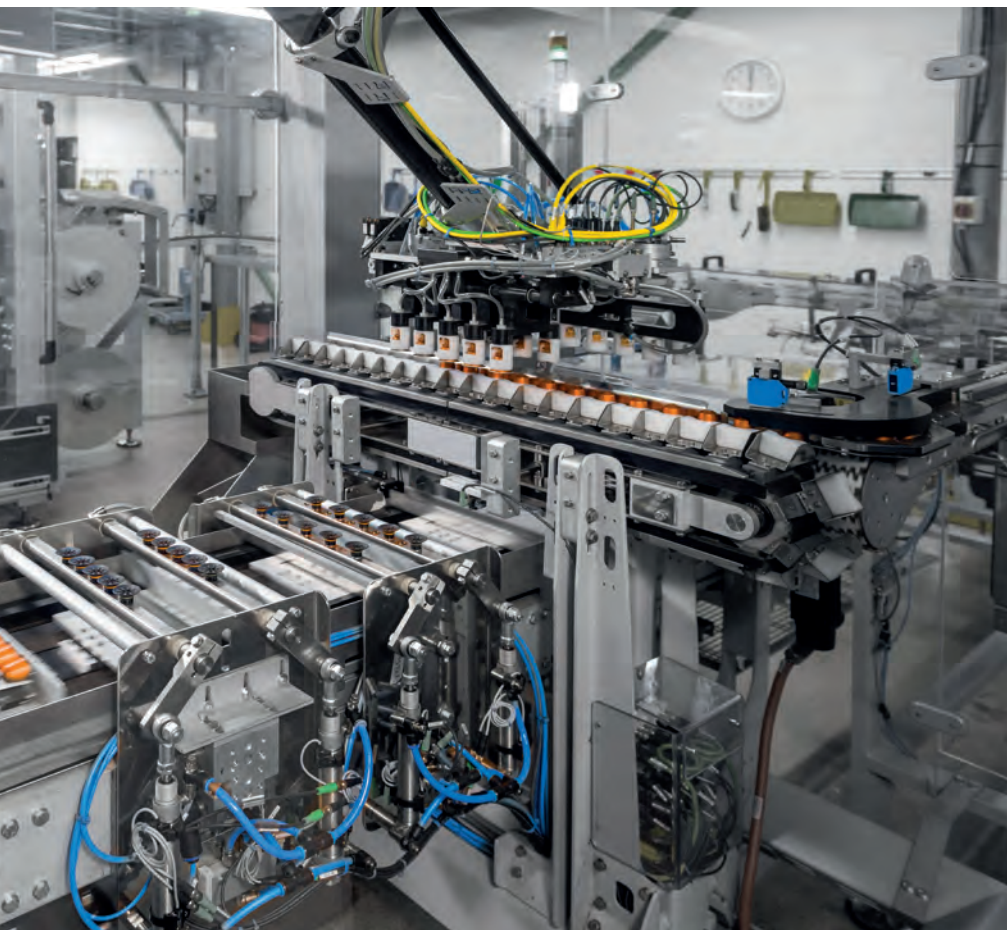
"The key to the flexibility of the line is Cama's MN ('Y' shaped) robot at the infeed," says Brooker. "With the special design of the robot's picking head, we have been able to minimise the changeover time between the different packaging formats; both of which can run at 120 capsules per minute."

And the line has brought many benefits to the coffee company.

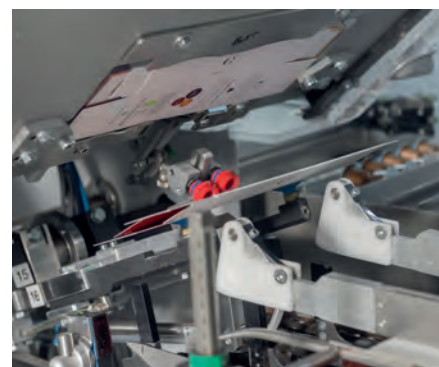
"With anything new," says Fawkes, "there's always the fear that you don't get what you ask for, but out of all of the various

Cama's engineers came onto our site and worked with our guys to make sure the machine installation went without a single hitch for us





A packaging point of difference was demanded



Special grippers have been designed by Cama

Masteroast was the first to introduce aluminium capsules into the UK outside of the major players, but md Andy Fawkes says within 4-5 weeks of commissioning, all was well on site

companies we approached, Cama actually got behind our needs – flexibility and reliability – which was so essential to us.

“Other companies wanted to talk technology, engineering and price, but in actual fact, our principal need was for someone to understand the flexibility we needed in production,” he says. “Cama were the ones that listened properly and came back with a solution,

not just a quote.”

Within four to five weeks of the line being commissioned the company was very comfortable with the machine.

As a result of the investment, Masteroast is now able to pack more than three times as many products per day compared to its previous manual process. The quality and consistency of the packaging has also improved. “We have also seen a

reduction in packaging material usage,” Fawkes concludes, “which not only saves on costs, but also makes the process more sustainable.

“We would certainly come back to Cama; indeed, we are already looking with them at other processes that currently involves manual packing,” he says.

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Feature: Drinks

Bespoke unit makes lifting reels easier

A company in the beverage processing sector had a requirement to lift, transport and rotate unusually wide reels of film with a core diameter of 75 mm (3 in) and approached Packline Materials Handling to help. A mechanism was required to transfer the wide reels onto and off the lifting equipment.

Packline's standard vertical spindle attachment was extended to handle the wider reels of film to deliver ease of use in operation. This lifting attachment needed to easily and safely transport these wider reels of film that can be difficult to transfer from pallet to lifter to processing line.

A transfer roller that was mounted on the top front edge of the attachment allowed the smooth transfer of the reels onto and from the attachment. The reels were securely gripped by the core without damage. This is because the gripping mechanism is fitted with a torque limiter so that the clamping fingers do not over or under tighten in the core.

This also enables the operator to lift reels with complete confidence and safety.

The vertical spindle has a gearbox with manual handwheel for the rotation of the reels to and from the vertical to horizontal orientations. A further handwheel provides the reel gripping and release action.

"This attachment has been designed to provide greater load capacity, strength, durability as well as improved wear resistance and enhanced ease of use which provides a simple and safe action," says Teresa Winter, director at Packline. "It is entirely suitable for the food industry and other hygienic applications."



T 01202 307700

W www.packline.co.uk

Spindle is extended



Flow and speed management at every step of the packing process protects glass bottles/labels

Case packer is pick and place

The growing range of SKUs in the wine and spirits market needs agile handling of glass

To pack glass bottles in American cases, Sidel has introduced an agile, auto-adjustable pick & place case packer – Cermex FlexiPack – which improves flexibility and overall ease of operations, while providing total protection of the primary packaging. It does that by enabling 10-minute changeovers and by offering enhanced bottle flow management on a line.

"Today, both the wine and spirits markets are presenting a very fragmented product offering," says Olivier Goffin, vice president global accounts beer, wine and spirits at Sidel. "While this necessarily leads to shorter production runs, it cannot come at the expense of brand equity and product integrity, as both aspects are key components for the attractiveness and differentiation of drinks products.

"All in all, bottling operators ask for a great level of agility with highly

automated changeovers and an easy operability at all steps to successfully manage their packaging operations today and in the future," says Olivier.

The Cermex FlexiPack case packing solution for glass bottles, which combines robotic technology and market expertise, can handle between 10,000 and 18,000 bottles per hour. It has been designed with a high dose of flexibility and operability in mind for each of its sub-modules; namely, a bottle channel infeed, a numerical-axis gantry manipulator and its RSC (Regular Slotted Container) case conveying (including the case infeed, loading and outfeed). In addition, it can be complemented by an upstream DiviArm, which is a positive bottle distribution system.

The case packer also saves energy by employing lighter materials for the gripping head.

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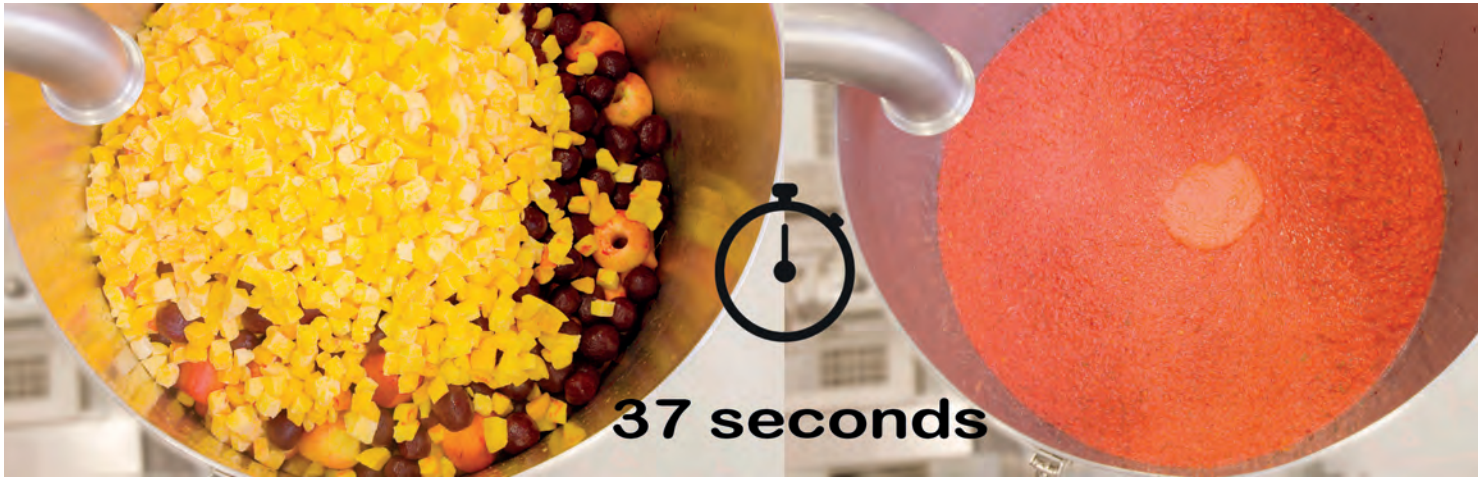


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Feature: Drinks



A 'How to' video on the manufacture of smoothies that is available on the Silverson website demonstrates how the blending plant works on ingredients

It's all well and good using amazing packaging formats for your new or even existing drink, but if the bottle, carton, can or pouch contents don't deliver, there won't be any repeat purchases.

One sector that in the past has struggled to scale up kitchen/lab developments to production is fruit and vegetable juices and smoothies, according to Silverson.

A major problem smoothie producers can face when manufacturing smoothies is that there is no production scale equivalent of the smaller blending equipment commonly used for this application. Although many manufacturers use purées in their formulations, for those using whole fruit, several different pieces of processing equipment may be required for chopping and puréeing the ingredients before



Marston's has gained from install

Processing for success

Forget the **fancy packaging** formats used for drinks, look at the processing equipment delivering quality

they can be blended. It can therefore be quite difficult to find the correct equipment to transform an idea created in the lab to production on a large scale.

As well as offering a range of high speed, high shear batch mixers, to enable manufacturers to produce smoothies on a larger scale, Silverson has developed a specially designed Blending Plant which can handle the whole smoothie making process. The high speed, high shear action of the plant can rapidly disintegrate the smoothie ingredients, including large and frozen fruit and vegetables, down to their desired consistency in a single operation. It can also be used to incorporate additional powdered ingredients.

The plant consists of an adapted Bottom Entry mixer working in conjunction with

a proven high shear In-Line mixer. The Bottom Entry mixer provides the initial disintegration of the solids while the In-Line mixer then further refines the product. Interchangeable workheads from coarse disintegrating heads to ultra-fine screens are available, allowing the user to obtain their desired consistency.

ALE ROOM TANK LEVELS

And process improvements continue at Marston's Burton on Trent brewery where it has been brewing beer since 1898. Marston's recently undertook a review of the fine ale room tank level indication system to address various issues such as some tanks not having visual level indication in the form of a sight glass and even where there were sight glasses, they were not the most accurate or visible.

Also, there was no remote visibility for tank levels.

The proposed solution from ifm electronic to overcome these issues was outlined as follows: install instrumentation to enable accurate tank levels; enable remote visibility by using PLCs and Scada; enable accurate local visibility by using a digital display and remove existing sight glasses. It was also deemed necessary to interlock beer transfers using the level indication and use a level switch to prevent issues with gassing.

The sensors and associated equipment required included two PI2796 pressure transducers and one LMT100 level switch per tank, connected to an AL1121 Ethernet field module in each case to communicate the control values to the PLC, and using an E30391 for local display. ▶

When it came to installation, Marston's decided to install the transducer in the pipe that supplies the top pressure on each tank which not only provided the same reading, but it has brought all the instrumentation down to a working level. The installation on six bright beer storage tanks came in under budget and the time taken was four instead of six days.

VENTILATION NEEDS

AG Barr is the company behind the legendary IRN-BRU name and when it was extending its processing facility and adding a new material store, Colt International was contacted by consulting engineers Blyth & Blyth to consider the ventilation requirements needed for the space and for personnel comfort. Following the standard industry procedure whereby the project went through the design team, from architect to consultant to contractor, Colt worked with the consultants on 'Project Ginger' to develop the ventilation strategy.

The client was familiar with the adiabatic cooling process, as this had been used to an extent in the existing facility and it was from this point that Colt worked closely with Blyth & Blyth to capture

the pain points and design a more sophisticated system that moved beyond exhaust and inlet, incorporating the adiabatic cooling technique

otherwise known as 'evaporative cooling'.

The system utilised several Colt products such as the CoolStream and Tornado

in order to deliver on these requirements.

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www.ifm.com/uk

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Delivering the quality with sustainability



Soft drinks and alcoholic drinks are demanding more sustainable **production methods** to match their materials choices, but quality being delivered in a robust way is still key across both markets

In recent times, makers of soft drinks spend as much time talking about their sustainability credentials as they do about their products with the pressures on single use plastics and deposit return schemes let alone the energy and water stewardship in their plants. And a recent report highlighting new trends in PET collection and sorting predicts that recycled PET, or rPET could represent as much as 55% of total PET demand by 2030.

For alcoholic drinks too, circular economy principles and the focus on renewable energies and an efficient use of water was at the forefront of thinking at Heineken México when the group

planned its largest site worldwide at Meoqui (it has a capacity of five million hectolitres a year of various beer brands).

Four of the six lines were supplied and commissioned by KHS which include bottle washers through to fillers, labellers, pasteurisers and packing machines before the palletisers, all of which have been designed to meet the corporate commitment to 'brew a better world'.

Product quality for soft drinks and waters is what the Robo-QCS from FT System is designed to deliver to brands. It is an automated test cell that regularly takes samples from the production line and conducts a complete range of tests that are required either by regulation, or to satisfy internal processes and procedures.

Importantly, it replaces the need for an operator to take samples away from the line for testing. Instead, tests are performed 'live' on the drinks production line, relating every test conducted both to a specific date and time of production, and to a specific part of the filling and capping process.

The live data allows users of the system to react immediately to any emerging production line issues.

"This means that there is no human error, the equipment can be rectified instantly if required, and data is captured that allows the producer to see trends over time, and conduct predictive preventative maintenance in a much more focussed way," explains Dave Mayes, sales manager at FT System UK & Ireland.

All good samples are returned to the line automatically, saving production time and costs.

History and tradition combine at French wine producer Henri Ehrhart and so when the winery modernised its bottling and packaging line, it was important that the wraparound case packer from SMI delivered bottle quality. Therefore, the WP 300 Ergon machine is equipped with the optional PID device to insert stretch board pre-assembled partitions into cardboard boxes to protect the glass bottles from damage and to protect the labels from any abrasion.

SMI says the advantages of the pre-mounted separators compared to separate versions include a 20% cost saving and reduced volume in storage by at least 60%.



Codetronix helped Northern Monk with quality



SMI has ensured that these wine bottles are kept damage-free



FT System has supplied its Robo-QCS inspection system to several major soft drinks companies



The line handles 70cl and 'dram' bottle sizes

Meanwhile, a growing market for beer has led Bali Hai Brewery Indonesia to install a new canning line to accommodate a higher production capacity while securing the quality of its premium beers. Designed and supplied by Sidel, the line runs at up to 33,000 cans per hour for the 330 ml format, twice as fast as the former line but with a compact layout to overcome the space constraints.

The line includes 13 different machines laid out in six larger production modules. The brewer's goal of protecting beer quality is mainly achieved through the integration of two specific solutions in the line: the latest Sidel volumetric electronic filler for cans and the proven PAMA pasteuriser.

When it comes to glass bottle recycling, non-contact scanners from Micro-Epsilon are being used to quickly and reliably recognise if all the beer bottles are present and the correct type is in returned crates. Different bottle types are

a challenge for bottlers and breweries, so an efficient inspection method is vital.

A new inline inspection system is equipped with five scanControl 2900-50 laser scanners which measure from above the line onto the crates as they are moved along a conveyor belt. Compared with solutions based on conventional image processing systems, these laser scanners not only monitor the presence of a bottle, but also the height of the bottle (to determine the correct type, in this case).

NEW INK IS USED ON WET CANS

When Northern Monk brewery had a problem with batch coding its cans on filling lines, it approached Codetronix for an answer. The company's Citronix ci5300 continuous ink jet printer was situated after the cans were filled with beer which resulted in some condensation and issues with codes smudging.

One answer was to move the print head to a position on the filling line where the cans were dry, but this didn't resolve

the problem for all the brewer's product lines as one of the beers enters the filling lines pre-labelled.

Codetronix responded quickly with a site visit and the final solution was developed by adjusting the make-up of the ink to allow it to be used on wet cans.

A quick response was also evident when Chivas Brothers approached Yorkshire Packaging Systems with a second order for shrink wrapping equipment to help protect the decorative cardboard sleeves containing its whisky bottles.

The new machine was complete with a roller conveyor belt which avoids marks being made on the underside of the packs and an inverter-controlled air flow on three sides for optimal shrinkage.

The order was placed on a Friday afternoon and the machine delivered and in place by the following Monday morning.

Finally, UPM Conveyors has supplied a system based on two solutions to help automate the bottling line of 'dram' miniatures and 70 cl spirit bottles for the Atom Group. In both, bottles are collected from each filling line located within a high care area and transferred to the hand-waxing and labelling section. This is based on a carousel conveyor principle with diverters to cater for any product not requiring hand-waxing, to be transferred directly to the packaging area.

www.codetronix.co.uk

www.ftsystem.com

www.khs.com

www.micro-epsilon.co.uk

www.sidel.com

www.smigroup.net

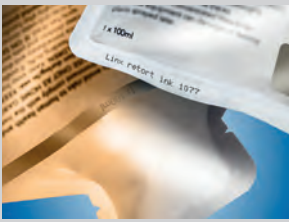
www.upmconveyors.co.uk

www.yps.co.uk



This Sidel canning line handles 18 SKUs which demands flexibility in the handling of packaging

Labelling, Coding and Marking



The new ink can resist moisture

New ink is perfect for retort usage

Linx Printing Technologies has introduced an ink specially formulated to resist moisture, colour change and transference. It is ideal for consistent coding through can and pouch retort applications where the contents are cooked in the packaging after they are coded.

The new Linx Black retort ink 1077 has been specifically developed for the company's Linx 8900 and 8800 Series of continuous ink jet coders and is a dye based MEK ink.

Its special formulation enables the printers to code through a thin layer of oily film or grease. In addition, it contains components that enhance its adhesion under moist and high-temperature conditions, delivering good adhesion and good transfer resistance, as well as excellent durability and legibility on a range of materials after processing.

Typical applications for ink 1077 include a variety of food packs such as ready meals, vegetables, beans, fruit, soup, rice, meat and fish products and pet foods. This includes any products that are coded before a cooking process.

The ink can be used on metal cans, formed aluminium and plastics packaging such as pouches.

T 01480 302661

W www.linxglobal.com



Adhesion under moist conditions

Laser marking systems boast the world's smallest marking head

Videojet Technologies is launching the new Videojet 7340 and 7440 fibre laser marking systems.

The 7340 (20-Watt) and 7440 (30-Watt) fibre lasers have been developed to improve ease-of-use and feature new

limitations, are looking for simple integrations, or do frequent rapid changeovers.

The Lightfoot fibre laser marking head is small in both size and weight and designed specifically to meet the strict IP69k requirements, so it is

suitable for use in washdown and harsh environments, without the need for any additional protective equipment. It weighs less than 1kg and measures just 41.3 mm in diameter,



The fibre laser marking system from Videojet offers benefits

technologies to ensure ease of integration. The compact design addresses the needs of manufacturers working in small spaces and are an ideal solution for contract packers and OEMs in the consumer packaged goods sector, parts-marking and pharmaceutical industries, who have space

so is designed to fit anywhere on a production line. This means optimal focus and power density can be achieved without having to trade off on code quality when trying to make the laser marker fit into tight spaces.

T 0800 500 3023

W www.videojet.co.uk



Both printers are easy to operate

Latest generation of thermal transfer printers for industry

The new generation of thermal transfer printers from Phoenix Contact produce high-quality industrial identification markings quickly and reliably.

These printer systems have an integrated colour touch display that guides users through the menu intuitively and conveniently using clear symbols. The Thermomark Card 2.0 prints marking materials in card and sheet format. The Thermomark Roll 2.0 is a versatile, efficient roll printer for a wide range of marking materials in roll and endless format.

The benefit of thermal transfer printing technology is maintenance-free operation, says the company. Automatic material detection ensures optimal printer settings and prevents printing errors. The Thermomark Card 2.0 prints markers in card format in just 8 seconds.

T 0845 881 2222

W www.phoenixcontact.co.uk

Laser system delivers optimum definition for static marking ageing oak wine barrels

Macsa ID UK's compact K-1030 HPD laser system has been used for the static marking of oak wine barrels. The powerful, high performance 30 watt CO₂ model was chosen for its ability to achieve optimum definition on the high density wood.

The laser system is ideal for marking wood such as oak as it delivers excellent contrast engraving as well as a high quality focal point, says the company. Typically, the legibility of the mark

depends on the quality and complexity of the logo itself. The more defined the greyscale is, the better the definition achieved on the wood.

Macsa's K-1030 HPD laser system ensures a high definition mark along with good readability while obtaining uniform strokes of varying thicknesses. With the life of a wine barrel being approximately 10 years, laser is the best technology to achieve permanent, durable

marking for traceability throughout the product's shelf life and the wine preserved in it.

Due to its very high power density, the Macsa K-1030 HPD laser is ideal for cutting and drilling multilayer flexible film, foil and other materials. In addition, it marks high resolution images on non-metallic materials and offers excellent results when coding on difficult materials.

T 01462 816091

W www.macsa.com

Companies join forces to deliver better traceability, compliance and protection

Markem-Imaje and Systech International have joined forces to reinforce services in product traceability, regulatory compliance and brand protection.

Systech will become part of Dover's Markem-Imaje business unit and will offer brand protection, traceability and automation solutions under the Systech brand to customers worldwide.

Demand for brand protection and supply chain visibility solutions is growing rapidly as issues such as product counterfeiting and diversion cost brand owners billions of dollars each year. Additionally, end user consumers increasingly demand assurances of safety, security and authenticity from brands they trust. The acquisition of Systech will enable Markem-Imaje to cater to these market demands by enhancing the company's portfolio of product identification and traceability solutions with complementary digital brand protection offerings.

INTEGRATED SOFTWARE

Systech's and Markem-Imaje's customers will benefit from the combination as the focused and scaled-up integrated software and service organisation will provide brand protection and compliance solutions to its global customers and lead the digital transformation of the brand protection market.

"Systech brings a successful history of protecting pharmaceutical brands and products globally over the past 35 years," says Vincent Vanderpoel, president and CEO of Markem-Imaje. "We are excited to combine Systech's solutions with Markem-Imaje's products.



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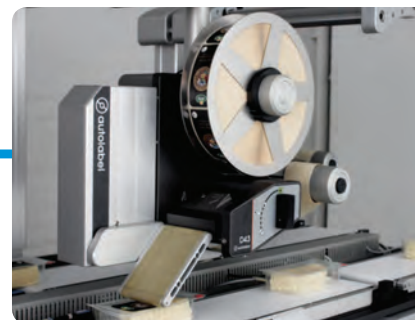
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Components

Fully integrated machine-centric robotics offer is a company first

B&R, a unit of ABB's Robotics and Discrete Automation business, has announced the integration of ABB robots into its automation portfolio. With the ability to offer new levels of machine flexibility and precision, merging robotics with machine control into one unified architecture will enable manufacturers to embrace the trend of mass customisation and optimise their lot size one processes.

Fully integrating ABB's robots into its automation systems means that B&R will now be able to supply machine builders with



Machine builders benefit from tie-in



The synchronisation between sensors and robot motion will become easier

machine automation and robotics from a single source. Machine builders will be able to buy their robots from B&R along with all their control, I/O and drive components.

"The integration of ABB's robot fleet into the B&R portfolio makes us a true one-stop-shop," says Sami Atiya, president of ABB's Robotics and Discrete Automation business.

"We are the only company to offer industrial automation

customers the entire range of integrated hardware and software solutions around control, actuation, robotics, sensing and analytics and electrification.

"Our strength lies in our ability to combine ABB and B&R products into one solution, supported by our deep application expertise," he continues. "This will help manufacturers increase their flexibility, at all levels including machines, to

support shorter product cycles and to make much smaller lots of greater variety," he says.

Machine builders will be able to choose from a wide range of ABB robots, including articulated arm, SCARA, delta and palletiser robots in various sizes and with various payloads. Integrating robotics and automation also means only one controller and one engineering system will be needed for development, diagnostics and maintenance, so there will no longer be a need for an extra control cabinet just for the robot, which will save floor space.

"Our newly developed integrated solution enables us to support machine builders, enhancing their processes and future-proofing their automation investments," says Hans Wimmer, managing director of B&R. "With the incorporation of ABB robots into one simple architecture we create a fully integrated automation system."

www.abb.com

www.br-automation.com

Grommet has staged membrane rings to make usage easier

icotek has launched its new cable grommet KT-SC with peelable and removable membrane rings with graduated sealing areas.

The new grommet KT-SC is based on the grommet size 'KT large' from icotek and enables the routing and sealing of cables and hoses with diameters from 5 to 28 mm. The single membrane rings can be peeled away according to the diameter of the routed cable or hose.

T 0161 222 3454

www.icotek.co.uk

Two companies combine to offer customers an extensive range of valves and actuators

OEM Automatic, part of the Swedish OEM International group, has signed an agreement to acquire specialist in solenoid valves and valve actuators Zoedale.

Bedford-based Zoedale represents ASCO, Valpes, Omal, Bernard Controls and Peter Paul, all of whom manufacture valves and actuators for various process and industrial applications. It is joining the OEM group to broaden its product offering and to continue to develop

its expertise in the pressure and flow sector.

"Because of the synergy between both company's product offerings, it means we can offer our customers and Zoedale's customers a much broader range of products," says Richard

Armstrong, managing director at OEM Automatic. Zoedale carries extensive



OEM Automatic has acquired the valve company

stock at the Bedford premises from where the business will continue to operate.

Components

Operational savings are offered to new concrete

By installing servo drives with integrated functional safety, HMIs and controllers from KEB Automation on its new production line, Concrete Canvas has reduced wiring installation costs and has greater flexibility in terms of future expansion plans for machines and additional lines.

Due to increased demand for its specialised products, the company purchased a new facility in Pontyclun, about six miles from its original factory in Pontypridd. As there was no off-the-shelf machinery available for producing its new product, all the design and build work was performed in-house.

The continuous production line for the new prototype rolled product comprises a variety of machines, equipment and automated systems, including unwinders, dry cement powder handling systems, a main process section that forms the cement filled web, coating machines, web handling machines and rewinders.

"The prototype production line is quite complex and there are many different machines with parts that need to be moved at different speeds," explains Graham Rose, engineering manager at Concrete Canvas. "We therefore started to search for a suitable supplier of drives that could handle this type of application.



KEB Automation has supplied its products and services to Concrete Canvas

"We needed the drives to be flexible and easily expandable to allow easy, rapid future expansion of the line and individual machines,

with as little panel wiring as possible," he continues. "Another key requirement for us was safety, so we wanted drives with in-built functional safety."

After a thorough supplier evaluation process, which included on-site demonstrations, KEB Automation was chosen for its servo drives with FSoE (FailSafe-

over-EtherCAT), as well as HMIs, a smart controller and the COMBIVIS 6 software that provides a common development platform.

"At present, we have about ten COMBIVERT S6-A servo drives and some F6 drives from KEB operating on the production line," says Rose. The lower powered drives tend to perform lighter duties

such as transporting the web material, whereas the larger drives control the conveyors and mixers for the cement, the main web forming process section and the centre winding machine, as well as performing general positional and control tasks.

"Some of the drives are linked so that they operate synchronously, which is critical when controlling line speed set points and the intricate, varying tensions of the web material," he adds.

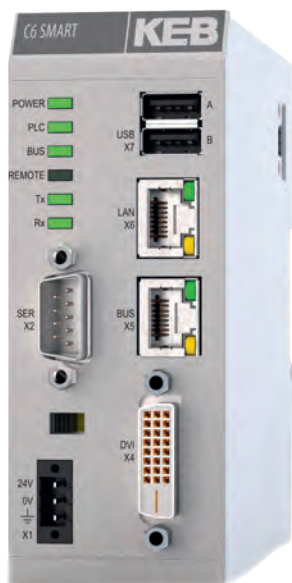
ELECTRIC MOTORS USED

"We use a variety of electric motors on the line including synchronous and asynchronous induction motors, permanent magnet motors and servo motors," says Rose. "The S6 drives are so flexible that they can drive any type of motor, with or without encoders, so this was never an issue for us."

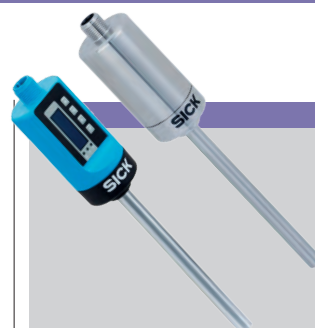
Concrete Canvas also installed a C6 smart controller from KEB to control and manage all the automation and safety programs.

"We've been very impressed with KEB in terms of their technical capabilities and support over the last 12 months," says Rose.

T 01933 402220
W www.keb-uk.co.uk



Controlling automation & safety



New thermal flow switch saves costs

Sick has extended its portfolio of industrial instruments with the T-Easic FTS, a thermal flow switch designed as an easy, cost-saving answer to detecting liquid flow in pipes, for example in pumps, machine tool lubrication or industrial cleaning systems.

Combining both flow and temperature measurement in one IO-Link enabled sensor, the T-Easic is available in a choice of IP67 industrial or IP69 hygienic stainless-steel versions. Ideal for use with water or oil-based liquids, the sensor can be set up to work with almost any media and is suitable for use with process temperatures between -40deg C and 150deg C and pressures up to 100 bar.

It is therefore a versatile instrument that can be put to work monitoring coolants and lubricants in machine tools, for oil management in hydraulic systems, or for run protection of pumps. It is also ideal for use with Clean-in-Place and Sterilise-in-Place systems in food processing, bottling and pharmaceutical industries.

With probe lengths of 60 mm, 100 mm and 200 mm, the sensor can be inserted in pipes from 25 mm right up to 400 mm in diameter.

"The new Sick T-Easic combines economy and ease of use for essential liquid flow detection and measurement duties, such as protecting pumps from running dry, which could otherwise cause costly damage and downtime to pump and process machinery," says Darren Pratt, Sick's UK product manager for Industrial Instrumentation.

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For example, take our new compact and lightweight HRS-R thermo chiller.

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For more information on our HRS-R chiller contact us on 01908 563888 or check out our web site.

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Components

Compact servo drive for tricky positioning work

Festo has expanded its range of servo drives with the introduction of the CMMT-ST.

Complementing the existing CMMT-AS, this new servo drive is equally reliable but much more compact and economical. These characteristics make it ideal for point-to-point and interpolating motion in demanding applications in assembly and handling technology, packaging machines or in the electronics industry, says the company.

The new servo drive enables challenging dynamic motions for small servo motors and all stepper motors with a continuous power requirement of up to 300 W. It has a power capacity of 2.5 kW, so requires less cooling than its big brother and needs just half the installation space.

It is particularly suitable for various Ethernet-based bus systems and can be seamlessly integrated into the controller environments of different

The servo drive is compact and also reliable



manufacturers. The CMMT-ST is based on the same platform as the CMMT-AS and works best in combination with the EMMS-ST stepper motor which is also from Festo.

Commissioning the CMMT-ST takes just a few minutes with the Festo

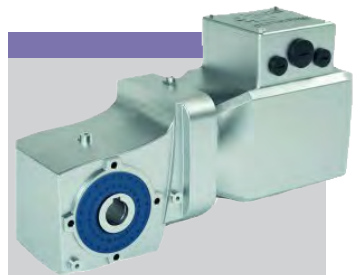
Automation Suite. Although the CMMT-ST offers a more compact, cheaper option than the CMMT-AS, the connection and communication concept, functional modules and standard safety features remain unchanged.

The consistent control concept means that users can combine the CMMT-AS and CMMT-ST as a servo drive for both large and small axes.

The free Festo Automation Suite is the main software of the constantly expanding Festo Automation Platform, which is entering the automation market with numerous new products and solutions from the mechanical system to the cloud. It combines the parameterisation, programming and maintenance of electric components from Festo in one program. It also enables the entire drive package, from the mechanical system to the controller, to be commissioned in just a few intuitive steps.

T 01252 775053

W www.festo.co.uk



New motor made debut in Germany

At SPS 2019, Nord Drivesystems presented a new synchronous motor offering significantly higher energy efficiency. This new motor can be supplied without a fan and with very smooth surfaces. And, as it can also be combined with the proprietary nsd tupH surface treatment, the new IES+ synchronous motors are suitable for intralogistics and wash-down applications. This energy-efficient latest generation permanent magnet synchronous motor has considerably lower losses than the current IE4 series. The unventilated smooth motor achieves its high efficiency that, at times, is significantly above efficiency class IE5 via a wide torque range – and is optimally suitable for the operation in the partial load range. The compact IES+ motor offers a high power density with less installation space and will be initially launched in a size for power ranges from 0.25 to 1.1 kW with a continuous torque from 1.6 to 4.8 Nm and speeds from 0 to 2,100 min⁻¹.

The newly launched motor can be directly mounted according to NEMA or IEC.

Nord says it is ideal for use in hygiene sensitive and harsh environments because it is easy to clean, corrosion-resistant and wash-down capable.

This new motor concept will be gradually extended with more sizes and powers. The new IES+ motor can be combined with Nord Gear units and drive electronics as a modular system and will be available from the second quarter this year.

T 01235 534404

W www.nord.com

Inverter is ideal for large-scale machines or wherever control cabinet space is expensive

The latest addition to the i500 inverter range from Lenze is the i550 protec which has been designed for decentralised drive tasks and comes with IP66 protection class, IO-Link connectivity and a power range of up to 75 kW. It is the first of its kind to offer this level of communication integration for decentralised applications, making it ideal for use with conveyors, fans, pumps and lifting units, says the company.

Thanks to the inclusion of the IO-Link V1.1 standard

interface, sensors and actuators distributed throughout an application can now be linked to a centralised control system using the new i550 protec. The exchange of process, asset and parameterisation data in harsher environments becomes easier and more economical as the requirement for the manual addressing of nodes or the use of expensive screened motor cables is removed.

T 01234 753200

W www.lenze.com



The i550 protec is ideal for pumps



The E3S Series helps improve system commissioning and operating speeds

New ways to use reflective sensors

Omron has launched the new E3AS Series reflective-type photoelectric sensors with what the company says is the smallest body and longest sensing distance of 1,500 mm in their class.

The sensors provide stable detection without being influenced by sensing distances or different colours, materials, and surfaces of objects. This makes selection, adjustment, and maintenance of sensors easier, and improves system commissioning and operation rates. E3AS Sensors can be used, for example, in high-mix conveyor lines carrying products of various

colours and shapes, and assembly lines with restricted space for sensor installation.

Fast commissioning and stable operation are critical at manufacturing sites. To meet the need for fast commissioning and stable operation, Omron has increased the sensing distance to five times longer than in the previous models in the range.

Sensors have the industry's first antifouling coating on the sensing surface to reduce false detection and maintenance frequency in environments where oil or dust scatters, or steam generates.

T 01908 258258

W www.industrial.omron.co.uk

Vision sensors deliver faster and simple control of cobots

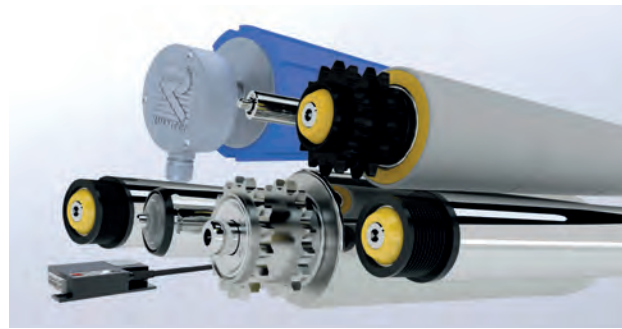
New 'smart' XF900 and XC900 vision sensors from Baumer are the latest options for controlling collaborative robots (cobots) and have been designed to deliver optimum precision, combined with simple and easy set-up.

They can be mounted directly on to the cobot or above it and as a result of the 'SmartGrid' feature (patent pending) they can be quickly and easily calibrated to control image distortion, converted to the required coordinates

and aligned between the vision sensor and the robot. Installation and calibration of these vision sensors is simplified via the VeriSens URcap interface specifically developed by Baumer to optimise robot control. For cobot programming, only two additional commands (nodes) are necessary to realise the benefits and advantages of vision guided robotics, says Baumer.

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Regulations

Keeping safe against cyber attacks

Paul Taylor

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As cyber security vulnerabilities can appear throughout the component or system lifecycle, it is necessary to implement security from the onset, and here, the international standard IEC-62443 is the key...

The increasing prevalence of cyber-physical systems has a significant impact on industries.

For any manufacturers deploying such machines, this new connectivity also translates into a shift in the risk landscape, as cyberattacks become more prevalent. A security breach involving a connected industrial application can put an entire facility at risk and the consequences for operations, people and equipment can be devastating. Against this backdrop, suppliers and system integrators must optimise the cyber resilience of their components and systems by improving their development, integration and support processes.

CYBER RESILIENCE

As cyber security vulnerabilities can appear throughout the component or system lifecycle, it is necessary to plan ahead and implement security from the onset. From specification, to design, production and support, component suppliers must therefore consider how the cyber resilience of a connected device can be optimised for its entire lifespan. Further down the line, the system integrator must take the possible threats of the automated solution into account. Suppliers and integrators are also required to mitigate risk, even when the prospective configuration and the potential threats are still largely unknown. Furthermore, full transparency from them is necessary for

machinery end-users to place trust in the security capabilities of the products and solutions that they offer.

The international standard IEC-62443 'Security for Industrial Automation and Control Systems (IACS)' holds the answer here, as it aims to mitigate risk for industrial communication networks by providing a structured approach to cybersecurity. Originally developed for the IACS supply chain, it is a collection of multi-industry standards focused on cybersecurity protection methods and techniques.

adapted to the relevant project scope, IEC-62443 lays the foundations for cybersecurity robustness throughout the product and system lifetime.

As a third-party certification demonstrates to asset owners and operators that the purchased component or system is based on a methodised and coherent approach to cybersecurity, in line with industry best practice, the implementation of IEC-62443 can also deliver some competitive advantage.

The IEC-62443 standard addresses security processes along the supply chain.

can be verified. During the certification process, the auditor executes a conformity assessment based on document reviews, interviews and on-site audits. When compliance with standard requirements has been confirmed, the certification concludes with the issuance of a report and a certification mark. An annual surveillance audit is required to maintain the validity of this certification.

Beside the generic process aspects during product development and system integration, the IEC-62443 standard also specifies technical security requirements for components and systems. These technical requirements are described in IEC-62443-4-2 and IEC-62443-3-3. The assessment of both process and technical requirements are the basis for the certification of both components and systems.

By combining the strengths of the physical and virtual worlds, cyber-physical systems have the potential to significantly enhance industry performance, facilitate new products and spark innovative business models. With interconnected devices controlled by intelligent dashboards, new cyber security risks and liability issues arise. IEC-62443 provides an holistic approach to help mitigate these risks and provides increased assurance to the entire machinery supply chain.

An holistic approach to any cyber threats can help mitigate these risks and increase machinery assurance

Consequently, the standard has become the leading industrial cybersecurity standard for all types of plants, facilities and systems across industries.

The standard applies to component suppliers, system integrators and asset owners.

Through a set of defined process requirements, IEC-62443 ensures that all applicable security aspects are addressed in a structured manner. This includes a systematic approach to cybersecurity throughout the stages of specification, integration, operation, maintenance and decommissioning. Also, the standard foresees that processes are established to facilitate all necessary technical security functions. When

For example, product suppliers' certification should be based on IEC-62443-4-1 'Product security development life-cycle requirements'. This part of the standard applies to the supplier's overall security programmes, and to the security processes connected to the development of the relevant component and control system.

Corresponding certifications are available to system integrators based on IEC-62443-2-4 'Security program requirements for IACS service providers'. In this case, the compliance of generic processes, as well as the compliance of security processes for a reference architecture or blueprint,

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Who What Where

Who's done what and gone where...

Syntegon Technology



Dr Michael Grosse has been appointed as the new ceo of Syntegon

Technology, previously Bosch Packaging Technology, replacing **Dr Stefan Koenig** who spent a total of 24 years working for the Bosch Group, ten of which were at Syntegon. Most recently, Grosse was a member of the management board of Tetra Pak and brings leadership and management experience in the international mechanical engineering industry to his new role.

Pago Labelling



Barry Chadwick has joined Pago Labelling Systems as

key account manager for pharmaceuticals in Europe, the UK and Ireland where he will focus on the growth of the company's linear and rotary labelling machinery solutions. He brings over 25 years of pharma packaging machinery experience to his new role having spent the last 16 years with IMA spa.

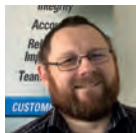
Kemtile



George Morton has joined Kemtile to work with existing clients and in

new business development for its hygienic flooring in a territory manager role across the north of England.

PLF International



Robert Chambers has joined PLF International as finance manager

and will work at its UK-based operations in Harwich.

Campden BRI



Peter Headridge, formerly VP of R&D, quality, nutrition (health

and wellness) and regulatory EMEA at the Kellogg Company, has been appointed as chief operating officer at Campden BRI. He will lead and oversee the organisation's science and technology divisions.



Barbara Lunnon has joined Campden BRI as associate director,

consulting (science) from global bakery leader CSM Bakery Solutions. In her new role, she will be responsible for the science-led consultancy activities.

Advance Automated



Brian Skelham has been appointed as senior project engineer to

head-up the new satellite offices of Advance Automated Systems which are based in Leicestershire. Previously employed as a business project manager at online retailer Ocado, he will combine his skills in project management, engineering, e-Commerce and operational support to look after a portfolio of key central and southern customers.

Quality Systems



Laurie Middleton has joined Quality Systems as its new sales

account manager, signalling the firm's intent to develop the business. As head of the sales team, she will be streamlining processes, improving efficiency and ensuring service levels are maintained.

Romaco



Markus Kimpel has been appointed by Romaco as its new group

chief financial officer as well as managing director of Romaco Pharmatechnik, the manufacturing facility in Karlsruhe, Germany. He takes over both positions from **Carsten Strenger**.

Herma Labelling



Bradley James has joined the Herma Labelling Systems sales

team, bringing skills gained from the production and servicing of labelling systems at the company to his new role in the south east.



Mike Dent is another new addition to the sales team at Herma Labelling

Systems. He brings a wealth of process and packaging knowledge gained from 20 years of sales experience to his role in the north west.

Yorkshire Packaging



Neil Pygott is now sales manager at Yorkshire Packaging

Systems, joining the machinery side of the business. A qualified engineer, he has a proven track record spanning both sales and project engineering.

Interroll

Dr Christian Ripperda has taken over the lead of Interroll's global innovation activities in the newly created role of vice president system innovation. He brings a multidisciplinary range of experience to the role.

Diary Dates

29 SEPTEMBER - 1 OCTOBER

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14 MAY

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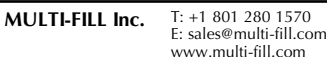
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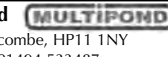


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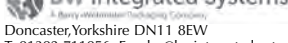
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