

Exhibition highlights

Over 1,300 exhibitors from 47 countries attended Emballage in Paris, over 450 of which were new to the show. It is billed as an event that provides solutions to current issues, whether they are technical, marketing-related or economic and here, *Machinery Update* reports on just some of the equipment highlights.

Cost savings from coder

Linx Printing Technologies believes that its Linx IJ350 coder for large character marking (LCM) can offer savings in terms of lower consumable costs and reduced downtime compared to other printing or labelling alternatives.

Key features of the Linx coder include a self cleaning printhead with patented recirculating system that avoids waste ink and saves time ordinarily wasted on ink purging procedures. The coder's nozzle protection system further safeguards the printhead to reduce maintenance and the overall cost of ownership.

The self cleaning method, known as micro-purge, uses a small film of ink on the printhead to collect dirt and debris prior to printing each carton. This is removed with air to clean the ink from the nozzle plate; the ink is collected and recirculated, passing through a high performance filter to maintain clean ink in the system.

Also on show was an enhanced version of its SL301 scribing laser coder which the company believes is the fastest, most versatile and cost-effective coder available to the bottling industry.

01480 302100
www.linx.co.uk

Modular multipack options for bottles

Cermex showed its VersaFilm shrink wrapper for the first time, a machine that operates without a sealing bar and with a design based on a principle of modular architecture.

According to Jean Marc Passemard from the company, the technological leap of the VersaFilm design offers users unequalled added value as there are so many affordable options available to customers.

Features include a new intuitive control system, an injection table with increased performance, a patented system for automatic film reel changeover – without stopping the machine – an ergonomic, intuitive touch-screen human/machine interface and an optimised shrink tunnel.

Joining these features is a patented flow selection system which can accommodate



This VersaFilm shrink wrapper operates without a sealing bar

changeovers in less than a minute. The exclusive size range accommodates product formats ranging from 55 to 124mm and 25cl to 3 litre and means that a wide number of bottle numbers and bottle arrangements can be accommodated in a multipack.

Also, the specially designed cassette reduces the format

changeover time to less than a minute, with a very quick return to nominal speeds, while managing this cassette with servo motors increases the accuracy of any adjustments. It also means three or more formats can be handled on the same machine.

01480 455919
www.cermexuk.com

Multihead for fruits and veg

Ishida Europe launched a multihead weigher for citrus fruits and root vegetables to offer fast and gentle handling.

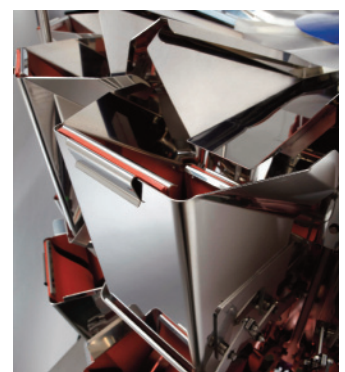
The CCW-RS-214/70-SS weigher allows a controlled product flow while minimising collisions and bruising in the weighing process and at the same time maintaining a high production output for the large target weights being handled.

Features include a durable

urethane coating on the dispersion feeder table, smooth edges on the feeders and hoppers, gentle transfers between radial feeders and hoppers, silicone liners in the hoppers and a gently sloping discharge chute.

Speeds up to 60 packs a minute from 500g to 5000g can be achieved.

0121 607 7700
www.ishidaeurope.com



Unit handles bulky items easily

Combining sealing strength and pack security

ShrinkStyle is Sealpac's fully automated packaging system that combines the benefits of thermoforming and shrink bag technology to ensure excellent sealing strength and pack security.

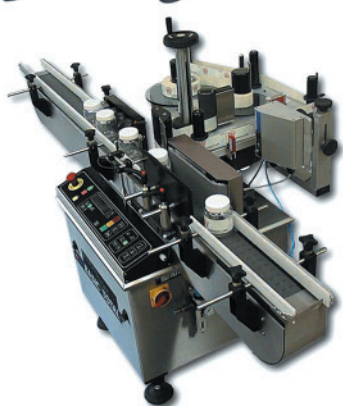
This newly developed thermoforming process starts with the forming of the bottom film. Product is then loaded, 'vacuumised' and sealed and, after cross and longitudinal cutting, or optional contour

cutting, the subsequent shrink process "achieves a second-skin appearance".

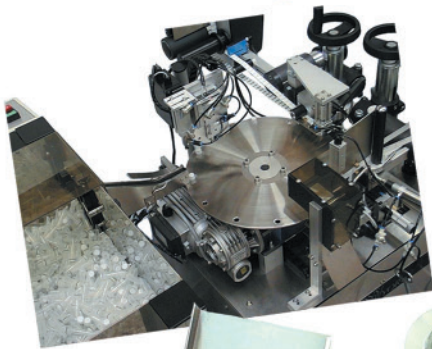
It can be used for fresh, whole chickens to help extend shelf life.
01189 773400
www.sealpac-uk.com



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emballage review

Innovation is sustainable



To better identify today's expectations of packaging user markets, the Emballage organisers set up the Pack Experts Committee drawn from ten international groups such as Coca Cola Enterprise, Nestlé, Danone, Carrefour and L'Oréal.

Among all the new products, machines and services presented in the Paris exhibition area dedicated to innovations, seven were deemed most remarkable by these experts. Two of these were from the machines, systems and equipment category.

Véronique Sestrières, director of Emballage explains: "Today packaging has to convey social and environmental values with the aim of helping all stakeholders better manage their responsibilities between citizenship and consumption." And this includes equipment as

"modern times have transformed the machines, systems and equipment exhibited at the exhibition".

The experts singled out the Multivac E-Concept from Multivac France as they felt that the efforts to reduce consumables and waste also apply to equipment. It is highly important to achieve a 20% energy saving when operating a machine, thanks to adopting electric drive and eliminating compressed air, they said.

Cermex was also singled out for its SD case packer with 6-axis delta robot. With two more axis a robot packer can replicate movements which are close to arm and hand movements, said the judges. Greater accuracy will improve item loading and unloading, will help control the positioning of products in transit cases as well as case filling and therefore will help optimise case sizes.

www.emballageweb.com

Ergonomic by design

The Promatic PC 4000 continuous horizontal cartoner from Romaco is "exceptionally versatile with a design that meets ergonomic requirements". It was joined on stand by the Unipac U 2060 automatic tube filler and the Siebler HM 1 heat sealing machine.

The balcony structure implemented throughout the cartoner assures good access to all machine parts and prevents the packaging components from being dislodged inside it.

The use of plastic coated toothed belts has seen all chains and mechanical gears being eliminated which leads to

quiet and clean processing of pharmaceuticals and cosmetics.

The tube filler is also easy to access and has a footprint of less than one and a half square metres. Equipped with eight stations, it can fill semi-solids such as ointments, creams, gels and pastes for the cosmetics, pharmaceutical and food industries.

The vertical heat sealing machine processes pharmaceutical solids such as tablets and capsules. Up to 5,000 applications a minute are sealed in air, light and moisture-tight strip packaging.

01252 356780

www.romaco.com