

Amir Sotoudeh of MULTIVAC speaks at Plasti, Pack Expo

While speaking at the annual Packaging Forum of 2017 on the subject of "Flexible Packaging in Pakistan: Issues, Challenges and Opportunities on the sidelines of 14th Plasti & Pack and Iftech Exhibition 2017 at Karachi Expo Centre, The Managing Director, Multivac Middle East, Amir Sotoudeh said, "The need for hygiene for food safety are increasing by the people to eat safe, and quality products, for which packaging brings a big contribution to hygiene and traceability. Consumers are more and more aware of the food resources through advertising campaign, news-papers, and hypermarkets engagement".



He further said that consumer ask for more and more ready products, easy to cook, fast to prepare, and also easy to store. Snacking is a new way of eating, growing fast in every sector as people have no more time and also no wish to shop every day. They make shopping once a week and the result is an increasing demand of longer shelf life. Packaging avoids a lot of disadvantages bonded with (preparation and cleaning before cooking, short shelf-life, very well appreciated by consumer.

He said that consumer prefer less weight and smaller portion packages where give the benefit to always consume product fresh from package and reduce waste. Packaging has a place in reducing loss of resource and prolonging shelf-life, he added. ♦

SIDEL making Industry 4.0 opportunities a reality at Drinktec

With Sidel and Gebo Cermex will be exhibiting together on Stand A6.330 at Drinktec 2017, and will be showcasing their Agility 4.0™ programme. The initiative is helping manufacturers and brand owners shift from mass production to mass customization, and gain the many benefits of Industry 4.0, while boosting Overall Equipment Effectiveness (OEE) and sustainability and minimising Total Cost of Ownership (TCO).

Commenting on the role of Agility 4.0 and its focus at Drinktec (11- 15 September), Frederic Saily, Executive Vice President for Product Management and Development, Sidel explains: "The Agility 4.0 programme is an award-winning, proven and pragmatic approach to manufacturing that we have developed with a view to achieving three overall benefits:

improved understanding, enhanced performance, and product mass customization together with traceability."

The tools and solutions of Agility 4.0 are grouped around the programme's five pillars:

VIRTUAL FACTORY

The main principle of the virtual factory is to accurately simulate and test daily operations in a production plant before execution. This can be a computer model simulation of a new line to evaluate its performance, a digital twin to optimize the assets in real time or computer



training of operators using virtual reality to let them practice on computer-generated equipment.

SMART FACTORY

The smart factory leverages digital technologies, such as robots, cobots and intelligent kinematics, to improve performance. This includes assisting operators working on repetitive tasks to increase operations reliability over time.

CONNECTED FACTORY

By connecting and integrating the equipment on a plant, data generated can be used to optimize performance and predict any need for maintenance.

SUSTAINABLE FACTORY

Eco-friendliness is one of Agility 4.0's core pillars. By making it possible to produce smaller batches closer to consumer centers, manufacturers reduce their need to distribute over long distances.

EXTENDED FACTORY

Focusing on intralogistics and deployed through the dematerialized layout, this portfolio of solutions offers manufacturers access to enhanced flexibility and asset utilization, increasing their capability to introduce new products.

Elaborating on this last point, Ludovic Tanchou, Vice President of Strategy, Products and Innovation, Gebo Cermex comments: "When it comes to answering customers' needs in the Industry 4.0 era, the extended factory represents the Sidel Group vision. Instead of using a traditional conveyor to simply take the product from A to B in a linear production process, mobile handling can now be used to move the semi-finished or finished items from any filler, to any labeller to any packing machine.

He summarises by saying: "A result of the group's strong partnerships with industry-leading players in robotics, automation and smart systems, the Agility 4.0 programme from the Sidel Group is designed to be future-proof, helping producers and brand owners face the fourth industrial revolution. It does so by creating a digital factory that can improve performance - even in a fast changing environment, while reducing non-productive sequences and minimizing costs." ♦