

High-quality shrink packs for meat and sausage products

The compact B 325, which is easy to operate and has an extremely high output, was shown at IFFA in May 2016 - and already many machines are successfully in use world-wide. MULTIVAC customers particularly appreciate its high



production volume of up to three cycles per minute and the excellent pack quality. With its chamber size of 1,000 x 630 x 180 mm (W x D x H), this model is particularly suitable for the automated packing of large batches of processed meat and sausage, ham, bacon and fresh meat. The B 325 is also used currently for producing maturation and transportation packs for cheese blocks and catering cuts, such as for example beef fillets and haunches. The simple and quick adjustment of the sealing height to the product by means of the optional manual height adjustment has been well received by customers. This allows the appropriate sealing height for the particular product to be set simply, quickly and without tools. The chamber is equipped at the front and back with two plug-in sealing bars, each 1,000 mm long, and the machine can be loaded from both sides.

The complete shrink packaging line with the new MULTIVAC SE 320 shrink tank. The shrinking unit can be combined with small chamber belt machines such as the B 210 as well as with the B 325 and B 310, and even with MULTIVAC thermoforming packaging machines, and it is also possible to use it with comparable machines from other manufacturers. The exhibited line with the B 325 and SE 320 is characterised by its attractive price, small space requirement (only 3,905 x 1,465 mm) and simple handling.

The synchronisation of the MULTIVAC components ensures that the packaging procedure runs smoothly. The products or batches, which can weigh up to 80 kg, are conveyed on an automatic infeed conveyor from the chamber belt machine or thermoforming packaging machine into the shrink tank, which contains 360 litres of water. The conveyor dips into the water, which is heated up to 93°C, and the temperature can be individually adjusted to the particular product. After a brief dipping time, which can also be freely adjusted, the shrunk packs are transported out on a conveyor. As an option, the line can also be complemented with a MULTIVAC TE 115 drying tunnel for drying the products.

Due to its brief dipping time and low heat input on the packs, the shrinking process is designed to be extremely gentle on delicate food products, which means that the pack quality is very high. Since the shrink bags are shrunk tightly around the product like a second skin during the dipping procedure, the shelf life of the food is extended considerably, and the leaching out of liquid in the case of fresh meat for example is prevented.

The compact shrink tank, which has a length of only 1.1 metres, offers optimised energy consumption thanks to very good insulation, and of course it meets MULTIVAC's high standards in regard to hygiene aspects. Servicing and cleaning of the SE 320 are simple and quick to carry out, since the light conveyor can be easily removed or tilted in the machine by one person, when cleaning the water container for example. ●

Bühler launch healthy and convenient snacks for on-the-go consumers

More and more people don't eat at home but rather while leaving the office, on the way to the day-care center, or before the gym, which means that the demand for healthy food on the go is increasing. No matter the raw materials, shape, taste or if the snack is coated with chocolate. Bühler's solutions cover the complete range of end products. Nutritious and tasty cereal or nut bars are particularly popular: "At Interpack, they highlight their competence in the area of snacks by presenting their integrated production solutions, from grain or nuts to the finished bar or biscuit," explains Thomas Bischof, Head of Bühler's Business Unit Countlines.

Whether it is a substitute for breakfast, a supplement in the daily diet, or an energy boost between meals: Cereal bars are a growth market. More and more people are reaching for these healthy and nutritious snacks while at the office, in school, or on the train. "When Bühler took over the chocolate specialist Hosokawa Bepex, it was able to close an important gap in its portfolio. Now, we can also offer our customers integrated complete solutions for manufacturing countlines, coated items, or cereal and nut bars," says Bischof.

No matter the raw materials, shape, taste, or if it's coated with chocolate, Bühler's solutions cover the complete range of end products. With its comprehensive knowledge of local markets and preferences, the technology leader supports customers in developing innovative new products and recipes so that they can effectively differentiate themselves: "While cereal bars dominate the US market, protein bars lead in Europe and



nut products tend to be preferred in Asia," analyzes Bischof.

At Interpack, Bühler will be demonstrating its competence in the area of biscuits and cookies. The solutions include all important process steps: from preparing the dough to moulding, cooling, and coating of the product. There are big regional differences here, too: In Asia's confectionery markets, for example, cookies are increasingly viewed as a substitute for chocolate because cocoa is a limited resource, which means that cookies open up new possibilities for manufacturers.

Sidel designs pet bottles for YILI'S new range of yoghurt drinks for China

Months of close collaboration between the Sidel packaging team and Yili's Liquid Milk Division has seen the creation of a PET bottle for the company's new Changyi brand. The new range of yoghurt drinks has been rolled out throughout China.

China has recently enjoyed a period of sustained economic growth. As consumer income levels and spending power increase, the beverage market has seen a shift to more natural, 'healthier' beverages, a category in which innovation is key to succeeding and PET packaging is likely to be instrumental over the coming years.

The Yili Group is the largest dairy producer in China and one of the fastest growing companies in the country. A privately owned business, Yili Group is engaged in processing and manufacturing of milk products, including ice cream, powdered milk, sterilized milk and fresh milk, to name but a few.

The new range of yogurt drinks is intended to attract active, health-conscious consumers with growing expend-

able income. This demographic is particularly relevant among young Chinese people who, typically, have fast and busy lifestyles but do not want to compromise in terms of the convenience and the design of the products they choose.

Excellent technical support from Sidel

When Yili's Liquid Milk Division contacted Sidel to discuss the design of the PET bottle for the new Changyi yoghurt drinks, it was an exciting opportunity for the packaging team.

Seizing the opportunity, the Sidel team had put together an initial design proposal within just two weeks. "Our packaging experts delivered a wide selection of creative proposals, producing various conceptual bottles based on different design directions, to give the client several alternatives to differentiate its yoghurt brand from the competition," said Steven Xie, Packaging Design and Development Manager at Sidel.

The customer's marketing department undertook analysis on the various designs and returned with a shortlist of four preferred choices. Collaborative work continued as Sidel made small adjustments to the different designs that were being consumer-tested. These elements included the shape of the bottle's base, as the customer was searching for longer shelf-life and improved rigidity to avoid deformation during transportation, without compromising on distinctive design.

"Leveraging our global expertise in PET packaging design and production, we ran multiple tests to assess the performance of the bottle and finally we found the best solution," says Steven.

"The project was a real team effort and we succeeded in creating a container able to combine both the customer's technical requirements as well as their aesthetic wishes."

Within three months, the bottle design was completely finalized and new moulds were manufactured for the two Yili production lines dedicated to the new yoghurt range.

Professional approach for product success

The drive of the Sidel design team to exceed the customer's needs in this project

- paid off when the product design was commercialized and the first bottles rolled off the production line. Zhang Yibo, Yili's manager for this project, says, "We're very pleased with the final result and our partnership with Sidel during the design process. Their design capabilities, technical expertise and professional approach have played an important role in ensuring the product success."

The project has further strengthened the relationship between Yili and Sidel - and looks set to pave the way to exciting new projects in the Chinese dairy industry.

The company began selling bottles of the new Changyi yoghurt drinks in the first quarter of 2016, throughout the whole of China. Response towards the new container shape and the branding of Yili's new product has been very favorable with both being well received by local consumers.

Sulzer wins order for vital cooling water pump kits from Forsmark Kraftgrupp

The Forsmark Kraftgrupp, part of the Vattenfall company, has awarded Sulzer with the delivery of six GSG barrel-type pumps for the nuclear power plant in Forsmark, Sweden.

The pump packages will be installed in the independent core cooling system of the units 1, 2, and 3 in order to provide cooling fluid to the reactor vessel in case of an emergency. The three reactors produce about one-sixth of the country's energy consumption.

The GSG cooling water pumps will be produced by the Sulzer factory in Bruchsal, Germany. It is one of the few factories in the world that is equipped to simulate a full string test including the simulation of the plant's system curve before the pumps are installed in the power plant. The pumps, including the driving diesel engines, will be qualified for seismic resistance.

The robustness and reliability of Sulzer's products was a main criterion for the pump selection. Sulzer has been manufacturing quality products for the nuclear market since the 1950s. The company offers its profound expertise and experience in this area to its customers. ♦

