

International FoodTec Award 2012: Gold medal for MULTIVAC's HPP technology

The high pressure processing of packaged food is gaining importance. In recent years MULTIVAC has further developed this ground breaking technology in some crucial areas, and for this it is being awarded the International FoodTec Award 2012 at Anuga FoodTec in Cologne. The awarding of the prize will take place on Tuesday 27. March 2012 at the Congress Center in Cologne.



HPP: High Pressure Processing.

'We are delighted to be awarded the Gold Medal of the International FoodTec Award 2012. The award is a fantastic recognition of our work and it shows that MULTIVAC is among the leading suppliers in the area of high pressure processing of food', says Dr. Tobias Richter, who is responsible at MULTIVAC for the HPP Division.

A jury of international representatives proposed MULTIVAC's HPP technology for the first prize. The organizers of the FoodTec Award, the DLG e.V, spoke of a 'remarkable innovation' when giving their justification for the awarding of the prize.

Jointly with its partner Uhde High Pressure Technologies, MULTIVAC has significantly extended the development of the HPP process and it holds several patents in this area. For the first time the secure processing of MAP packaged food is also possible, thanks to various new innovations. In November of last year the packaging specialist from the Allgäu set up a HPP test plant at its headquarters in Wolfertschwenden for the high pressure processing of packaged food, where it supports its customers in conducting shelf life tests. The HPP test plant is complemented by a wide range of services which

MULTIVAC provides in its Application Center in Wolfertschwenden.

What is HPP

High Pressure Processing (HPP) enables the shelf life and safety of food to be improved, without it being necessary to introduce heat or preservatives. On the one hand, this technology fulfills the requirements of food producers for improved shelf life and for compliance with regulations on food safety and consumer protection. On the other hand, the technology also meets the desires of consumers for natural food without preservatives and additives.

New reclosable pack for sliced products in modified atmosphere with in a flow pack wrapper by ULMA Global Packaging

Practical and economical packaging

This new re-closable Modified Atmosphere Packaging (MAP) package has been designed for sliced meat and cheeses. The package extends the shelf life of the product and can be opened and closed several times over.

The opening & closing system consists of a barrier label which ensures a hermetic seal. The cost is minimal due to the consumable nature compared to other reclosable systems.

The surface of the label is customizable so that neutral films can be used without reducing the visual image of the pack at the sale point.



Reclosable pack with flow pack.

Both the opening and closing are made very easily and can be repeated as many times as necessary throughout the life of the package.

The system can be incorporated into different models of ULMA wrappers,



reaching speeds of 90-100 packs/min in an ARTIC model.

A practical and economical package which guarantees the required conservation requirements for these quality products.

National Corn Yield Contest winners utilize BASF Crop Protection products to push award-winning yields

Sixty-one percent of 2011 NCGA yield winners used BASF products

Nearly two-thirds of the most successful U.S. corn growers in the 2011 National Corn Growers Association (NCGA) National Corn Yield Contest used a BASF Crop Protection product on their winning fields.

Nine of the 18 national winners applied Headline® fungicide or Headline AMP™ fungicide to their winning cornfields. Growers also benefited from using other BASF crop protection products including Guardsman Max® herbicide and Status® herbicide.

"This year's winners have again proven the value that BASF Crop Protection products can deliver for growers pushing award-winning yields," said Paul Rea, Vice President, U.S. Crop Operations, BASF. "Carefully managing fields with crop protection products not only help growers win contests and break yield barriers, more importantly it helps maximize profit potential and get a positive return on investment."

In the national 2011 NCGA Yield Contest, BASF Crop Protection products helped to capture three first-place finishes, four second-place finishes and three third-place finishes. Headline AMP was overwhelmingly the fungicide of

choice, helping yield four of the top five overall national winners.

For the third consecutive year, David Hula of Charles City, Virginia, had the highest overall yield. By producing 429.02 bushels per acre (bu/A), Hula's winning fields more than doubled the national yield average. Hula utilized Headline AMP on his winning cornfields.

"I've used Headline on my winning yields for the past two years. This year I used Headline AMP, which includes the same active ingredient as Headline fungicide but with an added triazole, and my corn looked better than ever," Hula said. "Each year, BASF fungicides prove an ability to fight disease, provide Plant Health benefits and help maximize yields. There are a lot of things when you're growing corn that aren't predictable, but the fungicides from BASF always provide consistent reliability."

Headline fungicide, the most researched fungicide on the market, provides excellent disease control and Plant Health benefits for growers, helping maximize yields and growers' investments in seed, fertilizer and other crop protection inputs. Headline AMP fungicide was specifically developed for corn growers who want both maximum protection from foliar diseases and improved Plant Health. In on-farm research results from 2010-2011, Headline AMP showed consistent yield advantages of more than 12.8 bu/A in corn over untreated acres in 137 corn trials.

BASF is a proud sponsor of the NCGA's annual National Corn Yield Contest.

Bayer CropScience sets up European Wheat Breeding Center in Gatersleben/Saxony-Anhalt

Bayer CropScience will establish its European Wheat Breeding Center in Gatersleben (Saxony-Anhalt, Germany) starting December 1. Besides the development of new wheat varieties with higher yields and improved properties for the Central European market, the new center will also coordinate all of Bayer's

wheat-breeding activities in Europe. A rental agreement for laboratory and greenhouse facilities has been signed with Biotechpark Gatersleben Infrastruktur GmbH. Up to 40 full-time employees will work at the Center in the future. Financial details have not been disclosed.

The Center will be part of Bayer CropScience's global network of wheat-breeding stations. Another center focused on North America is currently being set up in the vicinity of Lincoln, Nebraska, USA. Additional stations are planned in Europe and Australia with further expansion in Asia and Latin America in the medium term.

A network of alliances with leading international research institutions is also currently being formed to apply the latest advancements in plant biotechnology to wheat research and breeding and thus accelerate variety development process.

"Bayer CropScience recognizes that wheat farmers need to improve yields to stay competitive and meet global demands. Our experienced team at the new European Wheat Breeding Center will be able to deliver first-class varieties of wheat adapted to European growing conditions. These new varieties together with our leading crop protection portfolio will enable us to provide solutions supporting a sustainable wheat production from seed to harvest," said Dr. Mathias Kremer, Head of BioScience at Bayer CropScience. "We are pleased to have

found the ideal environment and infrastructure in Biotechpark Gatersleben for our breeding center."

The Minister for Science and Economy in Saxony-Anhalt, Birgitta Wolff, explained: "The establishment of Bayer CropScience's Wheat Breeding Center in Gatersleben is a substantial backing for plant biotechnology in Saxony-Anhalt. This technology is an important cornerstone for further economical development of the state."

Gatersleben is one of the most important international centers of crop research in Europe. Biotechpark is part of a biotechnology initiative launched by the German state of Saxony-Anhalt. It shares a campus with the Leibniz Institute of Plant Genetics and Crop Plant Research (IPK).

Important facts about wheat:

About 25 percent of the world's agricultural land is used to grow wheat, making wheat the most widely grown crop on the planet. In terms of cereal production volumes, wheat ranks second behind corn, with more than 650 million tons produced yearly.

Wheat productivity is growing at a rate of less than one percent annually, while the global demand is increasing twice as fast. Main wheat producing regions are Australia, the Black Sea Region, China, the EU, India and North America.



The Biotech-Campus Gatersleben - City of Seeland/Saxony-Anhalt.

Profit after tax of Nestle Pakistan increases

The profit after tax of Nestle Pakistan Limited has increased by 13.5 percent to Rs 4.668 billion in the year ended December 31, 2011 as compared to Rs 4.112 billion earned in the corresponding period in 2010. The company's earnings per share increased to Rs 102.94 in the period under review against Rs 90.69 in the same period a year back.

The board of directors of the company in its meeting held on Wednesday recommended a final cash dividend for the year ended December 31, 2011 at Rs 40.00 per share, i.e. 400 percent.

This is in addition to interim dividend already paid at Rs 25.00 per share, i.e. 250 percent.

According to the financial results sent to Karachi Stock Exchange, the company's profit before taxation increased to Rs 6.502 billion in the year 2011 against Rs 5.696 billion earned in 2010.

The company also issued its statement which says, Nestle Pakistan announced



Top line growth of 14 percent for the year ended December 31, 2011 at the meeting of the board of directors held at Lahore on Wednesday.

During the year, the company invested Rs 8.9 billion in various projects related to capacity enhancement and infrastructure improvement.

"Committed to the country, Nestle Pakistan plans to invest approximately Rs 14 billion in 2012 for mild collection field development, upgrading of existing production facilities and increase in production capacity, ensuring that our quality and food safety processes continue to be our top priority", the company said.

Announcing the results, Ian Donald, Managing Director Nestle Pakistan Limited, thanked company's customers and consumers who have trust in company's products and continued to provide sustained support in ensuring the progress of the Company.

He said that the company is also immensely proud of and is thankful to employees for their commitment and passionate efforts, loyalty and dedication.

"We greatly value the support and cooperation received from our esteemed suppliers, trading partners, bankers and all stake holders who are helping and contributing towards the continued growth of our company and contributing to positively enhancing the quality of life of the people of Pakistan", he added.

He said the major new product launches during 2011 included Milkpak powder milk, Nesvita powder milk, Milkpak flavored milk, NESFRUITA juice and Fitness cereal.

Ongoing cost management and controlling initiatives have been taken to partially offset the negative impact of escalating input costs, he added.

Nestle Pakistan also undertook several community support initiatives worth Rs 57.1 million in areas related to nutrition, water and rural development as part of creating shares value philosophy and were also recognized by the Pakistan Centre Philanthropy (PCP) amongst the top ten companies in Pakistan for corporate philanthropy.

In addition to this the procurement of fresh milk for Rs 19.1 billion in 2011 has directly contributed to the rural economy.

"Despite the challenges being faced in the country, the management of the company continues to have a long term optimistic outlook for our business", the company said.

"We are hopeful that economic prospects of the country will improve in the future.

We are still confident in the strong potential of Pakistan fuelled by its growing and youthful population", he said.

Nestle is committed to Pakistan and to bringing products to consumers that deliver nutrition, health and wellness, the company said. ♦

Gardner Denver to expand CompAir in Pakistan

Gardner Denver, the giant multinational leader of the compressor and pump field is committed to continue to support sales and service of its CompAir Brand Air Compressors in Pakistan, stated Colin Fountain, Managing Director, Gardner Denver FZE, while visiting Karachi today.

Gardner Denver, founded in 1859, is a global manufacturer of industrial compressors, blowers, pumps, loading arms and fuel systems. CompAir is the latest addition to the Gardner Denver portfolio and its highly successful a recent Brand and Product line is being independently promoted by Gardner Denver with the association of its local Distributor, Rastgar & Co who have excelled in customer service and helped their industrial customers with reliable compressed air supply at most economical costs. A large number of CompAir compressor installations are running in the food sector of Pakistan including such leaders as National Foods and Mehran Spice and Food Industry.



(Left to Right) Mr. Maqsood Zulfiqar CEO Rastgar and Company, Mr. Colin Fountain MD Gardner Denver FZE, Mr. Imtiaz Rastgar Chairman Rastgar Group, Mr. Dave Fenwick, CompAir FZE.