Hello to the future

The PPMA Total Show this September gives visitors the chance to shake hands on all kinds of technology deals, and services, that deliver a range of smarter benefits across industry sectors.
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September 12-16, 2022

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Whether you are looking to save packaging and ingredient waste, improve product quality, ensure products can be tracked or provide a safe working environment for your staff – SICK sensors and systems meet the requirements of these, and many more challenges. We think that’s intelligent. www.sick.com/packaging
Who knew that a post-COVID world would bring in new ways of working but also labour shortages and a situation in Ukraine that would encourage rampant inflation, off the chart energy costs and a supply chain that remains in turmoil? There’s no doubt that the next few months, or maybe longer, are going to be incredibly tough to navigate. Which is why the need for productivity gains across all of our businesses is going to prove vital.

With the global economy becoming more challenging, the need for accelerated innovation increases. Incremental gains are probably not going to be enough; it is step changes that are required. And that is why a visit to our PPMA Total Show at the NEC this September, would be a good place to start on this journey.

One look at our 68 page preview in this issue shows the breadth of technology that will be demonstrated in Hall 5 this autumn and, of course, there is also the opportunity to discuss current issues and hear about future innovations.

Importantly, most of this equipment at the exhibition is now armed with more and more ‘smart’ technology that would help to prepare your business for this current storm.

The connection between all of us in manufacturing industries is vital to weather the current storm

The pace of change in this area is so rapid, that even if you visited last year’s event, you won’t be up to date with the latest options. I realise that a day out of the office or factory is a big investment in time, but I am confident you will not be disappointed with what you find across the 350 or so stands.

Let’s face it, there is still a lot of legacy equipment and automation systems that, because they don’t contain any ‘smart’ features probably need to be upgraded or replaced (even if they are still functioning). Connectivity across manufacturing sites is key.

And as well as making our equipment more connected, isn’t it just as important to maintain a connection across industries and the people in them? Especially in the area of sustainability and the use of new materials. Our Plastics-Free feature in this issue highlights several new partnerships that have been developed between materials suppliers and machine builders as this is vital for any new project to work.

I would argue that the current economic situation is now accelerating the need for smarter working all round and a visit to our show (27-29 September) will deliver a range of options that could help your businesses to not just survive, but also thrive.
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Bradman Lake Group
Integrated Packaging Technology
News

**Expansion plans in North America aims to better serve clients**

Schubert North America has acquired land to expand its North American HQ in Charlotte, North Carolina to better serve customers in this fast-developing market.

The new building, which is approximately 45,000 sq ft, will include sales, engineering, service, final assembly and customer training centre.

In addition to these new offices, an assembly hall will also be built at the new location as well as a service workshop.

The new HQ will become a climate-neutral building equipped with the latest technology to generate green electricity in the future.

**TV comedian will top the bill at the PPMA Gala Dinner**

TV comedian Jason Manford will entertain everyone at a gala dinner to be held on Tuesday 27 September during the PPMA Total Show exhibition, so reserve your place or table now so that you don’t miss out.

PPMA members, exhibitors and their customers can now reserve their place at this year’s PPMA Gala Dinner to be held during the first evening of the exhibition, from 6pm – midnight, at the National Conference Centre in Birmingham.

Pre-dinner drinks will be followed by a three-course dinner, with live music, casino and dancing.

**A ROYAL RECEPTION FOR QUEEN’S AWARD WINNERS**

Belinda Smith, founder of suppliers of specially designed machinery for the agricultural industry Agrimech, shook hands with the Prince of Wales during a reception at Buckingham Palace in July for the 2022 recipients of a Queen’s Award. The company received the Queen’s Award for Enterprise earlier this year.

**Learn about STEM days on PPMA stand**

Visitors to the PPMA Total Show at the NEC this autumn (September 27 – 29) can learn more about PPMA BEST and its programme of STEM days.

Attendees can visit the PPMA Group of Association’s stand at the show (stand C130) to find out more about running a STEM event at a local school to their business.

The principal goal of this charity is to provide a pathway for young people to enter and develop a career in engineering within the processing and packaging, robotics, and industrial vision industries.

As well as offering apprenticeship grants and bursaries, the charity also works to form strong links with local schools and colleges to help inspire a diverse range of young people through interactive STEM-based activities.

Aimed at secondary age young people, BEST has doubled its target for these STEM days this year and these now virtual events have reached well over 1,500 students so far.

To help bridge the current education gap in this area, PPMA BEST works with secondary schools and colleges to help all students make better-informed decisions about their subject and career choices.

The contact during the exhibition on the PPMA Group stand is Jacqui Ferreira.

**The PPMA Total Show will be the must attend exhibition this autumn**

With countless new product launches, innovative technologies and live demonstrations of the latest smart manufacturing solutions, the PPMA Total Show this year is set to be the ‘must attend’ event of this autumn.

Anyone who needs to make their processing and or packaging operations more efficient or who would benefit from investing in robots and industrial vision options, then a visit to the NEC, Birmingham would be more than worthwhile.

For three days in September (27 – 29), Hall 5 will be transformed into a focal point of innovation across a broad range of technologies and will deliver smart solutions across the entire production line for attendees.

Pre-dinner drinks will be followed by a three-course dinner, with live music, casino and dancing.

**The complete production line event awaits**

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**Enjoy a laugh with Jason Manford**

TV comedian Jason Manford will entertain everyone at a gala dinner to be held on Tuesday 27 September during the PPMA Total Show exhibition, so reserve your place or table now so that you don’t miss out.

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Pre-dinner drinks will be followed by a three-course dinner, with live music, casino and dancing.

**To register for your free visitor badge, go to the show website at:**

W www.ppmatotalshow.co.uk
Fully flexible working week
made permanent at the MTC

The Manufacturing Technology Centre (MTC), the research & technology organisation that supports manufacturers to adopt some of the world’s most advanced manufacturing equipment, has announced it will permanently implement flexible working measures including a four-day week, following a large-scale, two-year trial which saw 50% of employees report higher productivity.

The decision to trial the new approach followed an in-depth review of flexible working options, in response to employee feedback. “We’ve been operating flexible working patterns since April 2018, but employee engagement surveys have shown that staff wanted to extend this further,” said Vicki Sanderson from the MTC.

**EMPLOYEES SURVEYED**
“...in-depth review of flexible working options, including researching what was important for millennials and generation Z, as 79% of our workforce fall into these categories,” she continued. “Work-life balance was the priority, and our survey results reflected this.”

Starting in April 2020, the Fully Flexible Working Week trial provided a range of flexible working arrangements – including a four-day week – to approximately 615 employees.

As a result of these measures, 83% of employees reported that they were happier, 42% said their energy levels had increased, and 40% experienced improvements in their mental health, according to a staff survey.

A separate external evaluation carried out by Loughborough University found that the reaction from employees had been “overwhelmingly positive”.

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References:
https://www.machineryupdate.co.uk

Some of the world’s most advanced equipment, has announced it will permanently implement flexible working measures including a four-day week, following a large-scale, two-year trial which saw 50% of employees report higher productivity.

The decision to trial the new approach followed an in-depth review of flexible working options, in response to employee feedback. “We’ve been operating flexible working patterns since April 2018, but employee engagement surveys have shown that staff wanted to extend this further,” said Vicki Sanderson from the MTC.

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- 0.2Nm Resolution/Accuracy
- All Data Uploaded as a CSV or US Digital Signatures Compliant File
Inefficiencies in motor driven assets can be identified free of charge

ABB is currently inviting companies to unlock the hidden potential in motor-driven applications with its free, no obligation Energy Snapshot.

Following a half-day, on-site energy assessment, the resulting report will provide data that will help participants identify improvements to the health of motor-driven applications and reduce operating costs.

The company says it can also identify upgrades that will help to reduce product breakdowns and maintenance costs and also allow improvements in proactive maintenance activities to leverage performance improvements. The report also includes specific equipment recommendations and identifies any under-used functionality on existing motor-driven applications.

Using data collected during the assessment, the report will contain all the information a company needs to build a compelling business justification for making motor-driven assets more energy efficient, more reliable and cheaper to operate, says ABB.

You can book your Energy Snapshot by clicking on the link below.

https://campaign.abb.com/ EnergySnapshot2022

The training team can be contacted

Climate neutrality for German sites in anniversary year

Optima is complementing its existing sustainability strategy with an holistic environmental and climate strategy, for which it has been awarded the label “CO2-neutral company” from the Climate Protection Foundation Baden-Württemberg in Germany.

The company’s new plan is being introduced as part of its 100th anniversary, and this package of measures will reduce its climate footprint by an additional 25% by 2030. In addition, all German locations have been operating net climate-neutral since this year.

By 2023, Optima will be able to determine the individual climate footprint of client projects.

A tray seal company is offering heat sealing masterclasses to food producers and retailers

Proseal has developed a special training course to help customers further improve the quality of their film sealing. The company’s Heat Sealing Masterclass sessions show food retailers and their suppliers the various steps required to meet an ideal standard of sealing for their particular applications and delivers expert advice on best practice and also overall material usage.

The class provides participants with a set of practical solutions to solve and prevent the most common sealing issues. As part of this, Proseal has created a clear set of definitions for what constitutes a good seal, based around what the company defines as The Three Pillars of Heating Sealing – Materials, Design and Maintenance.

As the precise sealing requirements will vary depending on the type of industry, each class is tailored to individual customer applications, recommending appropriate best practice, good housekeeping, maintenance, and quality control procedures.

ABB says its Energy Snapshot gives a new perspective on maintenance costs

Anniversary was celebrated with a stylish summer ‘do’

This summer, the employees and their partners celebrated IntegratedAIR Systems’ 20th anniversary of delivering air conveyance systems to manufacturing industries around the world. The company has expanded to four UK sites and a new filtration and services division has been set up recently.

The BBQ with live band was held in the gardens of Grantley Hall and group managing director Graham Marginson said he was proud of the client connections, success and reputation that the company had earned over the years and the team, who strive to continue to deliver this service to customers.

Finding new ways to reduce plastics use

If you are interested in the latest developments from PPMA members that are helping to downgauge, replace or use new types of plastics materials, then you can find details in our special Plastics-free? feature that starts on page 102 of this issue.
industrial security is becoming standard...

Joe Lomako
IOT BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT MANAGER

The implementation of internal procedures to address the security of systems used in industrial operations often lags behind other cybersecurity efforts, so a different approach is required.

Today’s smart factories are actively leveraging the potential of interconnected systems to streamline production, increase output and reduce waste, while also increasing production flexibility. However, the growing dependence on interconnected technologies in the industrial environment increases our vulnerability to cyber threats. From the theft of proprietary technical knowledge to threats of plant shutdowns and even damage and destruction of critical industrial assets, the risk of cyberattacks on industrial operations represent a genuine concern that can impose significant financial costs and even put lives in danger. Therefore, taking action to strengthen industrial cybersecurity is more important than ever.

While efforts to address cyber threats targeting ICT systems are generally well-established in many organisations, the issue of managing threats targeting operational technology has only recently become a priority. As a result, the implementation of internal policies and procedures for addressing the security of technologies and systems used in industrial operations often lags behind an organisation’s other cybersecurity efforts.

A different approach is required to address cybersecurity requirements specific to industrial automation and control systems (IACS). IEC 62443 – ‘Industrial Communication Networks – Network and System Security’ is a series of internationally accepted standards, technical reports and technical specifications that provides a systematic approach for assessing and mitigating current and future cybersecurity risks for an IACS.

Based in part on the principles found in a number of different national cybersecurity standards, the IEC 62443 series provides a clear yet flexible framework that is equally applicable in discrete and process-oriented manufacturing environments in a diverse range of industries.

14 SEPARATE PARTS

Including 14 separate parts, the IEC 62443 series details the specific cybersecurity responsibilities of individual participants (‘roles’) that are involved in the development, deployment, use or maintenance of industrial control systems and components.

These roles include:

- Asset owner – individual or organisation responsible for one or more IACS
- Product supplier – manufacturer or developer of hardware or software components integrated into an IACS
- Service provider – individual or organisation that provides support services or supplies to the asset owner for an industrial control system or component. This includes integration and maintenance services.

The specific requirements presented in the IEC 62443 series also give equal weight to the contributions of people, processes and technology in ensuring cybersecurity in an industrial environment.

Six out of the 14 separate documents in the IEC 62443 series represent a good starting point for industrial organisations seeking to secure their IACS from cyber threats:

1. IEC 62443-3-1 – specifies requirements for asset owners of IACS. The security program must define security capabilities that apply to the secure operation of an IACS.
2. IEC 62443-3-4 – details a comprehensive set of security capability requirements for service providers of all types involved in the integration or maintenance of an IACS. The standard provides for the development of ‘profiles’, which can be used to address the unique characteristics of specific environments.
3. IEC 62443-3-2 – establishes requirements for defining an IACS system, partitioning a system under consideration into zones and conduits, assessing the risk for each zone and conduit and establishing their respective target security levels.
4. IEC 62443-3-3 – defines system security requirements applicable to automation systems and networks.

For more information contact www.tuv-sud.co.uk

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Festo says its pneumatic cobot launch heralds a new era of working and that no other technology has such a sensitive and flexible approach to human-robot collaboration as pneumatics.

The cobot owes many of its advantages, such as its sensitivity, weight and value for money, to the benefits of pneumatics, says the company. The direct drives in the articulated joints are cost-effective and particularly lightweight because, unlike electric solutions, no heavy gear units or expensive force-torque sensors are required.

This new cobot is cost-effective for small and medium-sized companies, which often rely on manual work processes. Its flexible application options mean that small batch sizes or work steps can now be processed automatically. Thanks to its intuitive and simple commissioning and programming, it is quick and easy to get to grips with so extensive training is not required by users.

Festo says that this pneumatic cobot will be cheaper than electric cobots in the same class and is designed to provide excellent value for money in its main application area of small parts handling with payloads of up to 3 kg. “When it goes on sale next year, the Festo cobot will set new standards in human-robot collaboration with its ease of use,” Dr Frank Melzer of Festo tells Machinery Update.

The cobot consists of the hardware itself, a handheld module and the Robotic Suite – software for intuitive commissioning and programming. This package makes it possible to commission and program the cobot in less than an hour. Prior knowledge of robotics is not required either, because the self-explanatory software contains clearly visualised and standardised function blocks.

Pneumatic drives enable the robot arm to be guided by hand easily and without any resistance so that waypoints or paths can be taught quickly and precisely. Thanks to lightweight construction methods, the cobot weighs in at well under 20 kg so that it can be deployed quickly and flexibly at different locations in a plant.

With a length of 670 mm, it is just like a human arm and has the right reach for it to be perceived as a helping third hand when working with a member of staff. Thanks to the flexibility of the pneumatic drives, the cobot acts sensitively – at a speed appropriate to the situation and with fluid, harmonious movements.
A learning app developed by Fette Compacting is allowing manufacturers of pharmaceutical and nutrition products to become more agile and digital in their manufacturing techniques of solid formulations.

The OSDi (Oral Solid Dosage and Digitalisation) Business Unit of Fette Compacting, a company represented in the UK by EuroPharma Machinery, develops software solutions to facilitate the work of producers of solid formulations. The alva learning app was launched in April with the purpose of training or further educating equipment operators. This new software solution makes comprehensive knowledge available around the clock – regardless of location.

TRAINING SOFTWARE

Behind the learning app is browser-based training software that can be used both on a PC and on mobile devices. It is therefore available always and everywhere which is what its name stands for: always available, or alva for short. It conveys well-founded knowledge about the machines and the production process in an appealing and interactive way.

The app thus helps to train new operators quickly and easily and to qualify them for work on the tablet presses.

The extensive learning content is based on the knowledge of experienced full-time trainers. Another app has already gone through and successfully completed all of the measurement series. It will help to minimise unplanned machine downtime through predictive cleaning, maintenance, and inspection.

You can have all this performance at a price that’s similar to traditional MAP systems.
Heat sealing to benefit sarnies

Extending the shelf life of sandwiches so that they are as good to eat as on the day they were packed is behind the latest launch from MPE UK. The new SL1400VG is an inline heat sealing machine with a small footprint, ease of operation and simple maintenance.

This flexible SL1400VG can increase output for sandwich and lunch ranges for food shops and the catering trade as well as large-scale production facilities. Suitable for sealing sandwiches with any sort of fillings, the machine provides a consistently accurate seal and twin conveyors for speed. And, says MPE, it can provide a shelf life of up to nine days.

**RECIPE-DRIVEN SYSTEM**

The machine has a recipe-driven configuration system allowing for a rapid switch of products which are loaded into the machine and indexed until they move into the seal station. The atmosphere in the packs is then modified before the product is hermetically sealed before being delivered onto a flat belt for final packing and transport.

Sealing of up to 20 packs per minute is achievable.

“Our experience of the tray-sealing industry means we can deliver highly versatile alternatives to the marketplace which are robust enough to be used in the toughest environments,” says MPE’s technical director John Hodgkiss. “We’re excited at what the SL1400VG can bring. “It’s aimed at significantly increasing the shelf life of cardboard-packed sandwiches while still employing MPE’s machine design philosophy of a small footprint, simple to operate and maintain,” he continues. “Not only does this inline machine heat seal sandwiches and other lunch time products, but it also increases their shelf life through MAP technology by longer than we’ve seen before in the market.”

The new SL1400VG is manufactured in the UK using food-grade stainless-steel construction and guarding.

“The need for speed and accuracy is driving automation and innovation in the food industry, so we continually strive to provide exactly what our customers need to stay ahead of their competition and meet their own customers’ demands, as effectively and efficiently as possible,” says Hodgkiss.
Valco Melton has redesigned its melter to offer the Kube, a unit that is billed as a more functional and energy-efficient system.

The new Kube melter upgrades production energy efficiency by optimising the heating process. Thanks to its improved insulation, the new unit minimises energy lost to the environment which translates into economic savings and more sustainable operations.

Fully compatible with other previous standards, it features up to 8 outputs with a simple electrical and hydraulic connection of peripherals for enhanced flexibility. Its design includes a range of different sizes and melting capacities providing the best configuration for each manufacturing process.

In addition, the unit features a fully integrated, automatic adhesive feeding system that prevents charring and optimises the time the adhesive stays in the tank.

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As an option, FlexFlow Control upgrade records the total adhesive consumption to avoid deviations from set values and to optimise the amount of glue per product.

The new Kube melter can also work with VMConnect. With this upgrade, an authorised connection through KubeCloud allows Valco Melton to monitor specific operational parameters to proactively propose recommended maintenance. This is designed to eliminate any unprogrammed downtime.

**Tel: 01952 677911**  **Web: www.valcomelton.com**

Verder says its Verderair e-PURE electrically driven double diaphragm pump uses a new kind of technology for diaphragm pumps.

This pump series works using a horizontal fluid path to provide a more energy efficient process. The pump does not need expensive compressed air, so there is less maintenance cost, lower energy consumption and a longer life span. Meanwhile, its housing is manufactured from solid machined PTFE or PE (UHMW) and the other wetted parts are made from PEEK and SS 316L.

This means e-PURE delivers a sustainable solution combined with diaphragm pump advantages.

In operation, the fluid moves through the pump horizontally. The electric drive ensures the reciprocating movement of the diaphragms so that the diaphragm chambers are alternately filled and pressed. This pump design utilises flapper valves instead of ball valves, a reduced number of flow bends and moving parts resulting in fewer friction losses.

The speed of the fluid and the energy efficiency of these pumps is therefore optimal, says the company, while its plug and play design allows for easy set up.

**Tel: 01924 221001**  **Web: www.verderliquids.com**

The new Verderair e-PURE pump is now available.
New Machinery

Latest bagger handles jumbo wipes for users

Building on the success of its Citadel-R monobloc bagger for round refill and consumer wipes, Shemesh Automation Wet Wipes says it is first to market with a new offering for jumbo wipes makers. Called the Citadel-J, this stand-alone monobloc unit automatically stuffs jumbo-sized (typically in the 600 sheet-count to 1,200 count range) nonwoven rolls into premade bags, accurately fills them with liquid (typically 3 to 5 litres) while providing constant support beneath the heavy bag. Bags are then sealed, and the finished product is ejected at speeds of between 10-15 packs per minute (depending on product-specific variables).

The equipment has been developed in response to two emerging industry trends. Firstly, wipes manufacturers are beginning to transition away from rigid packaging such as canisters and buckets towards flexible packaging. This not only means they use less plastics, but also flexible packs take up less space – allowing manufacturers to make savings on transport costs and also reduce their carbon footprint.

Secondly, while the initial Covid-related surge in demand for consumer wipes may have settled down post-pandemic, it’s clear that the market for jumbo wipes in flexible packs, commonly used in hospitals and gyms, is still growing apace. Citadel-J is designed to connect seamlessly to existing slitter/rewinders, allowing manufacturers to benefit from complete A-Z hands-free operation.

“Citadel-J is a great example of a business listening to its customers and bringing to market a machine that really offers an answer to requirements that had been left unaddressed by the wider market for too long,” explains Shemesh Automation ceo Shai Shemesh.

The new 13 MP autofocus camera

Autofocus camera is specially designed for industrial needs

The uEye XC from IDS Imaging Development Systems is specially designed for industrial requirements. Its components offer long availability – a must for industrial applications – and it can be used in logistics, in the medical sector and in robotics applications.

Thanks to the integrated autofocus module, the vision standard compliant USB3 camera can easily manage changing object distances. With dimensions of only 32 x 61 x 19 and exchangeable USB Micro B connection, the camera can be easily integrated into image processing systems.

Useful functions such as 24x digital zoom, auto white balance and colour correction ensure that all details can be captured perfectly.

The new 13 MP autofocus camera

The 3-model range is optimised for space, flexibility and carrying capacity. Designed for smaller loads of up to 29 kg, the ER-Flex 100 – 5e has a daily running time of 17.5 hours with optimised charging. Next in line is the ER-Flex 250 – 10e which extends the running time to 20 hours and can carry larger loads up to 186 kg.

Top of the range is the ER-Flex 250 ESD – 16e which is specifically designed for the safe handling of electronic components.

All models are based on either an MIR 100 or MIR 250 AMR platform onto which is mounted a low (standard) or high module. The Universal Robot 6-axis collaborative arm can be specified in three sizes – UR16e, UR10e and UR5e – dependent on the payload required.

The ER-Flex robots will be seen at the PPMA Total Show

The flexibility of automated transportation robots can now be extended by the inclusion of a collaborative robot arm

New from RARUK Automation is a series of automated transportation robots whose flexibility is greatly extended by the inclusion of a collaborative robot arm. The new ER-Flex robots, designed and manufactured by Enabled Robotics, are ideal for addressing labour shortages and automating repetitive tasks and are easy to programme. They are fully autonomous, don’t need to run on tracks and can even operate lights out.
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Flow sensors monitor high-pressure cleaning

Designed specifically for accurate measurement of liquid flow rates in high-pressure applications, even if the flow rate is fluctuating rapidly, the new SBZ224 flow sensor from ifm electronic is ideal for monitoring and logging the performance of high-pressure cleaning systems. Typical applications include use in meat processing plants where customers demand detailed records to show that cleaning, which is often performed with short bursts of liquid spray, has been carried out to the required standards.

ifm’s SBZ224 sensors have a flow rate measuring range of 1 to 50 litres per minute and can be used at pressures up to 200 bar. Thanks to their mechatronic flow measuring principle, the sensors have a response time of just 100 ms, which not only allows them to deliver dependable results in spray systems, but also means that measurement accuracy is unaffected by air bubbles and turbulence.

An integrated temperature sensor with a measuring range of -10 to +100°C is also featured and, in many applications, this eliminates the need for a separate temperature sensor, which saves money and reduces plant complexity. Both temperature and flow measurements are accessed via an IO-Link interface, which is also used for parameterisation and diagnostics. In addition, conventional switching, analogue and frequency outputs are provided.

The wetted parts of SBZ224 flow sensors are fabricated from stainless steel which is highly resistant to attack by all common cleaning agents, and the sensors have an IP65/67 ingress protection rating.

Range of tubular drag conveyors are added to product portfolio

Spiroflow is now offering the full range of Cablevey tubular drag conveyors in its product portfolio. The move follows the announcement in April by Chicago-based private equity firm May River Capital of the creation of Automated Handling Solutions (AHS), a platform that will leverage the product offerings of both Spiroflow and US-based Cablevey Conveyors under a single brand.

Cablevey Conveyors designs, engineers, assembles and services tubular drag cable and disc conveyor systems for food/beverage and industrial powder processors, seeking conveying performance with systems that are clean, fast, energy-efficient and cost-effective.

“The added-value that this partnership will bring to both parties will undoubtedly help us achieve our collective long-term goals and growth objectives,” says James Podevyn, Spiroflow’s joint managing director.

Geared motors developed specifically for use in Food and Beverage applications

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New food-grade robots have been added to the i4H range to deliver safe handling in the food and beverage sectors

Omron has added new food-grade robots to the i4H SCARA product line for safe handling in the food and beverage and packaging industry.

The company’s food-grade grease and oil are NSF H1 registered and ISO 21469 certified. The robots utilise extreme pressure lubricants specially developed for the grease lubrication of machinery in the food and beverage processing and packaging industry. An IP65 ingress protection rating also allows for protection against dust and water jets from any angle.

These robots come with 650 mm, 750 mm, and 850 mm reach options for easy handling in a wide range of applications. They are available in table or ceiling mount configurations, and 210 mm and 410 mm quills lengths.

Advantages of this new range are:
- Ideal for use in food and beverage packaging and processing applications
- Good seal compatibility helps reduce any potential oil leakage
- Excellent water resistance
- Ability to work with primary (unpackaged) or secondary (packaged) food products
- Handles payloads of up to 15 kg.

The i4H is available in a wide range of configurations to fit any work cell, says Omron.

Scayl has partnered with Klarna to make the shopping experience for its range of entry level filling and packing machines even easier.

Klarna allows you to split your purchase over three payments, with no interest or fees added on. This means you can make your purchase today, and you can try it before you buy. Pay up to ten days later, and only pay for what you keep. For example, when purchasing the Phill 500 machine using Klarna, you can make three interest-free payments of £500.

To use this new facility when purchasing items on the Scayl website, users simply add item(s) to the cart then head to the checkout; select Klarna at the checkout to pay in the most convenient way for the purchase, then manage the orders and payments in the Klarna app.

Macsa ID UK has introduced a labelling station system for paint and chemical companies.

The versatile solution, which has been specially developed for easy integration into production lines, is capable of labelling containers of varying shapes and sizes without the need for manual adjustment.

Helping to reduce line stoppages and increase production efficiencies, Macsa’s labelling station offers continuous application of labels, without interruptions due to format changes.

A modular, precision system, it automatically adjusts to the shape of new paint or chemical containers or cans: cylindrical or conical, with or without handles, and of different diameters.

It is controlled by Macsa’s Integra software that memorises the parameters of each product and format, which can be quickly and conveniently adjusted via a simple-to-use touch screen.

Incorporating a printing unit that allows labels to be printed in semi real-time, the labelling system also automatically adjusts to both the number of labels per container and the production speed.

In addition, a laser detector checks whether the container and handle, if there is one, is in the correct position, meaning the label is always applied in the correct place.
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Discharge station delivers gentle handling advantage

Syntegon Technology is launching the Distribution Continuous Slide (DCS), a flexible discharge station for round cookies, crackers and biscuits. The modular discharge system consists of one or more stations arranged one behind the other. These are equipped with belt slides for particularly gentle handling, minimising mechanical stress and thus reducing product breakage and loss. Providing optimum pack style flexibility, the Syntegon DCS distributes cookies onto belt legs for packing them flat or on-edge into pile, slug or tray packs.

Syntegon says this system's guard-free design provides operators with unrestricted process visibility, safe accessibility and easy cleaning.

In operation, cookies, biscuits and crackers are taken from the cooling conveyor and are continuously distributed to the leg belts. They are neither pushed nor dropped but slide over the belts and are thereby protected from any mechanical stress. This reduces product loss significantly and leads to efficiency gains, especially when handling particularly sensitive products.

The higher the speed of the belt slide, the more product is transferred to downstream leg belts by the DCS. On the individual legs, a further belt slide arranges the straight product stream into an S-shape. This arrangement ensures the products are evenly distributed across the entire width of the belt, preventing them from wedging or overlapping.

An homogeneous product stream is created, ensuring a constant feed to the packaging machine. The smart design of the Syntegon DCS also provides high format flexibility. For a format change, it is sufficient to modify the belt speeds via the HMI module and save them as a new format.

With flat feeders, chicane conveyors arrange the products into columns and feed them to the packaging machine in a constant product stream. With on-edge handling, products are gently transported by vibration to the packaging leg in ZF vibratory channels.

Traceability options are offered through reporting software

With food traceability continuing to grow in complexity, Loma Systems is making food manufacturers and processors aware of the importance of having robust traceability systems in place. Its TRACS (trending-reporting-analysis-capture-software) is a graphical reporting software tool for efficiently monitoring production to easily identify performance issues.

Integrated within Loma’s IQ4 metal detectors, X5 Series x-ray systems, CW3 checkweigher or combination systems, TRACS communicates over a network, automatically capturing data from multiple machines, at various sites if needed. The software displays live and historical batch data for all production runs, providing trend analysis of key measurements for each batch.

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Engelmann & Buckham (E&B) has been offering ink jet systems since the technology was first introduced in the UK and has continued to work closely with its packaging customers to find the perfect solution. The IntegraJET range of ink jet systems are a result of these ongoing trials and modifications, developed solely for E&B to satisfy the requirements of its customers.

The key differentiator, the software system, has been developed with its main manufacturer and is billed as offering significant improvements on existing systems. The new software, called Vega, allows any job to be set-up on the screen and its simplicity means that little training is required for operators. The intuitive system reduces the skills requirement needed by customers to operate the equipment all round.

Alongside the ink jet system is a new solvent based ink called IntegraINK IT2961. Specially formulated for E&B, the ink has been designed to work with the new IntegraJET system to provide superior adherence to a multitude of substrates, therefore enabling optimum performance.

Another key advantage of the ink is that users don’t need to clean the system every time they take a break from printing. The inks can be left for short periods and continue to perform when printing is resumed.

Chairman of E&B Iain Buckham has been involved at all stages of the development of the ink and ink jet system, “We listened to our customers’ comments on how to improve their ink jet systems and requirements for ink onto packaging,” he explains. “They all wanted a system that needs little technical skill to set up and an ink that adheres to all substrates but doesn’t dry when you stop,” he continues. “The IT2961 has these characteristics and more. “We were then able to work with our manufacturer to make tweaks and changes to develop a robust, easy to use, next generation ink jet system,” he tells Machinery Update. “The new ink came as a natural part of this process and has been trialled across a number of businesses, who have been delighted with its performance.”

This new ink jet system and ink will be demonstrated on a variety of packaging machines on stand C32 at the PPMA Total Show 2022 (more details on page 75 of this issue).
Latest robot series can answer bespoke needs

As manufacturing continues to exploit the benefits of using robotic systems across an ever-increasing range of applications, Yaskawa has unveiled its Signature Edition 2022, a series of robots which can be delivered within short lead times, with a low carbon footprint and tailored to individual needs.

At its European factory in Slovenia, Yaskawa develops mechatronics and robotic solutions for companies throughout Europe, the Middle East, Africa and the CIS states. This substantial manufacturing capability, combined with having subsidiaries in these regions along with European production sites, means they are located where their customers need them to be, says the company.

The Signature range encompasses the GP Series which means there is a model to suit a wide range of applications and requirements including the GP7, GP12, GP20, GP25, GP50, GP88 and the GP180. This represents one of the widest ranges of robots covering payloads of just 7 kg and a range of 927 mm, up to the performance of the GP180 which has the ability to handle payloads as high as 180 kg across a range of 2702 mm.

The key benefits of the Signature range of robots include high accelerations, speed, energy efficiency along with a compact footprint.

This range of robots covers a number of applications including welding, palletising, handling, packaging, assembly and pick & place, says the company.

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Cost-cutting energy monitoring is a new, real-time option

Sick has launched the FTMg with Monitoring App, an Industry 4.0 solution that helps users to see the data they need to reduce energy consumption through better control of compressed air. It enables production and maintenance teams to monitor compressed air continuously so they can reduce leaks, improve operating efficiency, and cut costs.

Using data from strategically positioned FTMg flow meters, the cloud-based Monitoring App visualises a wealth of both real-time and historic data about compressed air usage. It enables continuous energy management, condition monitoring and predictive maintenance of compressed air systems from any internet-enabled device.

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End load cartoners solve the inefficiency issues of retailer

Bradman Lake has solved the cartoning issues being experienced by a market-leading supermarket chain and a producer of all kinds of added value goods, by supplying two of its established cartoners. The retailer was facing a challenge with its existing cartoning systems due to poor operation and efficiencies that resulted in significant losses during crucial production periods. A reliable and efficient packaging solution was required that could be installed quickly and safely.

Bradman Lake supplied two of its well-established SL903 fully automatic end load cartoners each with SATI infed systems to maximise the deliverables with the least amount of operator input. The company also worked closely with the supplier of product delivery equipment to ensure smooth running, reduced operator input and minimal waste. Subsequently, the system was successfully and safely installed, with no detrimental operational impact on the customer. The packaging system was delivered on time and commissioned with a vertical start-up, which helped the customer to meet its production requirements.

A constant theme of training, advice, and mentoring to the customer and its staff maximised the outputs and increased familiarity with the system, resulting in system ownership at all levels, says the company.

Eleven years after its launch, Syntegon has sold its 300th bar packaging machine, a success it puts down to seamless system integration and continuous improvement. This latest bar system has been purchased by Biscuits Leclerc, the Canadian food manufacturer. Since launch, the efficient system has been adapted and in addition to centralised control of all modules via a shared user interface, gentle handling is a key advantage; another is the flexibility.

As Emilie Allen from Biscuits Leclerc says: “We don’t want to buy a new machine every time we launch a new product.” On the Syntegon system, the company can change tools and process different packaging sizes and styles on one line.
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A 3D-based vision system for pick & place processes

Porcelain is renowned for its durability and pristine white colour, but that colour poses manufacturing challenges in a pick-and-place operation, but a recent installation has delivered a 15% reduction in production costs.

Faced with a manufacturing process involving different sizes and shapes of teacups, two automation companies designed a 3D vision-guided robot pick & place system that could locate teacups randomly placed by human operators on the production line earlier in the process.

The resulting system comprises a Matrox AltiZ 3D profile sensor connected to a Matrox 4Sight EV6 vision controller running Matrox Design Assistant X vision software, and a collaborative robot that is entirely vision guided. The vision system performs three key tasks. First, Matrox AltiZ performs a 3D scan of each teacup while mounted at the end of the cobot arm. Unique algorithms running inside the profile sensor generate 3D depth-map data and outputs the results through the GigE Vision interface.

Next, Matrox Design Assistant X locates individual teacups by situating their unique coordinates relative to the carrier tray and finding the handle position and degree of rotation of each cup. Finally, these coordinates are passed to the cobot using socket communication, so the robot arm can pick individual teacups and present them to the appropriate glazing and decorating line.

The entire production process can now be overseen by a single operator.

Consultancy firm provides several services to deliver an AI-supported robotic project

The team at pm Connections was brought on board to deliver construction & design management services, along with machine compliance and UKCA marking services, and to act in the role of principal designer for a company seeking to automate its workforce by incorporating AI-supported robots into its production line.

“The machines we were brought on board to assess were to be used to transport goods from one area of the warehouse to another,” explains Stuart McCreddy, managing director at pmC. “We provided complete support for this project, ensuring that the equipment was compliant with machine safety requirements, starting with EN12100 through to UKCA marking.”

Operations & service delivery manager at pmC and principal designer for the project Belinda Long acknowledges that there were a number of challenges faced which included being brought into the project after the initial design had been signed off.

“The main challenge came in having to work retrospectively, in a sense, and trying to fit in hazard prevention measures around a design that had already been finalised,” she says.

“Additionally, these AI-supported machines were entirely new to us,” says pmC’s Marie Dobson.

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Scott Europe will deliver its proven materials handling solutions to a major meat producer in Canada in a record deal for the company.

Scott will deliver its first fully automated warehousing system for one of the largest JBS’s beef processing facilities in Canada, with an estimated value of US $35 million.

This success was achieved thanks to co-operation between Scott Europe (ex Alvey), Scott US and its partner Savoye. The new automated solution will replace a fully manual system, increasing product handling efficiencies by allowing more flexible and high-speed carton sortation and management.

Scott will deliver an end-to-end solution, integrating the Savoye AS/RS solutions seamlessly with its own conveying, palletising and AGV options. The project will be managed and supplied from Scott’s facilities in Europe, while the AGVs will be supplied by Scott in the US.

Two Pol 4.0 new generation palletisers from Scott will be used in the project.

This new system will manage 600 SKUs and allow for optimised order management. It will enable 3,000 cartons per hour to be picked and 40,000 cartons per day to be shipped, while high-speed palletising of 120+ pallets per hour will help provide high-density storage for 85,000 cartons.

The whole thing will integrate with Warehouse Execution Software for complete monitoring, management, and control of all the goods produced.

This project, which is due to be installed in the next two years, is a significant step forward for Scott and supports its strategy to expand its proven materials handling business outside of Europe.

Seal inspection for cheese is an in-line quality process

Flanders Food Production has again equipped its newest slicing and packaging line with an Engilico in-line seal inspection system, following the success of SealScope in a previous installation at its site.

Cheese is packaged under a protective atmosphere to ensure its shelf life, so quality control of the seal is critical to avoid open or leaking packages. The SealScope system verifies, by means of sensors mounted on the sealing bars, whether there are folds or cheese in the seal which can lead to open or leaking packages. Also, if a protective tray on which the cheese slices sit is badly positioned, SealScope will detect this defective package.

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- Installed and commissioned with after sales support

Omori’s wrapper uses SealScope

Seal inspection for cheese is an in-line quality process

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When co-packer Blends Flavours & Colours needed to increase its capacity for beverage production and filling, it turned to Krones. Indeed, Andrew Richardson, who manages the beverage plant for Blends, has been so pleased with the outcomes, he describes the entire experience as being brilliant.

“It’s our first time working with Krones,” he says. “Probably the best supplier we have worked with.”

As well as supplying a new water treatment plant to fit into a shipping container, Krones has also worked on equipment for the company’s new syrup room, and its new canning line that includes pasteurisation equipment.

During the planning phase of the project, it quickly became apparent that a new water treatment system and a new syrup room together would not be able to fit into the existing factory building. This was where the container came into play, with only the 20,000-litre product tank installed outside of it.

In the plant in Neutraubling, where the vessels and modules of the Hydronomic are assembled, there was some astonishment when a shipping container suddenly appeared alongside the usual vessels, tanks and components for the installation. However, for accessibility in the 3 x 12 metres container, the same planning basis as for installation inside a normal building was used.

This Hydronomic system is not the only new process technology equipment that Blends is getting from Germany: The installation team of Krones subsidiary Milkron has been in Knowsley since January this year to assemble the systems of the new syrup room. Here, the aim was to be able to produce as broad a range of beverages as possible. That’s because alongside carbonated soft drinks and water in a variety of flavours, Blends also has mixed alcoholic drinks such as hard seltzers in its portfolio.

“For the canning specifically, we have a customer in the sports and nutrition sector who wanted to release a range of cans,” explains Richardson. “The new syrup room and the canning system now enables us to offer our customers the corresponding diversity,” he says.

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The syrup room contains various dosing stations, for flavourings or high-proof alcohol, for instance, a sugar-dissolving plant and two blending tanks each with a capacity of 15,000 litres. The scope of supply also included a CIP system.

Over the last few years, Blends has made a name for itself as a co-packer and has seen a lot of customers switching from bottles to cans because of sustainability, so it needed to strengthen its position in that market.

The Modulfill VFS-C can filler from Krones is configured for an output of up to 15,000 containers per hour, with future capabilities of achieving 19,200 containers per hour. Blends, though, is not actually going to utilise that to the full initially; instead, processing about 8,000 cans an hour.

“We try to offer 50 ml up to 500 ml if we can and we do the same for bottles, where we go from 20 ml to 5 litres, so we have to be very flexible depending on the customer and what they want us to do,” adds Richardson. The new system can be used to process both slim and sleek cans – in sizes between 150 ml and 330 ml – as well as still and carbonated beverages. These are mixed with the aid of a new Krones Contiflow. For sensitive beverages such as milk alternatives, Krones also installed a VarioFlash J flash pasteuriser.

01942 845000
www.krones.com
Switch to x-ray inspection saves £80k for powdered products line

Premier Foods, Knighton, has moved to end of line testing using an x-ray inspection system from Minebea Intec to scan complete, packaged products which has eliminated waste, saved money, greatly reduced labour and also saved on materials costs.

Prior to this, Premier was scanning bulk material using metal detection. Testing for ferrous, non-ferrous and stainless steel was done every hour which, says Minebea, created waste product at a high cost to Premier Foods.

The company blends, processes and packs powdered foods and drinks such as custard, dried skimmed milk and cocoa powder. It wanted to transition to packaging that was fully recyclable by replacing a metal lower end with paper. During this process, it also decided to move to end of line testing to try and reduce wastage. Minebea's Dymond S side shoot equipment has enabled Premier to achieve both of these objectives and in-turn it is now making huge annual savings.

By using x-ray equipment, it now loses just one container when a reject is detected and can use existing containers with product in to do the routine hourly tests. In addition to metal, other foreign bodies such as glass and stone can also be detected.

“The Dymond S detection range is much better than what we had before, it gives us greater scope to test for smaller foreign bodies,” says Lee Millward, who is the engineering manager for Premier Foods, Knighton.

The huge benefit to the company is that it has saved them time and costs in cleaning; the old reject system had lots of pipework that required cleaning, (especially as it was testing loose powder) whereas because completed product in containers is now being checked, there’s no mess and no cleaning.

“There’s no waste which is a cost saving of £80,000 per year which means the machine has paid for itself in just over a year – that’s a phenomenal ROI considering the life expectancy of this machine,” says Millward.

Premier Foods, Knighton, has also opted for the Premium Plus Service from Minebea which guarantees response times for any issues of up to four hours.

“I give Minebea Intec 10/10 and I’ve already recommended the x-ray machine to our other manufacturing sites at managers meetings,” concludes Millward.

“The product, the staff and the overall experience has been excellent.”

Premier Foods, Knighton is saving £80,000 a year since the Minebea install

A form, fill and seal machine installation has helped a UK dairy to supply single portion dairy products to a customer

When BV Dairy was approached by a potential customer looking for a solution to pack single portion dairy products which meant the machine needed to be sourced and installed within a short time frame, it turned to Intamac Packaging Systems.

“During the pandemic we saw eating habits change and we were required to increase our range for co-packing to include further single-serve solutions for our customers,” explains Josh Heydon, who is operations director at BV Dairy.

“We needed to source a form, fill and seal (FFS) machine at short notice and Intamac, through E&B, were able to offer us a cost effective, turnkey solution with an ink jet coding system within a fast delivery time.”

Intamac engineers installed the IPS 420 Mini SS vertical FFS machine, with thermal ink jet system, in late December 2021. The machine is designed for a straight cut pillow pack and can pack a range of dairy products with a 100 g fill volume. Almost immediately the demand on the machine far outstripped the original numbers specified and the line ran extensively to meet demand, way beyond initial specification.

“We adapted our working procedures and pushed the machine to its max and were impressed by its ability to keep delivering,” says Heydon.

“We really smashed out some great numbers in the first few months of production.”

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Welcome to our 68-page PPMA Total Show feature in which you will find details of a broad range of equipment and services to help you plan your visit to the NEC, Birmingham in September.

As well as finding new and innovative technology to help your business navigate its way through the uncharted territory in which we are living, you can also set aside some time to listen to the brand new ‘The Future of...’ seminar programme. Nearly 30 presentations from industry experts will take place throughout the three-days of the show.

PPMA Total Show Nec, Birmingham

Show opening times:
Tuesday 27 Sept: 9.30 – 5pm
Wednesday 28 Sept: 9.30 – 5pm
Thursday 29 Sept: 9.30 – 4pm

The range of topics to be covered is breath taking and are designed to meet the diverse range of visitor needs. How automation can help UK manufacturing move towards net zero; How to master the delivery of knowledge when it is needed and The future of wireless in smart digital factories are just some of the subjects that make up the programme. The future of next generation automation; The autonomous and collaborative factory and Turning the tap on industry cashflow can be listened to, as can Why you should implement 3D vision into automation projects and IoT strategy and Business innovation: the OEM perspective.

Then there are talks on AI for machinery; cyber security; UKCA marking requirements; product compliance; logistics; processing plant-based products; label verification and also serialisation.

Further topics are joining the list every day, so keep an eye on the show website to keep up to date with the very latest issues that will be presented.

And don’t forget to register to ensure a quick and easy entry into Hall 5 at the NEC, Birmingham between Tuesday 27 and Thursday 29 September.

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End of line cartoner will be demonstrated

Bradman Lake will be demonstrating its SL903 end load cartoner fed by a cascade bag loading system at the PPMA Total Show, this year.

This cartoning equipment erects, loads, and closes cartons in one modular frame and the machine guarding has been designed to provide both maximum visibility of operation and excellent machine access for operators. The equipment can handle a wide range of cartons and products, including lower grade carton materials, with easy, fast and repeatable size changing.

Carton designs handled include standard closure, reverse tuck, aeroplane tuck, tuck and glue closure, assortment carton or gable top cartons. The company is inviting visitors to discuss any specific product needs on the stand at the exhibition.

This established range is available with a variety of product infeed and collating systems to provide complete automation with upstream equipment in a factory. A wide range of optional features, including a low-level hopper, are available to enable the machines to be readily adapted to meet the customer’s specific product requirements.

Conveyor systems can be supplied to facilitate product transport from flow wrapping machines and to feed cartoned product to case packing or shrink-wrapping machines (which are also supplied by the Bradman Lake Group). During the exhibition, the machine will be fed by a cascade loader that includes infed conveyors that feed bagged product into a rotary pocket. The function of the machine is to collate single or multiple bagged products and synchronise their placement into the infeed pockets of an automatic cartoner.

High shear mixing equipment ranges from smaller-scale mixers to production models

Silverson Machines will show a range of high shear mixing equipment, from smaller-scale laboratory mixers to full scale production mixers such as the Flashmix at this year’s PPMA Total Show.

As well as the Flashmix, visitors can see working examples of the Silverson Batch, Ultramix and laboratory mixers including the Verso-UHS-HV.

The Verso-UHS-HV is a bench top in-line mixer designed for mixing high viscosity products.

Silverson’s FMX5 will be on its stand
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Excel Packaging Machinery is launching its new monobloc EX-30S filling and cap tightening machine at the PPMA Total show which has been newly designed to offer first time users as well as established customers a range of advantages. Its compact and modular design provides flexibility and greater productivity to users, even in smaller production areas.

The company will also display its latest EX-US1 bottle unscrambler which is supplied with an automatic bulk elevator and a bowl feeder tool to suit customer-specific bottles. From Axomatic, Excel will demonstrate the AXO 800 tube filling machine designed for filling and closing plastics, laminated or aluminium tubes. A smaller semi-automatic AXO 30 tube sealer is also available in this equipment range. These filling and sealing machines are available with exclusive features and several technical advantages and in use, allow for easy cleaning.

Excel’s own equipment will also be on the stand including a twin head Acufill and Ex-Fill-s filling machines which handle liquids and oils. Also on display will be the Excel in-house designed semi-automatic soap/bath bomb machine.

Finally, a range of semi-automatic machines from long-term Italian partner Omas will be showcased, including the volumetric piston DVPB for liquids, creams and paste products and the DPMC, heated version which is specifically designed for filling balms, waxes and body butters.

Inkjet printer launch offers reliability and it is easy to use

Aricode Printing Technology is launching its first continuous inkjet product at the PPMA Total Show this year. This new A-2120 machine has been designed to be reliable and easy to use. Its all-metal exterior, IP66 rated sealed electronics enclosure and patented thermal management are delivering this reliability, even in the harshest of production environments.

The A-2120’s intuitive UNIX based 10.4 in large graphical user interface allows the printer to be started with the touch of a single button, and the automated start-up and shutdown routines thoroughly clean the printhead to provide availability at every shift.

It features a patented ink system module, a filter pack, a patented plug & play printhead module and specially designed ink cartridges.

The A-2120 ink jet printer debuts machines which handle liquids and oils. Also on display will be the Excel in-house designed semi-automatic soap/bath bomb machine.

Finally, a range of semi-automatic machines from long-term Italian partner Omas will be showcased, including the volumetric piston DVPB for liquids, creams and paste products and the DPMC, heated version which is specifically designed for filling balms, waxes and body butters.

STAND D44
W www.aricode.uk

The new monobloc EX-30S filling and cap tightening unit

STAND B40
W excel-packagingmachinery.com
Collective intelligence is one focus that both manufacturers represented by Acer Machinery Solutions will be promoting at this year’s PPMA Total Show.

UET will be launching its new Compact 5 cartoning machine at the event, especially demonstrating the clever engineering that enables operators to carry out toolless changeovers. Thanks to the patented fully adjustable starwheel which accommodates a large carton size range, adjustments between the carton width, depth and height can be made without the need for change parts.

The company will be available on the stand to discuss this latest technology prepared with Industry 4.0 in mind. This delivers more features from the touch panel which has been developed to gain valuable data feedback.

The Compact 5 machine on show accommodates several carton formats including tuck in, hot melt, euro hanger and cartons with a combination of features. It also offers a number of additional features such as automatic load options including robotic infeed solutions, vision systems, automatic leaflet inserters and track and trace solutions.

Bespoke options for special applications can also be discussed during the three-day event.

Meanwhile, Acer will also be demonstrating how Mespack is focusing on digitalisation and artificial intelligence as its key innovation drivers. The company’s Athena control suite platform, for instance.

Mespack offers proven technology for handling a wide range of recyclable film materials and paper across its horizontal and vertical form, fill and seal machines for the production of sachets, pouches and stick packs, including its premade pouch machine range.

Focus continues in technology development enhanced by collaboration with a wide network of key partners on new materials from sustainable sources, recyclable ready (polyolefins, mono PE, mono PP), recycled (containing at least 20-30% PCR materials) and biodegradable or compostable (PHA, PHB, PLA, paper).

With sustainability not just associated with materials, Mespack is developing systems to make machines more efficient by reducing electrical and pneumatic power supply usage. Other developments are the use of servo driven systems that can be stopped when the machine is idle, or the next generation pneumatic systems. Other related innovations reduce machine produced waste by auto adapting to film changes.

Customers of Mespack can test their choice of sustainable materials on the inhouse pilot machine at the company, prepared with zipper applicator and spout inserter, to produce 100% fully recyclable sachets/pouches.
Visitors to FlexLink’s stand at the PPMA Total Show will find a compact spiral elevator that allows company’s to significantly reclaim and optimise their valuable production space.

With a footprint of 585 mm in diameter, this spiral elevator can elevate products to a height of 2900 mm and be seamlessly integrated into most production lines in just a few hours.

The purpose of the spiral elevator conveyor is to transport products vertically, bridging a difference of height. The spiral conveyor can lift the line to create space on the production floor or function as a buffer zone. The spiral-shaped conveyor is the key to its uniquely compact construction that saves valuable floor space for users.

“Our spiral elevating solutions work perfectly in filling and packing lines,” explains FlexLink’s UK sales manager Rob Toolen. “Our spiral-shaped conveyors ensure a continuous product flow while the elevation is as simple and reliable as a normal straight conveyor.”

Possible applications range from handling individual parcels or totes to items such as shrink-wrapped bottle multi-packs or cartons.

See the spiral elevator at the event

www.flexlink.com

Ref: 190
Award-winning Atwell Labellers has over 30 years’ experience of supplying labelling machines and labels, and also now offers contract labelling services. Visitors to its stand at the PPMA Total Show can discuss its labelling systems, ranging from semi-automatic to fully automatic, which are able to meet customer requirements for anything from wraparound bottle labelling to labelling of tapered pots, from labelling top and bottom, to labelling products front & back, for fitting into large scale production lines or for desk-top applications.

The company designs and builds all of the labelling systems it supplies to ensure they meet and exceed expectations. Each system is installed by its own fully trained engineering service team. As part of its ever-increasing range of products and services offered, Atwell also provides a complete design and printing service for self-adhesive & linerless labels as well as RFID labels. A contract labelling service in a purpose-built unit next door to its original factory is also available to support its existing and new customers.

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Visitors to the Robatech stand at PPMA Total Show 2022 are invited to find out their savings potential in adhesive applications as well as new ways to save energy. The company offers the following to make these savings possible:

• With the smart Vision adhesive melter
• With the fully isolated Performa heated hose
• With the new Vivo 18 coating head
• With its solution for pallet stabilisation
• With the help of collaborating robots. Gluing processes that are being carried out manually can now be performed much more efficiently with collaborative robots (cobots). The company calls it 360° Gluing. Cobots are quick, precise and above all, they are safe and easy to use; they can easily be connected to Robatech’s gluing equipment and they relieve operating personnel from monotonous manual work. Visitors to the stand can also find out about reliable silicone release liners that, says the company, do not have to be expensive. “This is because the quantity control integrated in the melter, in combination with the new Vivo 18 coating head, ensures a consistently uniform adhesive application quantity,” says sales and service manager at the company Shaun Baker. The new Vivo 18 coating head can also be used for the fast application of tear strips.

Finally, the Vision adhesive melter is billed as having the best energy efficiency in the industry. It achieves a system availability of more than 99% and thus contributes to high process reliability.
Electronic Digital Position Indicators

DD52R-E-RF
New system with radio frequency transmissions (RF)

In addition to the vast Elesa range of position indicators, comes the new DD52R-E-RF indicators (Elesa Patent). This system allows for faster, more reliable machine set up by use of a wireless connected control unit (UC-RF), which handles up to 36 position indicators.

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Yorkshire Packaging Systems (YPS) is returning to the PPMA Total Show this year with what it describes as an industry-disrupting machine: the Flexo 700 E-Com.

Part of the company’s ‘Paper or Plastic E-commerce’ range, the model is an all-in-one bagging machine with print and apply labelling capabilities. It combines the wrapping automation skills of German machinery manufacturer Hugo Beck with British-made labelling technology from Clearmark, both of whom are long-term partners of YPS.

Designed to streamline eCommerce and mail order applications, the new system delivers speed and efficiency, as well as accuracy for high-speed, high-volume bagging operations. Using opaque flexible shrink films, the Flexo 700 E-Com forms tight shipping bags for various sizes of product that adapt to each product’s exact length. This void-avoiding method minimises material wastage and improves the aesthetic finish of all bags, says YPS. Furthermore, the machine boasts a 700 mm wide sealing jaw. This wide aperture allows for a diverse range of products to be packed, future-proofing any warehouse.

“The game-changing unit can reduce labour costs by replacing up to eight people per line compared to a manual process, and will be available for live demonstrations on our stand,” says Glyn Johnson, managing director of YPS.

The company will also be exhibiting the Max Pro 24 vertical bagging machine which is said to be the widest autobagging unit of its kind available on the market. With a generous aperture of 24 in, it is roomy enough to bag two shoeboxes side by side. Plus, with a thermal Zebra printer for direct on-bag printing and precision bag deflators, the Max Pro 24 can handle larger hand-loaded eCommerce packs.

YPS will be demonstrating the unit’s capabilities using a range of 100% recyclable, high-definition, printed and branded poly bags. An side feed sleeve wrapping machine will complete the display, as well as a range of shrink film sample rolls of a barrier material from Bollore containing recycled content material while being food-safe and 100% recyclable after use.

**See us at PPMA Stand A90**

www.yps.co.uk
Show debutant brings four of its latest units

Advanced Tooling Systems Group (ATS) is making its debut at this year’s PPMA Total Show to demonstrate the wide variety of solutions available from the company’s specialist Packaging Machinery division for industries including food and beverage, FMCG, cosmetics, pharmaceutical, chemical and automotive.

ATS Packaging will feature no fewer than four of its latest machines on its stand which will demonstrate a range of lidding and capping solutions. For instance, the new FBL-150 jar lidding machine provides a fast and efficient automatic placement and tightening of metal Twist-Off (TO) and Press-on, Twist-Off (PT) closures onto glass jars and bottles with a vacuum seal. It is ideal for a variety of products including mayonnaise, ketchup, cooking sauces, pickled vegetables, jams and honey, with speeds of up to 500 jars a minute.

The Gemini LSC40 linear servo capping machine removes the need for expensive bottle change-parts and allows the machine to be mounted over an existing conveyor system and moved between production lines for maximum flexibility. Depending on the number of capping heads and the bottle handling system selected by users, a speed of up to 80 bottles a minute is easily achieved.

The RSC40 from ATS’s Omega range is a high-speed rotary capping machine, which can be supplied with up to 10 heads and offers speeds of up to 240 bottles a minute. It can accommodate both traditional magnetic clutch and advanced servo-controlled tightening technologies.

Meanwhile, the Gemini LSC40 linear servo capping machine removes the need for expensive bottle change-parts and allows the machine to be mounted over an existing conveyor system and moved between production lines for maximum flexibility. Depending on the number of capping heads and the bottle handling system selected by users, a speed of up to 80 bottles a minute is easily achieved.

Also on show will be a model from ATS Packaging’s range of bottle unscramblers that allow multiple container formats to be carefully sorted and orientated in a single machine system. The range has been designed and developed to provide an unrivalled combination of precision, quality and also reliability.

**STAND G74**

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The EX-FILL-S is a robustly constructed gear pump filling unit, ideally suited for both the first-time user of liquid filling machines or within a busy production environment, where flexibility, accuracy and rapid changeovers are required.

Omas modular “Uniflex” filling line. The Twin-Head automatic filler and capping line allows flexibility for filling a wide range of products. Available in 2, 4 and 6 head versions.

Axo 800 - Automatic tube filling and closing machine. Automatic tube loader, Hopper capacity 45 litre, Output Speed - 3800pcs/h

Omas Filling and Capping POD machine for E-liquid pods. Designed for quick easy change over between pods and flavours available as both semi-automatic and fully automatic high-speed lines.

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A range of solutions are designed to answer new market challenges

Solutions to help companies maximise efficiency and quality will be showcased on the Ishida stand at this year’s PPMA Total Show. The equipment on display from Ishida’s multthead weigher, checkweigher and x-ray inspection system ranges will demonstrate how the company’s technical expertise and longstanding experience can help companies achieve their production and quality targets. Alongside the machines exhibited, Ishida experts will be available to discuss specific customer projects and challenges and outline the company’s wide-ranging capabilities in the design and installation of fully integrated packing lines.

From its extensive range of multthead weighers, two models developed for specialist applications will be shown. The 14-head CCW-RV-214W-GS is designed to weigh fragile products such as biscuits and confectionery, reducing product breakages by up to 20%, while the proven 6-head Ishida CCW-R2-106WB fresh food weigher (FFW) can handle sticky fresh and bruise-sensitive products with ease and efficiency.

Ishida’s quality control solutions will be represented by the company’s IX-EN-4093-S, a high-performance entry-level x-ray inspection system that combines sensitivity with minimal operating costs; and finally the DACS-G-F015 checkweigher, developed for high-speed production lines. The CCW-RV-214W-GS uses gentle slopes and reduced angles throughout the weigher to ease the passage of hard, brittle or delicate products. In particular, the curved hopper design creates controlled decelerations that allows product to roll and settle gradually thus minimising breakages. The weigher also delivers accuracy, thanks to its triple combination calculation software that can calculate three optimal weight combinations, double check them and then select the one nearest to the target weight - all in a single cycle.

Meanwhile, the CCW-R2-106WB receives product from a conveyor belt to the top of the weigher, where one or two operators evenly distribute it via belt feeders to the weigh hoppers. This helps to maximise the speed and efficiency of the weighing process. The DACS-G-F015 checkweigher with integrated metal detector uses the company’s Force Restoration Disconnect feature prevents damage to the weigh cell and extends machine life.

On the stand, visitors will find a machine that features Ishida’s IDCS (Ishida Data Capture System), software that captures and manages data from every pack that passes over the checkweigher. In addition, both the IX-EN and DACS-G-F incorporate Ishida’s Retail Reject Confirmation (RRC) software that checks and confirms that any out-of-spec products or packs have been successfully removed from the packing line, in line with individual UK retailer quality standards and codes of practice.

Films that contain 30% post-consumer waste form part of the technically advanced pallet wrapping options on show

Visitors to the Excelerate stand at the PPMA Total Show this year can discuss its range of technically advanced and environmentally friendly pallet wrapping solutions. The company focuses on assisting businesses in achieving higher levels of operational efficiency and also sustainability.

The company is inviting visitors to its stand to find out “just how much of a game-changer these films can be to your own wrapping operations”, with a variety of solid and breathable products available for demonstration.

Goliath PCW film is available in both hand and machine rolls, making it suitable for all types of packing operations, be they manual or automated processes. The company has also developed a range of breathable films that also include 30% recycled post-consumer waste material. As with Goliath PCW, these films retain all the practicality and durability of the original product, with the added benefit of a positive impact on corporate sustainability.

With clear exemption from the Plastics Packaging Tax, Goliath and breathable PCW films can help businesses keep costs down as far as possible. These products have been engineered to save users time, money and materials for each pallet wrapped, with an emphasis on superior strength, durability and high tension.
A stretch wrapper and a range of strapping equipment is on show at this year’s PPMA Total Show, Gordian Strapping will be showing its updated stand design and a new way of demonstrating its products to visitors.

An automated packaging securement system with the PKG Discovery A stretch wrapper and the OMS 875 strapping machine sitting on a conveyor line will form part of the display.

The PKG Discovery A is a high-performance turntable stretch wrapper featuring a film cutting, clamping and welding system that automatically adjusts to pallet dimensions. The OMS 875 from its range offers precision and consistency of strapping technology and fits seamlessly into automatic production lines.

Meanwhile, Gordian plans to display a standalone StraPack RQ-8A machine which will be shown as an individual solution, but this unit can also be used within a production line.

This strapping solution includes photo-electric cell technology, automatic re-feed and easy strap loading.

“We have invested in both the stand itself as well as the system populating the space,” says managing director at Gordian Strapping Andrew Lea.
Flow wrapper feeders deliver handling gains

Paramount Packaging Systems, the UK and Ireland’s exclusive distributor of Fuji’s horizontal flow wrapping equipment, is debuting Fuji’s next-generation inline feeder, FW3400B, with the FFS1000 multi-belt infeed. Visitors to its stand at the PPMA Total Show will see how this intelligent, multi-belt inline feeding system allows randomly spaced products to be managed gently and effectively, at high speeds, from upstream production into the in-feed of the flow wrapper. The machine is easy to clean and compatible with a wide range of industries, but its hygienic design makes it the ideal solution for packaging food, pharmaceutical products and medical devices.

Making a return to the stand will be two machines from Fuji’s Alpha 8 packaging series – an FW3410B with a flighted infeed, and an FW3710BS/B with an attachless infeed. The Alpha 8 range includes over 25 different models, all based on a common electrical system, fully computer-controlled with seven servo motors.

Amongst the range are a 3-side seal, 4-side seal and a high-speed box motion model, capable of producing 400 hermetically sealed packs per minute.

To complement Fuji’s range of flow wrappers is a range of infeed and buffering systems to fully automate product collation and feeding, increasing speed, efficiencies and reducing labour requirements.

“We’re excited to be back at the PPMA Total Show and are all looking forward to seeing new and existing customers,” says Paramount Packaging Systems’ sales director Aaron Bessell. “Fuji’s range is a fantastic setup for those looking to implement labour-saving automation into their production facility.”

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Visitors can discuss specific needs

Processing needs are met by a wide range of products/services

Supplier to the UK process industry Moody Direct is proud to offer its customers a ‘one-stop-shop’ solution to all their processing requirements, anything from a single spare part right up to a full turnkey project.

Officially representing some of the best-known original equipment suppliers in the industry, the company will be displaying only a small range of the broad-spectrum of processing equipment it can supply, service, maintain, test and encompass within any project.

Its technical sales and service team will also be available on the stand to discuss individual requirements to find the most appropriate solution for any process application.

STAND J44
W www.moodydirect.com
At this year’s PPMA Total Show, Cama will offer visitors the opportunity to see a robotic line with a cell of 12 x Triaflex robots demonstrated on its stand. It is designed to pick up products and place them in trays, a solution well suited to confectionery, bakery and a variety of other sectors.

The machine on show is a fully integrated robotic solution, with a small footprint and a cell of Cama’s own 12 x Triaflex delta robots. It is capable of packaging about 1000 products per minute.

Meanwhile, the cell configuration allows for two product loading lines, one on the right and one on the left, with various pick & place patterns available to users. The lines have an advanced vision system, which allows them to recognise product shapes and carry out quality checks in operation.

They are also equipped with an integrated digital-twin simulation system, the flagship of the first phase of Industry 4.0 from the company.

The operation of the machine is visualised with a large HMI touch screen, mounted directly on the machine and allowing users to see a virtual twin operating in sync with the live machine. Digital twin technology and the ability to simulate solutions during the design phase of machine design is, says Cama, a game changing technology. It allows Cama to build machines correctly first time and therefore deliver successful automation projects to customers.

This design strategy is especially useful in sectors such as frozen food, where there is no guarantee of being able to test product which is 100% representative before machine installation, due to the need to maintain sufficient quantity of product in the cold chain. The digital twin therefore helps to simulate a real production cycle and helps to prevent problems that, if discovered during assembly and testing, can be an issue.

Cama’s Industry 4.0 capability also includes an augmented reality package where through the use of a tablet, overlays for user information relating to maintenance, changeover and spare parts are brought to life for the user as an augmented reality view on the tablet’s screen.

Looking ahead, Cama will be rolling out its technology to new segments including personal, home and healthcare sector.
Faedah Solutions will be showcasing a number of its products from its Check Sure range alongside Logopak International (UK). For instance, Check Sure - CI is an entry level system for SMEs that want to release data from their equipment but either don’t know where to start, cannot afford larger automation systems or only want to capture certain data for a short period of time. Available in a tough, portable case, it is designed to connect to any number of inputs/triggers such as pack count, temperature or vibration monitoring, and can be easily deployed. The unit can be rented or purchased, allowing all sizes of sites to enter the automation arena.

Also on the stand will be the Check Sure paperless check system, the Check Sure - MBV (Mobile Barcode Validation) and the Check Sure Autocoding option. This is an in-line scanning system that can control the print code and in-line scanners from a central database. It is designed to reduce downtime by allowing operators to set printers up much quicker.

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Southern Manufacturing Review

NEW CONTINUOUS MOTION CAPPER FOR TRIGGERS, PUMPS, SCREW CAPS & MORE

The Mobile Barcode Validation unit

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EPSON will be demonstrating its full range of ColorWorks label printers, accessories, and robots in action at the PPMA Total Show.

Whatever the market; product labelling, food packaging, chemical or healthcare, logistics or warehouse labelling, Epson says it has a solution to fit requirements. Visitors are invited to see how operations can become more agile and cost effective while at the same time streamlining colour label printing with the ColorWorks printers.

MAKING A MARK... for Epson Robotics, will show the latest addition to the range of SCARA robots, the GX4 and GX8, plus its popular and competitive VT6-A901S six axis robot that utilises vision for product identification.

The range includes the entry level ColorWorks C3500 and the versatile ColorWorks C6000 series, which print up to 4-inch or 8-inch widths and have the option of label peelers for print and present label application. For high-volume, high-speed durable label printing, the ColorWorks C7500 Series with optional unwinder and rewinder accessories meets requirements. Producing stunning quality labels from a compact form factor, is the new ColorWorks C4000.

STAND A52
www.epson.eu

Dust control firm continues birthday celebrations at show

Dustcontrol UK is set to exhibit a range of its highly effective extraction equipment at the PPMA Total Show, as the company continues to mark 50 years of extraction solutions for the production industry. The Dustcontrol team will be displaying a range of both fixed and mobile cyclone-based dust extractors and air cleaners, as well as a selection of mobile machines on its stand.

The DCTM-Module for example, which comes in several models, is an optimised stand-alone unit for source extraction and industrial cleaning. Alternatively, the firm's evolved GFF (Good For Food) range of food and pharma-grade dust extraction accessories and equipment is also set to be on display in Birmingham.

Finally, the team will be showcasing its DC AirCube 500, DC AirCube 2000, DC Tromb 240V and DC 1800 EX Stainless Steel.

STAND E30
www.dustcontroluk.co.uk

PPMA Total Show Preview

Bring samples to check out metal detector units

After a highly successful 2021 event, MDS is once again exhibiting at this year's PPMA Total Show.

To make sure visitors get the most from their visit, MDS will be operating several systems, allowing them to see its range of machinery in action. If customers bring samples with them, they can test the equipment in situ and see for themselves how effective the systems will be within their factories.

The display includes the newly designed FFV gravity fall metal detector with a 'Cowbell' reject valve, which is ideal for free falling granular products.

Also on display will be the Multi Spectrum MS21 technology. This system can deliver improved sensitivity using multiple frequencies simultaneously, giving an advantage over conventional multi frequency detectors.

This year's display will feature a conveyor mounted metal detection system together with a reject option which is built to the latest BRC and all retailer codes of practice.

As well as full production models, MDS will show its compact MS21 conveyor system which is designed for offline testing in re-work or lab applications, plus the entry level THS-21 E3 frequency machine, again designed with the full higher-level code of practice.

All metal detectors on show will be networked using the IXC card for data capture, recording and management. This allows the company to demonstrate how a data capture and quality control system can be set up with multiple units and, says MDS's sales and marketing director David Hale, we can discuss how this can be best configured for visitors' own management systems.

STAND E10
www.mds.org.uk

Product labelling systems to suit all market sector needs will be joined by new robotics that are easy to integrate

Epson will be demonstrating its full range of ColorWorks label printers, accessories, and robots in action at the PPMA Total Show.

The range includes the entry level ColorWorks C3500 and the versatile ColorWorks C6000 series, which print up to 4-inch or 8-inch widths and have the option of label peelers for print and present label application.

At the PPMA Total Show this year, MDS will be showing a wide range of equipment including this CEIA THS-21 model.
Plastics-free options deliver for fresh produce and drinks cans

Keymac Packaging Systems is working with fresh produce growers and packers in Europe to reduce the amount of plastics currently being used in packaging by modifying its already successful ready meal sleever machine.

Visitors to its stand at the PPMA Total Show can discuss the K101 sleever that runs a 100% plastics free pack for loose fruit such as apples, pears, kiwis and nectarines at speeds of up to 60 packs per minute, as well as new cartoning options. Meanwhile, the newly launched K101S servo machine increases output to up to 80 packs per minute with this model already sleeving fruit in Italy.

Size changes take about 5 minutes

The pack comprises a cardboard tray which is filled with loose fruit in either 4, 6 or 8 product count formats. The filled tray then arrives at random to the K101’s infeed where it is timed into the machine and inserted into a pre-glued cardboard sleeve which is taken from the machine’s hopper by a servo driven rotary feeder.
Flow wrappers and VFFS units use a diverse range of materials

Delta 3000 flow wrapper with automatic infeed will take centre stage on IMA Ilapak’s stand at the PPMA Total Show, demonstrating how food producers can reduce their line-side labour requirement while producing hermetically sealed MAP packs from latest generation films.

“Two of the topics on everyone’s lips are workforce shortages and sustainable packaging; the equipment we have on show illustrates how we can help our customers to address both challenges,” says Tony McDonald, sales and marketing director at Ilapak UK. “Automating the infeed of the flow wrapper is a relatively simple step that eliminates the need for manual loading,” he continues. “It is a starting point, and we are hoping that at the exhibition it will also be a talking point for discussions about how we, as part of the IMA Group and FLX HUB, can work with our customers to implement labour-saving automation technologies at every stage of the packaging workflow.”

With its heavy duty, hygienic design, the Delta 3000 is ideal for the fast-growing chilled sector, where it is used to pack everything from sandwiches, pies and cheese portions to fresh fruit and veg, meat, poultry and fish. IMA Ilapak is currently experiencing particularly high demand from producers of sandwiches and hand-held snacks thanks to the Delta 3000’s ability to accommodate complex laminates, paper films and recyclable PE and PP mono films with its long dwell sealing technology.

“The Delta 3000 has a long dwell sealing head which is capable of running films that a rotary sealing system simply cannot handle,” says McDonald. “Paper films are notoriously difficult to run on flow wrappers because of their structure but we have overcome issues by deploying special geometry surface treated sealing jaws in conjunction with consolidated long dwell technology.”

The long dwell sealing jaws and special surface treatments developed by IMA Ilapak also enable the Delta 3000 to run heat-sensitive mono materials at high speeds.

The company will also demonstrate its capabilities in vertical form, fill and seal (VFFS) applications, showing its Vegatronic 6400HD bagger.

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At the same time, IMA Record will show the Panda Red horizontal flow wrapping machine, which is billed as a flexible machine suitable for both food and non-food industries.

IMA Ilapak’s Delta 3000

IMA Ilapak products range:

- Horizontal Delta Blade
- Helical Blade, Plough Share
- Paddle Blade
- U Trough, Continuous
- Rotary Drum Blender
- Lab Mixer

Delivering concise, even mixing with efficiency and durability.

See us on Stand A11
Comprehensive display includes a complete line

At this year’s PPMA Total Show, Universal Filling Machine Company is presenting the most comprehensive display of its products on its stand that also has a fresh look.

Equipment on show includes the Handifil manual filling machine which will sit alongside the company’s range of semi-automatic filling machines: the Posifil EF, Posifil V-Twin, the P5000, Vacufil and Easifil. Front and centre this year will be a complete filling and capping production line, consisting of a Posimatic EV fully automatic filling machine with 6 filling heads, feeding bottles via a conveyor directly into its increasingly popular Universal belt capper. Every machine on display will be fully-functioning and the company is happy to demonstrate just how productive they are to visitors, while remaining simple to set-up and operate. Each of the machines can accommodate a wide range of fill volumes, liquids and containers which in most cases can be changed in under five minutes, without tools. Aside from the versatility and performance of the machines, the company is proud of their quality. “When you choose a Universal machine, you choose a machine which is manufactured in the UK to the highest specifications, using certifiable food and pharmaceutical grade materials, without compromise,” says Universal’s managing director Mike Hollis. “We underpin this commitment to quality by striving to provide unsurpassed service and technical expertise.” More than two-thirds of orders come from existing customers in any given year.

Overwrapping machine offers flexible, reliable and easy to use operation and handles the latest sustainable materials

Sollas UK will be exhibiting the Sollas XE overwrapping machine at the PPMA Total Show at the NEC this year. This modular built automatic overwrapper is a flexible solution designed to meet the needs of customers that require reliable, easy to operate equipment that produces a high-end product finish at a competitive price. It can package single items or bundles at medium to high speeds, and a key benefit is the quick change over facility.

All Sollas machinery is capable of handling the latest sustainable packaging materials including heat sealable paper, advanced cellulose films, biodegradable OPP materials and compostable options.

**PACKAGING MATERIALS**

In the UK, Sollas also supplies many of its customers with these packaging materials and will be pleased to talk to visitors about their specific requirements.

Sollas UK also undertakes overhauls and refurbishments at its workshops, if required.

**STAND** C2

[www.sollas.com](http://www.sollas.com)

The Sollas XE overwrapper will be demonstrated for visitors
Omori Bellpack

State of the art flow wrappers for resealable packaging

Reduce your plastic consumption by up to 50%
Save up to 50% on your energy costs
More automation, requiring fewer operators

Packaging Machinery Supported by UK Based Engineers
- Specialists in pre-made pouch machines, stickpack and sachet machines, form-fill-seal and pillow pack machines
- Serving the food, medical, pharmaceutical, cosmetic and technical industries

Packaging Materials
- Spouted Pouches
- Sachets
- Stickpacks

Watch our Machinery in Action

See us at PPMA Total Show Stand C32

Tel 01420 593682 sales@intamacmachinery.com www.intamacmachinery.com
On the Elesa (UK) stand at the PPMA Total Show, visitors can find new solutions to create structures and equipment for materials handling with simplicity and flexibility in several industrial sectors.

The range includes bases, clamps with mounting plate, hoses, and T-shaped and two-way clamps in reinforced polyamide-based techno polymer that are available in black or grey colours for a better aesthetic match with the natural colour of aluminium.

The new tube connectors present all the main characteristics of plastics material and allow the structures to be flexible and modular: they can be disassembled and modified in any moment and mounted at a different point.

Main characteristics are:
- Techno polymer and AISI 304 stainless steel for a greater resistance to corrosive agents and for outdoor applications
- Easy cleaning due to a design that is free from corners and edges with a smooth surface
- Available in black or grey colours for a better combination with the natural colour of aluminium
- Hinged joints to adapt the structure to all required inclinations
- Resistance to tube rotation and pull-out guaranteed at tightening torque
- Available in two dimensions and with reduction sleeves for compatibility with commercial tubes (diameter tolerance of ±0.2 mm) with a diameter between 12 and 30 mm
- Clamping kit for frequent adjustments. The angle is adjusted by attaching two clamps or bases equipped with coaxial circular crowns that can be locked in the desired position.
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The screws supplied with the various elements so that the tube can be locked without using a hexagonal key.

These products are an addition to the range of components offered by Elesa UK that are used across several industries. Recently, for instance, design display company Portal Devices has been a customer.

“After trying and testing a multitude of machine component providers, finding a balance of strength and weight can become a challenge,” says founder of the company Matt Roberts. “Fortunately, we came across Elesa (UK), and we’ve found their products to be the best on the market.”

www.elesa.com
At the PPMA Total Show, UPM Conveyors will demonstrate to visitors how they can reduce labour and increase profits by using belt conveyors that can incorporate several features. These include product cooling and counting; metal detection via a search coil located under the belt; static elimination and machine integration to the process control system to ensure only good product is transferred, while suspect product is diverted to Quality Control.

The company guarantees that all of its conveyors are suitable for raw food contact with full certification for all relevant components suitable for full pressure wash down and corresponding electrical standards. UPM also has the infrastructure to cater for installation and commissioning of total turnkey systems on a worldwide basis. A recent example is a Spanish based food processor who appointed UPM to design and install a complete belt conveyor system to handle raw meat from cutting animals into sections; dicing and mincing through to packing; freezing and then distribution at a rate of 120 meat trays per minute.
Barcode labelling firm offers new technology

C obalt Systems will reveal its next generation print and apply labelling technology at the PPMA Total Show while celebrating the company’s 25th anniversary. “With 25 years of strong research and development, Cobalt’s pedigree in print and apply labelling and barcode solutions is something we’re all incredibly proud of,” explains the company’s founder and managing director, Tony Hunt. “PPMA Total 2022 is the perfect opportunity for us to celebrate this milestone, but also demonstrate our evolution with strong product development to meet the needs of a changing world.”

Both Cobalt’s existing, well-adopted range of barcode labelling solutions, Nexus 20 and its new range, due for release in 2023, is designed to provide critical automation on the production line: these not only solve the problems of labour shortages and a tough recruitment climate but increase performance and efficiency too.

“Our labelling automation solutions have always provided an exceptional return on investment for our customers,” explains Hunt. “By reducing the overall cost of ownership, enhancing our customer support channels and providing additional functionality, such as remote access, we’re ensuring Cobalt’s solutions remain relevant and sought-after for the industries we serve.”

Also at the forefront of Cobalt’s plans is ensuring it meets its corporate social responsibilities, with a particular emphasis on reducing carbon footprint. The company became a carbon neutral business earlier this year. As a UK manufacturer of print and apply labelling solutions, Cobalt Systems will be demonstrating a range of automation options, including verification and validation applications featuring technology from its long-standing partner Zebra Technologies.

New presses deliver economical drainage and compaction of waste food packaging across a range of pack formats

As the sole UK distributor of Weima Maschinenbau, Fercell will be presenting the latest compaction equipment range and Puehler drainage presses.

Whether empty and dry or filled and wet – the right pressing solution for production and packaging waste as well as used labels are offered. Packaging that is no longer usable is occasionally still filled with fluids. This may include beverage cans, PET bottles or milk cartons. These filled items require proper separation, if only for reasons of volume reduction and cost-effective disposal.

Visitors can discuss the Puehler E series drainage press

While aluminium, paper and plastics can be recycled easily, Weima also offers products for the further use of drained liquids. Presses specially developed for rework applications for example are ideal for the reintegration of high-quality production scrap of all kinds. With the hydraulic presses, all common packaging and containers can be drained and compacted. These include soft packaging, plastic bags, tinplate or aluminium cans, foil-wrapped cardboard, plastic cups, plastic bottles and mixed food waste. A series of fully automatic compaction solutions for used labels and caps are also available.

Visitors to the event that have queries about a specific project, a list of suppliers or general equipment enquiries should visit the Processing & Packaging Machinery Association Group (PPMA) stand for advice. Incorporated in 1987, the PPMA was born out of eight founder member companies and today, it represents over 500 members and has become the voice of the processing and packaging machinery industry in the UK.

Hosting the leading annual trade exhibition for processing and packaging machinery, including machine vision and robotics, is all part of its industry mission.
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✓ TIME SAVING

SEE US AT PPMA 2022, STAND B01

www.fortresstechnology.co.uk
Vacuum, gripping and robotics offer benefits

Piab is helping automation to evolve by providing gripping skills to robots, intelligent flow to materials, and lifting power to humans, and visitors to its stand, from all industries can see its latest developments across these areas.

Piab’s Premium pumps are designed around patented COAX technology, which delivers reliable vacuum performance as well as providing configurable and low weight products that can be adapted to specific needs, applications and projects in markets from food and beverage to pharmaceutical.

In the spotlight within vacuum automation this year is the new cobot palletising tool (CPT). With fast response times, a multi-zone gripper and high energy efficiency, Piab’s latest offering allows users to increase efficiency in their palletising operations. The CPT has both suction cup and foam options in a lightweight unit, reducing end of arm tooling changes and allowing a smaller robot to be used.

New to Piab’s range of vacuum conveyors is the piFLOWp SMART CCO. Including self-learning smart technology, the process of conveying products to packaging, sieving, milling, or dosing is optimised through maximising the use of the system capacity with each new conveying cycle. This results in fewer conveying cycles which therefore uses less energy for the same amount of material conveyed, making the entire process more energy efficient and cost effective.

At the exhibition, Piab will present the piFLOWp system with continuous feeding for demo purposes as well as a larger exploded view piFLOWp.

Pallet load stability is offered through film range and automation in a sustainable way

Hazel 4D specialises in helping customers improve their pallet load stability through its consultancy services that includes sustainable packaging and a range of supporting equipment. Its intelligent load stability program has seen customers

- Reduce plastics by an average 65%
- Save on UK Plastic Packaging Tax charges
- Reduce costs by up to 50%
- Improve load stability

Hazel 4D will show a range of pallet wrappers

Technology demonstrated on the Piab stand meets several sectors needs

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Hazel 4D will show a range of pallet wrappers

labelling, coding & marking

labour costs through equipment such as its range of automatic case sealers and carton erectors. Automatic gummed paper tape case sealers are a sustainable alternative that are also offered.

Visitors to its stand can learn about its custom-designed solutions that are designed to improve business performance, increase efficiency and reduce waste.

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Cimlogic says that digital manufacturing is not just an engineering project. Planning your digital journey

Cimlogic works with companies on their digital transformation journeys and are inviting visitors to the PPMA Total Show to discover how this might work for them.

The company reviews current technology and develops a reference architecture for forward planning and, it says, a successful digital transformation needs visibility (and understanding) of the complete design cycle and supply chain cycle, facilitated through a connected supply chain and an integrated digital enterprise.

On its PPMA Total Show stand, the company can set out these four steps on the journey:

1. Create a Great Factory
   To achieve a smart factory, you first need a ‘really good’ factory. Understand your business KPIs and challenges, analyse these and identify appropriate solutions, designed to maximise ROI and business benefit.

2. Advanced MES and Vertical Integration
   Once the smart factory foundations are in place, you can start planning the strategy to address additional challenges, including sustainability, and on-time delivery in full.

3. Manufacturing Digital Core and the Integrated Enterprise
   Many manufacturers have developed internal systems in a somewhat isolated manner; while companies are making huge investment in technology (PLM, CRM, ERP, SCADA and MES etc), these often operate in silos, with current point to point integration preventing companies realising the full benefit of combining application capabilities.

4. Connected Supply Chain
   The new guiding light is the Connected Supply Chain. Increased connectivity and visibility across the supply chain allows timely responses to unforeseen events as well as reduced risk, fast product turnaround and customisation according to demand.

Cimlogic says companies need to remember that digital manufacturing is not just an engineering project. Whatever the starting point on the smart factory journey, Cimlogic works in partnership with leading manufacturers, from achieving a ‘really good factory’ to a fully integrated, connected supply chain.

STAND B124
www.cimlogic.co.uk
Fastest bagging system will join wrapping and weighing machines

PFM Packaging Machinery’s fastest bagging system will be the star attraction among the company’s range of automated solutions for the food and non-food sectors on display at this year’s PPMA Total Show.

Leading the comprehensive technology line-up on PFM’s stand, the new Comet is equipped with a high speed, rotary long dwell sealing system that has been proven at 200 cycles per minute and is also suitable for gas flushing applications.

Its compact, easy to maintain, hygienic design means this new machine is ideally suited for high speed production environments where space is at a premium. The easy to use and intuitive software ensures simple, easy to learn programming with minimal operator intervention and PFM’s teleservice function offers the benefit of remote diagnostics and upgrades, if required.

Also being promoted during the three-day event this autumn is the flexible Pearl flow wrapper that is capable of up to 120 cycles a minute, the Pearl was developed by PFM to provide all the efficiency advantages of multi-axis servo drive, but at an entry level cost.

“As a result, the machine has become a natural partner or successor to older mechanical machines, providing higher speeds, much lower maintenance costs and faster changeover,” says PFM sales and operations director Chris Bolton.

Additional exhibits include the latest generation PFM C2 multi-head weigher, a machine that is specifically designed for high-speed and precision weighing of granules, pellets as well as similar products.

For those visitors with a more bespoke project in mind, interactive touch screen technology will be available on the stand with video links to demonstrate just some of the company’s more complex systems and installations.
A team you can rely on

With more than 30 employees visiting companies in the UK similar to yours, ifm does more than you might think.

Software engineers remove the hassle of integrating automation solutions and ensure that you are getting all the usable data you can, providing actionable efficiency insights.

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Automation solution engineers will advise you on any aspect of your plant, from a single sensor to a complete Industry 4.0 factory.
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A single demonstration line running on the Omron stand at this year’s PPMA Total Show will reveal how a dynamic manufacturing operation – in this case, filling – can see dramatic efficiency and uptime improvements from the deployment of AI in at least two areas: intelligent machine control and fault detection and remediation.

Too many operations gather large amounts of often unusable data, which is stored in the cloud at plant level, and requires subsequent analysis before it can be acted upon, says Omron. This is why the first of Omron’s two areas of digital intelligence is focused at machine-level, through its Sysmac controller with edge-based AI.

With filling handled by an i4 SCARA robot, the small bottling line will demonstrate how this technology can deliver real-time trend analysis and alerts on the fly.

“The first step is to work in partnership with the customer to establish what data is being extracted from the line, cut out the ‘noise’ and focus on actionable data,” says Omron’s UK marketing manager Stuart Coulton.

This live data-at-the-edge, combined with the controller’s adaptive intelligence, allows the system to flag up any anomalies. Depending on operational priorities, these could relate, for example, to fill level, visual defects or mechanical properties such as machine torque.

Any deviation outside a defined window can be pre-set to trigger a visual alert, alarm or even – in the case of safety-critical variables – a line shutdown.

During the many lockdowns and other restrictions of the past two and a half years, suppliers and users of equipment have often had to resort to remote digital troubleshooting.

In the second area of applied AI to be demonstrated at the Birmingham-based event, Omron will show how it has recognised the strengths of this approach, and formalised them within an Advanced Services offering based on the use of augmented reality (AR).

“Using AR glasses, in-house engineers can work with a remote expert to correct any machine malfunction they cannot diagnose or remedy themselves,” says Coulton.

“Downtime, and especially unplanned downtime, has always been a bugbear for manufacturers.

“Omron’s solution helps to dramatically minimise that impact,” he continues.

“Many businesses will also be conscious of the carbon footprint savings, as well as time efficiency, resulting from this use of technology.”

The bottling line, which is making its UK debut on the stand, will offer visitors the chance to see Omron’s Advanced Services in action.

STAND B34
www.industrial.omron.co.uk

QUALITY HEAT SEALING MACHINES FOR SANDWICH, WRAP, SALAD AND READY MEAL PACKS

- Increases shelf life (for up to 3 days)
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- Greener packaging options
- Food-to-Go and Convenience packs
- Less food waste

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2 YEAR RETURN-TO-BASE WARRANTY

www.sokenengineering.com 01525 376 000
Schubert & Salzer Control Systems is introducing a new series of aseptic and sliding gate valves for which the manufacturer guarantees a high reliability of supply and also short delivery times.

With the EHEDG-certified 6051 aseptic right-angle valve and the new 3A-compliant 6052 hygienic right angle valve, Schubert & Salzer Control Systems offers high-precision control valves and reliable shut off valves for numerous processes in the food and beverage industry. Both sanitary valves can be executed as a shut off or control valve.

The type 8028 sliding gate valve controls liquid, gaseous or vaporous media with high precision and can be used in confined spaces. At a nominal size of DN100, for instance, the installation height of the GS1, the most compact version, is only 487 mm.

The slide gate technology controls the flow rate in milliseconds, by two slotted discs arranged vertically to the direction of flow moving on top of each other in a linear manner. The actuator must therefore only overcome the sliding friction between both discs. That reduces the actuating force by 90% compared to globe valves with the same nominal size at the same differential pressure and is particularly low on wear.

Control valves for food sector

Higher pallet output
Maximum handling speed
High energy efficiency
One EOAT instead of several
Industry 4.0 capabilities
Connectivity solutions offer hygienic versatility

Harting will be exhibiting its Han F+B connector solution at the PPMA Total Show this year. Visitors to the stand can see this range that is Ecolab approved and the housings conform to the directives of FDA 21. All hoods, housings and seals are IP69K rated, so the connections are resistant to water cleaning jets.

As well as hygiene, Harting has also designed in features which keep production line disruption down to a minimum. Operators no longer need to open any cable glands on the control cabinet to decouple field devices, which allows defective components to be quickly replaced.

The company also offers Han F+B Hybrid Ethernet, signal, and power integrated cable assemblies. These ‘plug & play’ assemblies are 100% tested to guarantee high quality standards and are available in customised lengths.

For outside the product zones, Harting also offers a wide range of connectivity solutions. The Han-INOX series, for instance, has stainless steel housings which are particularly resistant to the chemical cleanings used by the food industry. The interior, including the contacts, is safely protected against any splashes of water.

Han-Eco is a new series of hoods and housings available in a range of designs. They are manufactured from high-performance polyamide plastics, which offers IP65 protection and complies with standards IEC 61948 and also EN 455452.

During the event, Harting will also be demonstrating its new Han-Modular Domino range, which meets industry requirements for saving weight and up to 50% installation space by integrating different transmission types in just one module. Power, signal, data or compressed air as well as male and female contacts can now be combined in one module which can be arranged next to each other in hinged frames. Domino modules are also compatible with the existing Han-Modular series.

Helping visitors to get the most productive experience from their visit to the exhibition

Visitors to the PPMA Total Show that have queries about a specific project, or that need a list of suppliers or who have general equipment enquiries should visit the Processing & Packaging Machinery Association (PPMA) stand for advice and guidance.

Incorporated in 1987, the PPMA was born out of eight founder member companies and today, it represents over 500 members to become the voice of the processing and packaging machinery industry in the UK. Hosting the leading annual trade exhibition for processing and packaging machinery, including industrial machine vision and robotics, is all part of completing its industry mission.

Visit the PPMA stand to get advice on equipment on show
No other photoelectronic sensor affected industries as profoundly as the wintec product series by wenglor known for its slanted edge. Wintec enables objects to be detected regardless of color, gloss, surface texture and inclination angle.

- V4A Stainless steel IP69K with ECOLAB
- Resistant to cleaning high pressure at up to 100 bar and 80 °C
- Interchangeable PMMA lens
- Reproducibility of 3 mm even up to 10 m
- Insensitive to ambient light up to 100,000 lux
- Digital and analogue options
- No mutual interference with up to 6 sensors
- IO-Link 1.1 with COM3 and writable process data
- Built-in acceleration sensor
Conveying and processing options deliver operational gains for users

Visitors to the Cox & Plant stand at the PPMA Total Show can learn more about the conveying and processing equipment for the food and pharmaceutical industry that the company has been designing and manufacturing since 1973. The company provides consultancy from initiation through to completion as well as full turnkey projects. Its systems are designed to make customer businesses less wasteful, more efficient, and more productive. The machinery can save space, boost efficiency, reduce labour needs, increase the running time, boost ROI and reduce health risks.

VIBRATORY CONVEYORS
The range includes vibratory conveyors that are designed to be cleaner, quieter, and more efficient than belt conveyors. They offer an ultra-low cost of ownership and world-class hygiene standards and deliver long service. Grading systems are also in the range, including Triple Deck versions that are suitable for the removal of slithers, broken, oversized, undersized or otherwise unsatisfactory produce. It can sort three sizes on the same conveyor.

Metering conveyors that create an even feed as well as spread the product are also offered. In operation, they will guarantee a sustainable input of the product at the start of a production line to optimise efficiencies.

Finally, a recirculation unit can be discussed. It is a tubular conveyor for dusty products that can become airborne on an 18-degree incline and is ideally suited to ATEX environments.
Equipment will display benefits

Engelmann & Buckham (E&B) will be exhibiting equipment from AiCROV, the IBC drum filling company and INVpack, a Spain-based stick pack and sachet machine manufacturer.

For customers interested in improving the sustainability of their products, E&B will also present sustainable packaging solutions from established stand up pouch/doypack machine manufacturers and long-term partners of 20 years, Volpak.

Its stand up pouch machines can easily be upgraded to cope with the latest environmental options, or these features can be designed in from new.

INVpack will be showing a BV3 EVO stick pack monodose machine. This unit is predominantly aimed at the food sector and produces small, single solutions for granulated products. It can run at rates of up to 70 cycles/min depending on the application and is a popular machine for companies looking to utilise the stick pack format.

For date and batch coding, the machine can easily be fitted with an IntegraJet thermal ink jet system, the latest range of ink jet systems available from E&B.

The AiCROV equipment consists of an SP1 basic drum weigh filling machine for liquid and viscous products. This equipment can be used for containers from 20 litres to 1500 litres and is automatic and safe for the operator. It is suitable for drums, IBCs, bottles and jars.

E&B representatives will be on the stand to demonstrate the equipment from both INVPack and AiCROV and also to highlight Volpak’s options for handling sustainable stand up pouches.
Filling and capping units will showcase advantages

Visitors to the Shemesh Automation stand at the PPMA Total Show this year can discuss the latest developments from the company; one in filling and one in capping.

For instance, the latest Asterra mechanical cam rotary piston liquid filling machine is a robust and versatile machine designed to deliver high performance.

“The machine is a positive displacement high technology-based, small footprint, low utilities, sustainable solution,” says marketing director at Shemesh Roni Levi. Asterra is equipped with cam driven filling stations each featuring a proprietary nozzle design to fill products with near zero leaks, splashes, bubbles, or overflow. It offers ultra-high accuracy of +/- 2 ml of filling volume.

It can handle containers of most common shapes and sizes in the food & beverage, chemicals and cosmetics industries. It is suitable for low viscous products such as fruit juices as well as high viscous products, with or without solids, such as goulash, paté, sauces, pastes, tomatoes, honey, puree and jams.

The company can also discuss the new Attilus continuous motion trigger, pump and screw capper that operates at up to 80 packs per minute with show visitors to its stand.

Shemesh says the Attilus capping machine enables higher speeds and enhanced accuracy in automatic caps, pumps and triggers sorting. A robotic sorter based on a Delta robot and an advanced vision system allows the machine to sort and orientate caps from the most complex screw tops to trigger and pump caps.

Also, the capper utilises a servo-controlled pick & place Cartesian robotic arm (gantry two axis robot) to track and deliver the caps to the bottles while in motion, ensuring smoother and faster production.

New/used food processing and packaging equipment plus calibration service offered

Visitors to Fountain Food Machinery’s stand at the PPMA Total Show can discuss the supply of new and also used food processing and packaging machinery. For over 10 years, the company has been buying and selling quality used food machinery and assisting customers with not only sales, but also servicing and operator training.

If a customer has any redundant food equipment, then the company will give a competitive price for it, often quoting from images, or a company representative can attend a site in person. Using its own fleet of fully insured lorries, the company will work around any business hours and will look at anything from single items to whole factory closures.

CALIBRATION SERVICE
In addition to purchasing and selling machinery, Fountain Food Machinery also offers competitive prices on calibration of metal detectors and scales. This thorough calibration and performance validations service satisfies all major retailer compliance requirements. All of its machinery stock can be viewed on the company’s website, with all machinery tested prior to delivery. Nationwide delivery is available as well as on-site training for both operators and engineers.

Spices and powders will be packed

For this year’s PPMA Total Show, Rovema UK will be exhibiting a full twin packaging line for powders and spices as well as an EW wraparound case packer on its stand.

The model BVC260 twin with SDH auger offers high efficiency and reduced downtime due to its sense & seal product detection system, while reliable product protection is delivered through its premium seal technology. Adaptable to various applications, its programmable sealing force, its hygienic design comes without hollow spaces or profiles. As the product area is separated from the drive area, easy and quick cleaning is available.

Finally, Rovema says the line is intuitive and offers an easily understandable operation and user interface. Meanwhile, the company’s EW wraparound case packer provides gentle product handling due to clear programmable sequences on one level. Exact, reproducible format changes for short changeover times and starting phases are also delivered by the machine.

The company’s machine also provides different adjustable partial procedures via the user interface to offer high flexibility for users working on difficult applications. Also, the automatic path calculation feature means the machine is easy to operate to gain maximum performance.

During the three-day event, Rovema will be using a sustainable film material from National Flexible on all its equipment.
Intelligence, beyond the mark.

Smarter printers, packaging operations and brand protection solutions to connect and protect every product—from production to your consumer’s hands.
New services deliver food safety regimes

Taking lessons learned from the pandemic, Fortress Technology will present a framework of new support services, digital tools, real-time data capture and machinery features at PPMA Total Show 2022. These are all designed to help food processors to adapt their resources to the new landscape and build a more robust, flexible and future-proof food safety playbook.

Collaborating with global audit specialist AIB International, Fortress has created a modular cultural food safety roadmap underpinned by a new package of digital tools to engage workforces. Targeting growth opportunities, production inefficiencies, QC reporting and audit transparency, the ‘Food Safety Cultural Playbook’ focuses on eliminating workplace hierarchies. Instead creating a culture where everyone is a food safety custodian that ‘works like no-one is watching’ every day.

Exhibition visitors can pick and mix tools, templates and tutorial frameworks from the digital toolkit, including:
• Remote activation of Halo digital testing, eliminating human errors, eradicating health and safety risks, capturing real-time data that cannot be overridden or performed retrospectively
• New digital reporting feature Contact 4.0, collecting data and securely overseeing the performance of an unlimited number of metal detectors, checkweights and combination machines connected on the same network, identifying food safety trends and patterns
• GMP, foreign material control COP standards and internal inspection templates developed with AIB International for global companies like McDonald’s, Waitrose and more
• Unique pre-programming of all retailer and manufacturer COPs, boosting efficiency and reducing machine downtime in operation
• Tools that track the performance of people, plant and equipment, continually monitoring and red flagging immediate hygiene, pest control and maintenance issues
• Introducing users to the most overlooked machine features that may exacerbate food contamination issues, notably setting and calibration of inspection equipment
• Blended virtual and onsite consultancy, drawing in impartial independent experts using real wear glasses to provide a higher level of food safety transparency.

The Fortress service team will be on hand at the show to discuss how to implement these digital transformation tools, deploy the best technology based on contamination risks and fast-track efficiency improvements.

STAND B01
www.fortresstechnology.co.uk
Heat sealing range delivers from bench top to fully automatic units

At the PPMA Total Show 2022, RM Sealers will demonstrate its range of bag sealing machines that are used by some of the world’s best-known brands.

These heat sealing machines are used for a vast range of applications and pack products in the food, pharmaceutical, hardware and other sectors into thermoplastic bags.

“When your packaging is heat sealed, it ensures that your product has evidence that it hasn’t been tampered with,” says Kevin Crawford, sales manager at RM Sealers. “It also ensures that your product is hygienic, air and also water-tight.”

The company offers horizontal and vertical bag sealing machines, impulse bag sealers and also a range of bench top versions.

www.rmsealers.co.uk

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used cardboard is converted into packaging and filling material. These devices are a perfect solution for all dispatch and storage, says HSM. The units form used cardboard into padding, creating a packaging material for universal use which reduces costs and is a practical contribution to environmental gains.

Range allows products to move freely

Visitors to PAR Group’s stand at the PPMA Total Show can learn about the company’s vast experience in rubber and plastics engineering which helps it provide a solution to even the most unusual and difficult applications. A range of products will be demonstrated during the three-day event, including Versa-chute which is a flexible, abrasion resistant chute designed for the transfer and sorting of dry foodstuffs, grain, grit, powders, wood shavings, dust and other abrasive materials. Manufactured from a durable, clear thermoplastic polyurethane film with a fully sealed and welded seam, it is offered in many different shapes and sizes to suit individual applications.

Timing screws and scrolls

Augers and screw feeds designed for the movement of bulk product by rotation, typically within an enclosed tube, will also feature on the stand. Because they are not made of metal, a significant reduction in operating noise is offered, they are lighter weight for easier handling, and provide lower friction/better sliding properties for reduced product build up. Timing screws and scrolls designed to give the smoothest possible container handling process, can also be seen.

Packaging materials for universal use are created

nitrile rubber rollers.

Meanwhile, Packline has worked on a project to design a new enhanced electrical system that can be adapted into the current Compac MK5 lifter as an upgrade, but also with an optional extra joystick control system. The new enhanced electrical system has been successfully adapted into the current lifter to achieve the new capacity target of 400 kg with no limiting factors, and this is available with 3 voltages 12v, 24v and 48v without compromising battery power and cycle times between charges.

Visitors can discuss Packline’s bespoke design service to ensure the right solution is found for specific requirements and applications. All attachments are fully interchangeable and can be easily fixed or removed from any model of Compac lifting machine that is fitted with the quick release system.

Baling presses and cardboard shredders are quick, easy, cost-efficient and sustainable

HSM will be showing its baling presses and cardboard shredders to PPMA Total Show visitors, demonstrating how quick, easy and cost-efficient they are to use.

The presses can reduce the volume of waste by up to 95%, which allows companies to save on valuable space at their sites while enjoying the benefit of generating a secondary and valuable raw material – baled recyclable waste.

With the HSM ProfiPack packaging machines, recyclable waste.
Supplying simple manual equipment through to high speed fully automatic solutions, in order to meet the demands of our customers

- E-commerce
- Flow Wrapping
- Sleeve Wrapping
- L Sealing
- Trim Sealing
- Palletising & Depalletising
- Carton Erecting
- Shrink Films
- Service & Spare Parts

For All Your End of Line Packaging Needs
Product range is designed for pumping high viscosity fluids

Kecol Pumping Systems prides itself on answering the needs of any pumping application, particularly for high viscosity fluids, and visitors to its stand at the PPMA Total Show can see its latest products as well as learning more about its range of technology.

For instance, the company says that for high viscosity fluids, users are going to need a pump that can handle the higher pressures required to move heavy, viscous fluids. “Where a centrifugal pump is good on water or juice, it will not pump caramel or tomato paste,” says Kecol md Bryan Greenaway.

Here, the company offers more top tips:

• **Use a big pump and run it slowly**
  Using a pump with a large inlet and large internal cavities makes things easier by reducing resistance. Running at low speeds not only protects shear-sensitive fluids or entrained particles but it also helps the pump to grab hold of the liquid and pump continuously without cavitating.

• **Use large bore discharge pipe or hose**
  The bigger the internal bore of the discharge pipework, the lower the resistance caused by friction. “Bottom line, use as fat a pipe as possible and keep the pressure down,” explains Greenaway.

• **Keep the discharge distance to a minimum**
  As size matters, the discharge pipework length needs to be as short as possible and have as few bends as possible.

• **Provide a positive feed to the pump inlet**
  If an application relies on gravity to feed the pump inlet from the bottom outlet of a large tank or vessel, make sure there is a minimum length of big bore pipework between the pump inlet and the supply of product. Ideally, you should connect the pump inlet directly to the tank outlet.

• **Viscous Pumps to ‘lift’ high viscosity fluids**
  In some scenarios, a pump may need to suck (self-prime) from an open-top drum or an IBC. For very high viscosity, non-flowing media, the pump can be mounted on a priming plate that pushes down into the drum or IBC and primes the pump as the assembly moves down into the container.

Greenaway says the company’s PowerPrime, MaxiPrime and MegaPrime systems are designed for this type of application and he will be happy to explain further with visitors to the three-day exhibition.

STAND H30
www.kecol.co.uk

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Latest silo protection system is to be displayed during the show

Level measurement company Hycontrol launched the updated SHIELD Lite silo protection system this year and this will be on its stand at the PPMA Total Show.

The revised SPS is smaller than previous versions, with all critical silo-top safety components built-in and pre-wired to provide simpler, easier and lower-cost installation. This design yields safe deliveries straight out of the box, cutting the chance of wiring mistakes. Utilising purpose-designed pressure monitoring and control equipment, SHIELD Lite meets and exceeds current best practices, including those in the new MPA guidance, says the company.

POWDER STORAGE SILO

Powder storage silos are used across many industries but risk over-pressurisation during tanker deliveries. Pressures as low as one psi are enough to rupture a silo or forcibly eject the filter unit from the roof. Besides the physical danger and risk of fatalities from falling equipment, this can cause massive equipment damage and environmental pollution.

Therefore, a comprehensive, failsafe safety and control system is vital to prevent disastrous outcomes. SHIELD Lite goes beyond failsafe, providing a fully automated, self-testing safety system that removes the risk of human error from the delivery process by thoroughly monitoring and controlling it, explains the company. The high-accuracy pressure safety components are pre-assembled and wired for simple installation.

Transform your flexibility with FlexBuffer™

Designed to bring new levels of flexibility for a wide range of logistics, food and beverage, healthcare, consumer packaged goods, restaurants and retail applications, FlexBuffer™ offers a highly adaptable multi-functional solution for fast and efficient handling of tasks such as sequencing, buffering, storage and order consolidation.

To see how FlexBuffer™ can transform your productivity and responsiveness to enable you to stay one step ahead, visit: https://bit.ly/MachineryUpdateFlexBuffer
Latest heat sealers are helping on the go foods

Soken Engineering, a recently acquired subsidiary of Jenton International, will launch an all-inclusive range of heat-sealing packing systems for on-the-go food businesses wanting to improve presentation, product lifespan and handle a varied range of lunch products on a single system at the PPMA Total Show this year.

As the UK’s demand for lunch products continues to broaden, Soken has responded with a 3-in-1 heat-sealing system which seals packs of salads with only the need for a tool change. Now artisan salads with only the need for bespoke tooling can be developed as required.

All Soken equipment is manufactured in the UK and backed by a two-year return-to-base warranty. As all tooling and parts are designed and manufactured in-house, spares can be provided within very short time scales. It also means that if a caterer has any unusual packaging requirements, bespoke tooling can be developed as required.

The 3-in-1 ‘fresher for longer’ packaging systems offer gains to seal a single pack at a time, level 2 machines – which seal up to 4 packs at the same time. These are good for caterers supplying mobile vans and local shops, whereas level 3 intermediate automated systems – which can output up to 48 packs per minute – are perfect for medium sized businesses such as airline caterers or large garden centre chains.

The company says that to meet today’s varying customer needs in a way that allows them to complete projects on time, its combination of one of the widest ranges of sensors designed to deliver maximum flexibility and efficiency for processing and packaging applications makes the difference.

At the exhibition, Soken will be demonstrating its range of processing and also packaging at event.

High speed doors range facilitates the fast and efficient movement of goods to increase workflow in a safe way

Efaflex UK returns to the PPMA Total Show this year where three of its most popular high-speed doors used within the packaging and processing sector will be in action.

The company will be showcasing the high-speed spiral featuring its EFA-THERM insulating laths, the EFA-STT turbo, and the fabric roll up option. “There is nothing quite like seeing our high-speed doors in action,” says Darren Turrell, UK managing director at Efaflex. “Our high-speed doors are a premium brand, but when you factor in the whole life cost savings, such as radically reduced energy costs due to their operating speeds and insulation properties, they are a cost-effective option. “60% of our orders are from customers who have made this calculation and have chosen to replace old roller shutters or overhead sectional doors because of the many benefits that an Efaflex door will offer,” he explains.

Key features of these processing & logistics solutions are:

- A complete range of doors to suit every aspect of the facility
- Internal roll up doors or exterior spiral and folding models available
- Machine protection solutions that add safety in higher risk areas
- A range of activation methods to suit customer needs
- Selection of colours and finishes.
Automate your production processes
Create efficiencies every step of the way

Acceptance and storage of loose materials
- Automated weighing, acceptance and recording of incoming goods by truck scales components

Incoming Goods
- Automated processing of weight status via plc/software links/connection with load cells and weight electronics
- Automated testing of quality characteristics and inspection of contaminations

Acceptance of piece goods
- Software supported acceptance of piece goods with weighing platforms and industrial scales

Automated production systems
- Automatic dispensing of product and mixing of batches and recipes

Packaging
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- Automated product checking by metal detection or X-ray
- Automated in line weighing and recording of data

Outgoing goods
- Automated completeness check of the final product

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Industrial safety engineering company Euchner will use its stand at this year’s PPMA Total Show to launch two new products – the Industry 4.0 ready CTS safety switch and the CKS2 coded key system. It will also display its extensive range of guard locking products available for common fieldbus connections.

The one-fits-all CTS is Euchner’s first FlexFunction device and expands the company’s product range by sitting between the all-round CTP and the specialist CTM safety switch solutions. “It combines the best of both worlds in a single switch while offering maximum flexibility,” says Joe Ardley, business development manager at Euchner (UK).

A key advance in the compact CTS – which is IO-Link compatible and Industry 4.0 ready – is the company’s new FlexFunction feature that, by using the transponder-coded actuator to determine the switch’s function, allows a single device to perform a wide variety of functions that would otherwise require several switch variants.

Its compact dimensions, high locking force of 3,900N and suitability to mount in three orientations ensures the CTS is suitable for use across numerous safety engineering applications. Meanwhile, combined with highly coded, transponder-based keys, the new CKS2 from Euchner forms a safe system that meets the highest safety requirements for machine and installation lockout and starting.

Intamac Packaging Systems will launch the IPS-8BT high-speed stand up pouch filling machine at this year’s PPMA Total Show at the NEC. This new machine features a number of key upgrades from the regular IPS-8BT and will be demonstrated with three other Intamac machines on the stand.

The IPS-8BT-H runs at twice the speed of the previous model and has been streamlined to require fewer parts and less maintenance.

The company says it is ideal for customers looking to speed up their production in a cost effective, space saving way.

Other machines on the stand include an IPS-420 Mini (AA) vertical form, fill and seal sachet machine for small dose liquids, powders and granule products into pillow packs; an IPS-APCE-20TK compact case former and erector and finally, the IPS-420-SS horizontal flow wrapper.

Intamac will show visitors four units capable of printing onto paper as well as plastics. The team will be on hand to help clients with their packaging machinery requirements and to identify the equipment that would enable them to move their business to the next level of automation.

Visitors will be able to see the compact footprint and also the build quality of four of its key machines which can pack anything from powders, liquids and solids through to small parts, stationary and many other items.

All of the equipment can be fitted with various pieces of ancillary equipment including multihead weighers and conveyors.

The PPMA stand is generally busy enabling visitors to get a productive show experience.

Visitors to the event that have queries about a specific project, a list of suppliers or general equipment enquiries should visit the Processing & Packaging Machinery Association Group (PPMA) stand for advice. Incorporated in 1987, the PPMA was born out of eight founder member companies and today, it represents over 500 members and has become the voice of the processing and packaging machinery industry in the UK.

Hosting the leading annual trade exhibition for processing and packaging machinery, including machine vision and robotics, is all part of its industry mission.

STAND C130
W www.ppma.co.uk

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STAND C130
W www.ppma.co.uk

Single safety switch combines advantages with maximum flexibility and will join the existing range during the show

Euchner’s industrial safety range is on show

Pouch filler will be demonstrated

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All of this equipment will be fitted with the new IntegraJet ink jet system, which is also capable of printing onto paper as well as plastics. The team will be on hand to help clients with their packaging machinery requirements and to identify the equipment that would enable them to move their business to the next level of automation.

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STAND C130
W www.ppma.co.uk

PPMA Total Show Preview

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STAND C130
W www.ppma.co.uk

Single safety switch combines advantages with maximum flexibility and will join the existing range during the show
Robotic options are designed to suit all applications and budgets

The food and drink manufacturing sector has been the largest adopter of robots since the UK went into lockdown in March 2020 and RARUK Automation will be demonstrating just how viable these technologies are for all sizes of businesses and without the need of employing specialist personnel, during the PPMA Total Show.

The new Robotiq PE Series palletiser is just one solution to address and replace manual palletising along with the usual pitfalls: it’s repetitive, boring and physically demanding. Previously, it has been daunting for manufacturers to address lower throughput applications that may have frequent changes of box and pallet sizes, but the company says, this new solution boosts palletising efficiency and speed while enabling the workforce to be deployed to higher value and more rewarding tasks.

This ready-to-use solution has a pick rate of up to 13 boxes per minute and has the potential to pick multiple boxes at once, depending on size and weight. On the stand, it will be shown working with a Universal Robots UR10e cobot arm that has a maximum payload of 12.5 kg, for loading the pallet and an MiR 500 autonomous mobile robot (AMR) for factory and warehouse automation of the loaded and empty pallets.

Also on the RARUK Automation stand, will be the new series of automated transportation robots whose flexibility is broadened by the inclusion of a collaborative robot arm.

The new ER-Flex robots, designed and manufactured by Enabled Robotics, are ideal for addressing labour shortages and also automating repetitive tasks. They can be used for a wide range of applications including picking and packing, materials handling and also warehouse automation.

Incorporating a fully autonomous MiR unit, they do not need to run on tracks and can even operate in lights out environments.

This 3-model range is optimised for space, flexibility and carrying capacity. Designed for smaller loads up to 29 kg is the ER-Flex 100 – 5e; next in line is the ER-Flex 250 – 10e which can carry larger loads up to 186 kg. The ER-Flex 250 ESD – 16e is specifically designed for the electronics industry. All models are based on either an MiR 100 or MiR 250 AMR platform onto which is mounted a low (standard) or high module.

RARUK Automation wants to emphasise that automation solutions are available to suit every need. From flexible, plug-and-play cobots that can be quickly integrated to boost productivity or eliminate repetitive tasks, through to dedicated, application-specific systems for upscaling the manufacturing process.

The company will emphasise that automation solutions are available to suit all user needs.

Stand E20
www.rarukautomation.com

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Versatility, functionality, durability...processing and packaging industry specific high-speed doors. Where safety and speed are critical. Temperature control and ease of cleaning are vital. Our range of interior and exterior doors offers the complete solution; from loading bay to logistics, production to packaging. EFAFLEX – the original and still the best. www.efaflex.co.uk
Newtec Odense (UK) is showing three machines at this year’s PPMA Total Show, the model 2008PCM mini weigher with wash down trolley and the model HCSC high care step conveyor.

Newtec’s 2008PCM weigher addresses the needs of the fresh produce and ready-to-eat industries with accurate and high-speed weighing and packing of small and mixed products. It delivers gentle processing that preserves the quality of the product as well as being easy to maintain and clean. Product giveaway of less than 0.4% is also delivered from a small footprint.

Visitors can also see a movable wash down trolley which can be tailored to customer needs to make use of one or both sides. No tools are required for mounting and dismantling the removable wash down items.

Finally, Newtec’s high care step conveyor will be on show. It is a complete turnkey solution which can be combined with four mini weighers for the weighing and packing of fresh, mixed, cut fruits. The conveyor is programmable in seconds while offering automatic and fast changeover for different tray sizes.

STAND C42
www.newtec.com

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- For use across all industries: assembly, food, pharma, laboratory, entertainment, …

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New Automation Technology
Eco-friendly sealing will debut on end of line units

Endoline Automation will highlight the sustainable features of its end of line packaging systems, and eco-friendly sealing options in a bid to support manufacturers who are seeking packaging machinery which will aid net zero objectives at this year’s PPMA Total Show.

Responding to calls for sustainable sealing solutions which reduce the use of plastics, Endoline will showcase its 248 fully automatic high speed case erector, which has been engineered to seal cases with hot melt glue rather than tape.

While utilising glue sealing alternatives can significantly reduce plastics consumption for manufacturers, it also helps drive down material waste as 2sq inches of adhesive glue will close an average size box compared with over 200sq inches of tape.

Further responding to demands to create eco-friendly sealing solutions, the company will also highlight recyclable Kraft tape as an additional eco-friendly sealing alternative for customers.

Eco credentials across its case erecting and sealing system ranges will also be demonstrated.

“We are seeing growing calls from customers for OEMs to demonstrate their sustainable credentials, and this is driving innovation in the packaging machinery space,” says Andrew Yates, md of Endoline Automation.

“While our systems have been re-engineered over the years to reduce energy consumption and cut emissions to support the environmental objectives of our customers, we are looking at ways to help them decrease plastics use and waste even further by offering eco-friendly sealing alternatives.”

The IQ4 Lock-PH will be shown

An hygienic check and detect offer

Loma Systems will be displaying its new Run-Wet systems at this year’s PPMA Total Show.

On display for the first time at a UK exhibition, the company will have the IQ4 Run-Wet conveyorised metal detector and CW3 Run-Wet combo system on the stand, both specially designed to offer the ultimate in hygiene and cleaning efficiency for high-care environments.

The IP69 rated systems can withstand high-pressure and high-temperature cleaning regimes and run while still wet.

SPECIAL SOFTWARE

For food manufacturers and processors, the company will be using the show to highlight its TRACS (Trending-Reporting-Analysis-Capture-Software).

This software monitors production to easily identify performance issues. And for visitors looking for pharmaceutical solutions, Loma will be exhibiting its IQ4 Lock-PH metal detector, designed for inspecting tablets and capsules, with the ability to inspect up to 30,000 tablets or capsules per minute.

To complete its display, Loma’s X5C Compact x-ray offers a critical control point within a compact footprint for inspecting retail packs up to 110 mm in height, including products in foil or metalised film.

The X5C Compact is intuitive to use, reliable and offers low cost of ownership.

Systems for the safe and hygienic handling of bulk materials use range of technologies

Volkmann is a specialist in the transport and handling of bulk materials and offers customers from the chemical, food processing and pharmaceutical industry class leading standards as well as individually planned and produced systems for the safe, hygienic and user-friendly handling of various powders and materials.

Visitors to its stand at the PPMA Total Show can discuss individual solutions devised by its creative team that are designed to meet all customer needs in terms of efficiencies combined, of course, with safety. These solutions are manufactured with the company’s modern machinery and lean manufacturing principles at its site in Westphalia, Germany.

Today, Volkmann employs nearly 140 employees and operates subsidiaries in Great Britain, France and the USA.
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Compact pressure sensors and switches with 360° custom-colour status display

256 colours
Individually selectable:
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- Sensor switching
- Process malfunction

Compact design

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W Mixing Test Centre
- Find the right mixing solution
W Mixer Hire
- Try before you buy

World-Class Mixing Experts
New Bespoke Mixers
Mixing Test Centre
Mixer Hire

See us on stand A40
Robot tray packer delivers for speed and sustainability issues

At the PPMA Total Show, Brillopak will debut the multi-material handling capabilities of its new high-speed tray & punnet PAKer. The machine automatically packs trays and punnets into retail cases neatly and is ready for any material trend—now and in the future.

Designed to help companies keep pace with increasing output of modern food and beverage production lines, while also adapting and transitioning from plastics to cardboard punnet packaging, Brillopak’s packer is the result of three years research and development.

The 150 punnets-per-minute machine combines specialist robotics with patented servo-driven end effectors and then deploys them in a pick-and-place operation that addresses many of the challenges companies face when automating this traditionally manual process.

“As well as dealing with the pliability of the thin plastics punnets, customers have asked us to cater for cardboard variants too, both of which they want packed at speed and in neatly presented configurations,” explains Peter Newman, technical director at Brillopak.

“Dealing with any of these features in isolation is hard enough,” he continues, “but when you’re challenged with addressing all of them, simultaneously, it becomes much more interesting.”

To deliver greater speed, while still maintaining control of the pack, one robot accurately picks and places trays into a layer formation. A second robot then closes them into an array dimension, before picking an entire layer of punnets that fits neatly into the receiving plastics/cardboard case.

This whole-layer approach also addresses misalignment issues created by single-punnet pick and place and delivers a neat retailer-ready appearance. Different packaging materials are handled on the same machine using tailored packaging recipes and package-specific end effectors. In this way, packs with new, more environmentally sound packaging, which can be a tight fit in a container, can still be handled consistently.

“The primary driver behind the machine’s development was from our customers,” explains David Jahn, sales director at Brillopak.

“In this market efficiency is everything,” he adds. “This machine is more than capable of meeting current demands and deploys a technological solution that will enable users to support what they don’t know will happen tomorrow,” he tells Machinery Update.

At the PPMA Total event, Brillopak will be showcasing an array of its end-effector technologies, developed to meet a wide range of customer needs and packaging issues.

Weighing and inspection equipment ranges will be shown to provide visitors with workable ways to meet challenges

Yamato Scale Dataweigh UK is returning to the PPMA Total Show to showcase its range of weighing and inspection equipment.

With mounting challenges facing the manufacturing industry including rising costs, skills shortages and supply chain disruption, Yamato is committed to supporting new and existing customers to maximise their best results.

Each of the solutions on display at the event offers high performance, ease of use, and cost-efficiency. They are also compatible with a broad range of product types, allowing manufacturers across industry sectors to reap the rewards.

The team will be presenting a special selection of its weighing solutions including the automated Epsilon and Omega multihead weighers, the semi-automatic TSD-N3 and a static scale for those looking for an accurate end-of-line weigher. There will also be a focus on product inspection at the stand, with an I-Series checkweigher, metal detector-checkweigher combi and the YX20 x-ray system available on the stand.

The event gives attendees the perfect opportunity to see our equipment in action and speak to our dedicated experts to find out how they boost results, reduce costs and address a wide variety of requirements, explains Valerie le Gallez, commercial manager for Yamato Scale Dataweigh UK.

Yamato Scale Dataweigh UK

www.yamatoscale.co.uk

Brillopak

www.brillopak.co.uk

PPMA Total Show Preview

www.machineryupdate.co.uk SEPTEMBER/OCTOBER 2022 MACHINERY UPDATE 93
Upgraded mixer is for laboratories

Set on the backdrop of a striking new stand design for 2022, industrial mixer manufacturer Winkworth will be displaying a range of mixer types at the PPMA Total Show this year. Its recently refined laboratory mixers range will be of particular interest to R&D departments, research centres and universities, as the series offers a standard mixing platform with the option of interchangeable chambers, thereby allowing users the opportunity to undertake mixing performance contrasts and comparisons in their own facilities.

Chamber options include the popular Z Blade, the UT Ribbon Blender, RT Rapid Turbulent/Ploughshare mixer and DC Double Cone mixer. Other equipment on the stand will include the Lindor L10 Lab mixer, PC16 Coating Pan and the UTS 100, a compact and affordable mixer solution based on a ribbon blender concept and aimed at growing food production firms looking to add scalability to their manufacturing businesses.

The final items on show will be a pair of large, heavy-duty Z Blades – used within Winkworth’s Z Blade Sigma mixers. These highly efficient blades are ideal for mixing, kneading and dispersion of very viscous doughs and pastes.

Boxes will be moved by AGV

The RMGroup provides a single-source solution for multi-functional systems, and at the PPMA Total Show, it will be using live demonstrations to show how industrial robots and AMR technology can combine to increase efficiency and also space optimisation.

On display will be the ASTI Ebot 350 box moving Autonomous Guided Vehicle (AGV), along with the ABB IRB industrial robot demonstrating a palletising and de-palletising process. To add to that, RMGroup’s sales team will be on-hand to preview the latest robotic solutions offered by the company for multiple pick, place and palletising applications.

“We are really looking forward to PPMA this year,” says RMGroup’s Rosie Davies. “Having attended every year since 2014, we are pleased to support the show and always use it as a platform to showcase new products and innovations.”

Being the first integrator in the UK to be accredited under the RIA/BARA Robot Integrators Certification Scheme, RMGroup supplies and manufactures a wide range of manual and automated packaging systems.

Latest flow wrappers, pouch fillers and tumbling units will be joined by x-ray, metal detection and also checkweighers

At this year’s PPMA Total Show, Omori UK will be exhibiting a selection of equipment including its latest Omori flow wrapper, a Leepack pouch filler, Anritsu quality assurance equipment (which includes x-ray, metal detection and a checkweigher combination unit) along with tumbling equipment from Garos.

Omori can supply individual flexible packaging solutions as well as full production lines for a wide range of applications. The company says its technical expertise enables it to quickly meet the constantly changing needs and desires of consumers.

Additional support can be provided in other areas, such as engineering, technological development and after-sales service.
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Bucket filling machine is a PPMA exhibition first

Showing its commitment to the UK market and the PPMA Total Show, Grunwald return to the event with a type of machine it has never shown at a UK exhibition before.

The Grunwald Hittpac XL that will be on display at the NEC, Birmingham is becoming the mainstay of the company’s range of bucket filling machines. The rotary machine concept is compact, fully automated, extremely user friendly and can be operated by one person.

This machine will be fully operational on the stand, and it will demonstrate how 1 kg to 20 kg buckets can be handled, inclusive of container denesting, filling and lidding.

Pot filling remains the main focus of Grunwald’s business, and its team will also be able to discuss the latest developments in its range of linear and rotary machines that are capable of running from between 2,000 to 18,000 units per hour.

Recent innovations have included trend filling machines for the paint industry and gas flushing technology that is rapidly replacing vacuum sealing (which is deemed too time consuming).

The aftersales and engineering team will also be on the stand to offer support to existing customers with advice on the company’s service contract products.

End of line solution provider believes its multifunctional and interchangeable gripper is key to machine flexibility

Lan Handling Technologies will be highlighting one of the reasons its end of line systems are flexible at this year’s PPMA Total Show – its multifunctional and interchangeable gripper.

In the centre of Lan’s end-of-line system is often its case packer or palletising system, but depending on customer needs, this can easily be extended with crate stackers/destackers, crate erectors and bale arm folders. However, the part that ties everything together are the mechanical and vacuum grippers.

As well as offering high capacity, gentle handling and small footprint solutions, the systems are highly flexible. Lan handles MAP trays, punnets, skin packs, bags, nets and flow wrapped products which can be loaded into half- and full-sized crates, boxes or dollies. The optional automatic gripper change combined with the user-friendly HMI, makes switching product or carrier very easy.

In many cases, only one operator is required for a production line consisting of multiple machines.

Visitors wishing to learn more about labour savings, improved food safety and increased production speeds will be welcomed to the stand.

Latest development provides top speeds for lightweight units

HepcoMotion specialises in linear motion systems and automation components and at the PPMA Total Show, it will be showcasing how its range of products can meet practically any requirement from track systems for robot automation, to heavy duty systems for high loads, to a host of small components to perform simple or complex operations.

Being shown for the first time in the UK, visitors will be able to see the development to the GFX guidance system for Beckhoff’s XTS, GFX Agile. It is perfect for lightweight applications, with little or no process loading, such as the packaging or filling of small confectionery or pharmaceutical products.

Other key products on the stand include the V guide linear system: GV3 – designed to serve a diverse range of automation and linear applications along with the DTS+ driven track system.

Lan Handling provides a range of end of line equipment that includes MAP trays, punnets, MAP bags, MAP sacks, MAP boxes and gas flushing technology that is rapidly replacing vacuum sealing (which is deemed too time consuming).

The aftersales and engineering team will also be on the stand to offer support to existing customers with advice on the company’s service contract products.
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Jenton International will be showing its JenAct UV disinfection equipment for air and surface disinfection at the PPMA total Show 2022.

Taking centre stage will be a JenAct UV disinfection roller conveyor. This has become a popular item in the last year for the disinfection of the surface of packaging and packaged products being transferred from low-care areas to high-care in food production facilities.

Full 360-degree UVC exposure is possible on the variable speed system so that all surfaces are exposed. Jenton manufactures these systems in the UK and incorporates its own enhanced output UV lamp fittings which are fitted with Philips/Signify UV lamps. These lamps are modified to allow operation at cold temperatures and, with the addition of FEP sleeving, for safe operation in a food environment.

In addition, JenAct products for UV air disinfection will be displayed, including wall mounted GRU-V systems for smaller spaces and UVTorpedo systems for HVAV and air ducts and UV Jet systems for large production areas.

Applications for the process and packaging sectors will be shown

Applications shown on the Festo stand at the PPMA Total Show will include special process valve controls, servo-controlled flow wrapping and a new solution for controlling web tension with dancing rollers. An OEM balancer is also introduced to make it easy for designers to integrate all the counter-balance controls they need with their own mechanical structures. This is a boon for lifting heavy loads typically found at the beginning or end of production lines, for example sack or box lifting.

A production line looks at an assembly task demonstrating connectivity and integration from the mechanics, sensors, actuators and controls linked to edge, or cloud monitoring for machine learning assisted predictive maintenance, energy reduction or quality monitoring.

Festo will also share some examples for monitoring and controlling compressed air usage to reduce energy consumption.

Scott Automation will present its complete portfolio of palletising solutions at this year’s PPMA Total Show, including the latest PAL 4.0 range.

The company’s new generation layout palletiser – called PAL 4.0 – has evolved from over 50 years of experience in the sector. New features provide a low total cost of ownership, thereby increasing return on investment for users.

The machine offers the following:

- A compact footprint and high-level infeed to maximise valuable production space
- It is suitable for a wide range of products including plastics trays, shrink wrapped packs, cartons, shelf ready and also display boxes
- It offers high-capacity throughput, and it is capable of single or multi-line operation, to grow with a business
- The patented row and pusher bar provides gentle handling for delicate products
- It has a user-friendly interface for creating new pallet layouts which simplifies setup and reduces changeover times
- The flexible layer pattern build with gap maintenance ensures efficient pallet utilisation
- An express elevator reduces cycle times
- The open design provides industry leading visual and physical access for operators and also reduced maintenance times
- Connectivity with SCADA, ERP, MES, MRP, SAP systems to allow for increased traceability
- Remote connectivity and diagnostics features reduce service and downtime
- Add on modules such as slip sheet and interlayer feeds further extend the capabilities to allow for changing production needs.

Standalone

PPMA Total Show Preview

UV disinfection equipment for air and surface applications are delivering gains for high care food production facilities

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Festo will also share some examples for monitoring and controlling compressed air usage to reduce energy consumption.

Standalone
A range of tray denesting-placing and card feeding solutions will be exhibited at Total

Partners in Packaging will have two examples of its A Series tray denester-placer in both twin and triple magazine configurations for produce and bakery industry sectors on its stand at the PPMA Total Show.

“The A Series tray denester has been designed to be available in a variety of standard widths and configurations, to cover most applications across all industries,” says Partners director Duncan Macintyre.

“Couple the large size range of the A Series with the ability to handle different materials including paper/card trays, pulp and plastics trays, it is one of the most versatile machines available.”

Providing high-speed colour inspection with reproducible illumination alongside a variety of statistical features, the system is suitable for a range of inspection tasks. Furthermore, it can be upgraded if more specialised tasks need to be tackled in the future.

The stand will also feature virtual machines so that visitors can get a feel for all the systems offered by scanware which cover inspection needs along an entire packaging line, from foil to product inspection, code and OCR/OCR as well as track and trace. All of these can be operated on a high level with the line management software, if required.

Flow Modelling

At the heart of the system is moneo OS, which provides flow modelling and automatic alarm functions as well as facilities for managing all of the other moneo software modules.

In addition to learning about the moneo system and its benefits, visitors to the ifm stand will also be able to find out about the company’s newest and smartest sensing solutions. Among these are the longer length conductivity sensors for use with Tri-clamp connections in CIP applications, self-checking temperature sensors that are ideal for use in critical processes, and radar level sensors that have a measuring accuracy of ±2 mm at ranges up to 10 m, and are unaffected by changing pressure, temperature or the presence of vapours, steam or condensates.

Data can be converted in a simpler way

At this year’s PPMA Total Show, ifm electronic will focus on its ground-breaking moneo IIoT platform. This has been developed specifically to provide a convenient solution to the challenge of converting the huge amount of data produced by modern plant and machines into useful information that can be used to reduce downtime, optimise efficiency and also cut costs.

IIoT is currently seen as a technology that has enormous potential, but IIoT solutions have the reputation of being costly and difficult to implement.

Ifm says its moneo system eliminates these problems by making it easy to implement powerful and scalable IIoT solutions at modest cost.

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STAND B14
W www.ifm.com/uk

Tablets and capsules are being checked by scanware systems

Inspection range suits food/pharma/cosmetics

With more than 30 years of experience in inspection on packaging lines in the pharmaceutical, cosmetics and food industries, scanware electronic GmbH offers machinery matched with in-house developed software.

Visitors to the PPMA Total Show can discuss the company’s SPECTRA 3D range. This offers high-resolution, laser-based image processing for the inspection of the geometry of packaging materials and products to detect distortions, dents and other defects. Particularly useful in low contrast cases and with fragile products, SPECTRA 3D can be combined with any vision system of the latest generation and operated via a single touch screen interface.

This, says scanware, simplifies the use and also saves space for users.

Since both geometry and volume of a product are evaluated, the system offers flexible advantages compared to two-dimensional inspection.

On its exhibition stand, scanware will display its classic SPECTRA CL system.
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Excelerate Ltd have developed the most innovative, sustainable and technologically advanced pallet wrapping solutions, allowing you to achieve the highest level of efficiency in your end of line operations. These films will add value to your business and ensure high product integrity throughout the full logistics process, whilst minimising plastic and reducing costs. Here are just some of the ways they will improve the way you work.

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  increasing safety and pallet integrity.

- **Stronger film** means
  better protection of goods,
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  presentation means high visibility for your goods.
  Also allows easy reading of bar codes for outbound/inbound shipping.

- **High stretch properties**, (100% hand rolls, up to 300% machine rolls)
  meaning less material required for every pallet.

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- **30% post-consumer recycled content**, making these films exempt from the UK packaging tax and inclusive to your own sustainable supply chain.

- **Reduce or eliminate** lengthy cooling and drying processes by 50% using perforated films. No more need for dedicated zones, freeing up precious space within your site.

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Stand B104
Feature: Plastics-free? – introduction

What is happening with the attempts to cut UK plastics?

It is fair to say that the much-heralded Plastic Packaging Tax that came into force in April has had a rocky start. It was billed as a brilliant way to cut waste by charging companies for using any packaging containing less than 30% recycled plastics. In reality, however, the rising costs of virgin materials and the lack of availability of recycled plastics have hampered the initial progress it was designed to make.

And this situation is impacting smaller firms in particular, but even large corporates are struggling. A more worrying situation, bearing in mind we all assume everyone is tuned into environmental and sustainable issues, is a recent finding that many SMEs don’t even know the tax exists, let alone how to be compliant with its demands.

In a similar vein, waste management company Biffa has found that although SMEs say sustainability is ‘very important’ to their business, less than half of them are using a recycling service. “It’s a tough time for many businesses,” says Biffa’s coo Maxine Mayhew. “It’s understandable that improvements to waste management can slip down the to-do list.”

State of play is mixed bag

These challenges, however, have not stopped PPMA members in developing new options, or tweaking their equipment, to run materials deemed as more eco-friendly in an efficient manner.

Of course, other challenges on plastics include the new legislation banning single-use plastic items in Scotland. According to Ed Williams, sales director at Ulma Packaging UK, these new rules represent an alarm bell for food processors. “This new legislation, coming soon after the Plastic Packaging Tax’s introduction, highlights how industry cannot afford to stand still in this ongoing drive towards more sustainable practices,” he says.

There is also Scotland’s Deposit Return Scheme to look forward to for single-use drinks containers next year.

With plastics under fire from all sides, PPMA members are devising new equipment to handle the latest materials that have to be handled. For instance, Domino Printing Sciences’ D-Series CO2 laser coders are being used as an additive-free solution for food manufacturers utilising NatureFlex compostable cellulose films.

Following initial suitability testing, Domino’s D-Series CO2 laser was used to code the NatureFlex compostable film and achieved a clean, crisp, white code. There was no impact on film integrity or chemical composition and moisture barrier properties were unaffected.

Futamura’s food packaging customers benefit from a print-free solution for coding and marking to aid end-consumer communication. “We were reassured by Domino’s scientific approach to substrate testing and coding and willingness to provide us with the results and assurance that we needed to confirm that laser coders are a suitable solution for our compostable films,” says Futamura’s Amaia Cowan.

More information on the latest developments in this area are on the following four pages.
PPMA members make the material difference

Machinery builders are rising to the challenge of meeting consumers and end users demand for ever-more sustainable ways to package their goods.

PPMA members are all developing new products or re-engineering existing equipment to handle a plethora of new materials to meet their customers' sustainability needs.

**BW Flexible Systems** includes Sandiacre and Rose Forgrove machinery in its stable and has a packaging strategy that not only helps reduce its use of plastics but also helps maintain food safety, operational efficiency and quality of seals.

Its efforts in this area run across several strands and include the company partnering with film producers to develop performance recyclable films that focus on structure development, inventing new technology for forming and sealing recyclables, while concurrently downgauging film structures without compromising the seal quality.

The company also works on overcoming the challenges of paper films as well as modifying its machinery versatility to handle different substrates. It can also train operators on sustainable solutions at its Centre for Technological Excellence in Nottingham.

**PLASTICS REDUCTION**

Meanwhile, Omori has been collaborating across Europe with some of the biggest retailers to develop the SeloPack concept offering re-seal functionality while offering a 50% reduction in plastics use for meat and cheese packs. And without any sacrifice of speed, shelf life or pack integrity.

The company says that in real terms, this development brings a saving of 120,000 kgs of plastics on a typical 100 pack per minute packing line running 8 hours a day, 250 days per annum. In financial terms, with the advent of the new UK Plastic Packaging Tax, this could realise a £24,000 reduction in tax liability.

On top of this, the Omori flowrap system typically uses 50% less energy compared to a traditional thermoformer.

At the same time, and in common with the company’s horizontal machines, its range of pre-made pouch fillers, can run the latest generation of sustainable mono layer pouches without any mechanical changes required and with no compromise of speed, seal integrity or OEE.

In terms of customer success, Cama Group has been working with several confectionery manufacturers to use new materials on its machines built with efficiency, sustainability and flexibility in mind. A co-packer for a global confectionery brand approached the Italian company to replace its single-use plastics flow pack with a sustainable alternative. The design team developed a cardboard carton that mimics the flow pack design with the shape and form replicated to integrate easily with tertiary operations.

**IMA Ilapak** has gained six years of experience in the materials field since setting up its OpenLab network of technological laboratories and testing areas that research sustainable materials, technologies and production optimisation processes.

The company can provide more sustainable options through downgauging or the adoption of mono plastics materials which are generally thinner in thickness but also...
more delicate to handle. “Technical solutions have been designed to better manage these materials which avoids stressing the sealing jaws,” explains Christian Romualdi, the IMA Ilapak Group’s marketing & communication manager.

Meanwhile, the company first re-engineered the folding boxes, the forming tubes and other parts directly in contact with the materials running on its equipment. These adaptations meant paper could move easily through the machine which is critical as its nature is subject to breakage or deterioration if not handled properly.

The ultrasonic sealing technology the company has developed as an alternative to heat sealing has delivered excellent results with paper-based packaging materials.

Another example of machinery and materials companies forming new partnerships has seen the launch of a functional barrier paper solution dedicated to automated eCommerce packaging. Materials company Mondi has worked with Beck Packautomaten to develop a solution that uses 95% paper that is recyclable across all European paper waste streams. This paper replaces plastics packaging which helps to reduce tax burdens, carbon footprint while increasing customer satisfaction.

Proseal tray sealing technology is being developed to find feasible alternatives to plastics trays and sealing films for the European soft fruit market with the organic sector, in particular, demanding different solutions.

Recent introductions include the Alexa Stackpack, a premium, craft-board punnet that provides an inline, off-the-shelf, fully printed card punnet. An automatic solution that folds and seals the flanges as the packs are filled and run through a line, has recently been devised.

The CKF Earthcycle plastic-free punnet is also gaining traction across Europe, and importantly, these materials can run down existing Proseal equipment.

Handling paper and cardboard does cause different challenges when swapping out from plastics and Piab believes its suction cups, such as the F26 and F33, can play an important part.

These can be used when opening paper bags and the Kenos vacuum gripping system can be used for picking and placing cardboard boxes.

Piab invites companies making the switch to more sustainable packaging options to get in touch for answers to any handling problems.

The PPMA Total Show at the NEC in September (our preview starts on page 34), will see many exhibitors showing the latest sustainable options on their stands.

Newtec Odense, for instance, says sustainability is one of the core features of its range of weighers on show.
Materials producers were often overlooking the machinery that their materials were being used on. Why projects wouldn’t make the shelf was due to current installed packing machinery equipment and compatibility of new emerging packaging formats. We found that materials producers were often overlooking the packaging machinery in which their materials were being run. Multivac solves this by combining its historic machine knowledge and its team of materials experts to create bespoke solutions that tick all of the customers boxes and their customers boxes at the same time.

The consultancy was initially created to help customers combat the ‘war on plastics’ that started in 2018. We created the Right Pack Consultancy service for all customers to ensure impactful change to our supermarket shelves,” explains Elliot Chrisp, business unit manager – materials at Multivac UK. “We believe the consultancy makes the whole materials change process easier, slicker and quicker.” Officially, it was launched in 2021 with two large projects in two different factories. We quickly realised the sheer impact that small easy changes could make to creating sustainable packaging. These initial two projects removed 417 tonnes of plastic from entering the public environment and a further 2,957 tonnes of plastics were re-engineered into widely recyclable grades.

However, the story of the service really started back in 2018 when the ‘war on plastics’ gained real traction, fast. “We suddenly had the majority of our customers demanding the switch away from current packaging specs to the magic solution that creates the same shelf life, value and zero environmental impact with immediate effect,” says Chrisp. This ultimately led to many rushed projects and great ideas falling flat after a lot of resource had been invested by both the producer and the supplier.

Projects just weren’t getting over the line, and we found the main reason was there were too many stakeholders involved and all requiring their boxes ticking. It would only take one person in the process to say no, and a project would fail. This of course is not a 100% rule and some great projects have made it to the supermarket shelf, however the majority fail, and no impactful changes take place.

One of the main reasons why projects wouldn’t make the shelf was due to current installed packing machinery equipment and compatibility of new emerging packaging formats. We found that materials producers were often overlooking the packaging machinery in which their materials were being run.

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Multivac’s process makes this much smoother by applying its experiences in the key areas. Often, says Chrisp, customers don’t even know they are using the consultancy service, as we have always implemented this as a way of working and not just an added service. We approach all of our sustainability projects in this way. It is not until we are in deep discussion of a project a customer will ask about the Right Pack Consultancy and we will say ‘you are already using it’. After all, the service is free of charge to all of our customers.

Here are details of just two recent success stories for the consultancy.

Firstly, four factories that supply a major UK supermarket approached Multivac to plan for the upcoming UK Plastics Tax and ERP initiatives. The consultancy was challenged to create new packaging specs that reduced the financial impact of these two new initiatives to the absolute minimum. The end result created a saving of over £600k per annum to that producer, the secondary impact was 200 tonnes of plastics was removed from the supermarket shelf. And this was achieved without any new machinery investment. Now, the customer has a budget to make equipment investments to decrease these levy charges further, and to create more innovative packaging formats.

The second success story involves paper packaging for gammon steaks, when one of Multivac’s customers was being challenged to move into paper. Unbeknown to Multivac, the company had actually tried to run multiple paper solutions down its Multivac equipment but to no avail. The company was about to give up on paper base webs working on its existing kit, when the consultancy was asked to look at the project. A trial version of a paper exclusive to Multivac was then created and with a few machine tweaks, a pack was created that survived the supply chain and was signed off by the supermarket for production. This pack has just been launched into store on a paper web that does not require consumer separation of the plastics and paper. Unlike some other solutions on the shelf, the base web is completely curb-side recyclable in the UK.
Safe and flexible option protects machinery user

When Sema Systemtechnik launched its tray former where cardboard blanks are fed in at one second intervals and then folded, glued and sealed in several production stages, it was clear that an effective safety solution had to be found for the situation where there was no cardboard in front of the feed opening.

The company therefore opted for Pilz’s TÜV SÜD-certified solution for safe cardboard feed. Today, the solution comprising the configurable small controller PNOZmulti 2 and special sensors ensures that the feed opening on the tray former at Sema poses no risk to operators.

Two special optical sensors, installed above the feed opening for scanning, form part of the solution for the safe cardboard feed on the machine. If these signal that there are insufficient cardboard blanks in the infeed, then PNOZmulti 2 triggers an immediate stop of the hazardous movement. However, once the cardboard stocks have been refilled, the machine can be restarted following a signal. There’s no need for rigid safeguards, so operators have the flexibility to feed the machine from both sides. The safety switches PSENcode are also part of the solution. As many of the blanks are smaller than the opening on the tray former, a precisely contoured perspex screen seals off the uncovered area. This is called up by the tamper-proof, coded safety switch. Pilz says it is a total solution, which increases process efficiency and significantly reduces downtime on the tray former. “We only use the configurable safe small controller PNOZmulti 2 in our tray formers,” explains Thomas Wehrhahn who is responsible for hardware design at Sema. “In conjunction with the infeed safeguard, PNOZmulti 2 offers sufficient flexibility for adjustments and genuine added value for all of our customers.”

Milling technology offers improved timing screw, scroll, screw feed and auger making

The PAR Group has improved its timing screw, scroll, screw feed and auger manufacturing capabilities with the purchase of a new CNC 4th axis milling machine. The new equipment complements a number of similar machines already in operation at PAR and provides improvements such as an increased bed size, integrated 4th axis capability and live tooling provision. This allows for the manufacture of scrolls and augers up to 1 metre in length which is significantly larger than possible with the company’s previous capabilities.

Quantum is selling the new camera

InfraTec’s new infrared zoom camera – the Image IR 6300 Z – is now available from Quantum Design UK & Ireland.

It is suitable for demanding applications in research and development, quality assurance tasks and materials testing or in a wide range of OEM integration solutions. Smaller, lighter and without time-consuming lens changes, the compact zoom camera offers precise thermographic temperature measurements in numerous fields of application.

Its excellent price-performance ratio and its remarkable user-friendliness result from the consistent use of clever technologies in optics, detector and electronics, says UK agent Quantum Design.

The ImageIR 6300 Z is equipped with an integrated 7.5x zoom lens as standard and allows, in combination with its motorised focus, fast and stepless adjustment to a wide range of object distances and lens sizes with excellent image quality and high measurement accuracy.

Furthermore, the zoom camera is radiometrically calibrated over the entire focal length range, thus enabling extremely flexible use.

By using its powerful image processing electronics, the camera can output the IR image data in real time to several video and data interfaces as well as record and evaluate it independently. Or data can be stored on the integrated SSD.

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Latest edgeController offers a range of benefits in single unit

As well as facilitating exchange of data between industrial control systems and cloud platforms such as AWS, Microsoft Azure and AnyViz, the new edgeController from ifm electronic also provides freely programmable control functionality and versatile visualisation options in a single compact unit.

It therefore offers a complete and flexible solution for the digitisation of machines and systems, says the company.

The new edgeController incorporates a high-resolution, high-brightness 12.3 inch colour touchscreen display partnered by a powerful 64-bit 1.2 GHz quad-core processor which delivers full performance at ambient temperatures as high as 60°deg C. A further benefit is that it can be used in almost all industrial applications without the need for additional protection as it features a robust diecast aluminium housing with an IP65 ingress protection rating.

Plug-and-play access to plant or machine I/O data in real time is supported via industrial Ethernet protocols such as EtherCAT, EtherNet/IP and Modbus TCP. Control functions are programmed using CODESYS V3.5, or the unit can be used as a platform for pre-defined functions which means that no programming is necessary.

This option offers a flexible solution.
Labelling, Coding and Marking

Front and back labeller delivers handling gains

Vuba approached Karmelle to help find a solution to automating the labelling of its 2.5 and 5 litre containers of resin surfacing products which was proving to be a labour-intensive and costly process.

The new machine needed to be suitable for two different applications: applying front and back labels to 5 litre containers, and a single label to 2.5 litre containers and had to be supplied quickly to meet the deadline for a grant to be secured.

After meeting with Vuba to discuss its requirements, Karmelle established that a front and back labelling machine would be the answer. Featuring servo S2-175 labelling heads and controlled via an HMI screen, this system would dispense labels at speeds of up to 80 a minute.

The machine was therefore designed and manufactured to Vuba’s specifications, and its team attended Factory Acceptance Tests prior to delivery. It was approved and shipped the next day, enabling Vuba to meet the deadline.

In operation, containers are placed onto the conveyor before the servo-driven labelling heads apply labels to the front and back of containers. For 2.5 litre containers requiring a single label, a different preset can be selected via the HMI screen.

The new system has had a significant impact on production, enabling Vuba to label in one hour what they were previously hand-labelling in 20 hours.

“We’re over the moon with the labeller, which is already proving its worth,” says James Purdy who is the operations director at Vuba.

Sensors offer precise and reliable detection of print marks and colour variance at speed

Contrast and luminescence sensors are usually the ‘go to’ device for reliable detection of print marks and colour variations even at very low contrasts and are typically used for applications such as printing, labelling and packaging.

Baumer has developed a new range of OC50/OC60 contrast and luminescence sensors to provide reliable and precise detection of minute and invisible print marks even at fast speeds. Of ‘allowable jitter’ is highly dependent on the sensing application.

Developed on the intensity discrimination principle, the OC50 is a basic contrast sensor with the ability to detect even the smallest differences between a mark and the background with a Jitter of >25 μs.

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Baumer has developed a new range of OC50/OC60 contrast and luminescence sensors to provide reliable and precise detection of minute and invisible print marks even at fast speeds thanks to low jitter—>7μs. ‘Jitter’ is best described as any deviation in, or displacement of the signal pulses in a high-frequency digital signal and the amount of ‘allowable jitter’ is highly dependent on the sensing application.

Developed on the intensity discrimination principle, the OC50 is a basic contrast sensor with the ability to detect even the smallest differences between a mark and the background with a Jitter of >25 μs.

Baumer’s sensors are typically used for labelling
Flexible labelling helps expansion

The Fourpure Brewing Company has installed a flexible and moveable case coding system from Clearmark Solutions to complement its £2.5million expansion investment.

Replacing a legacy ink coder on the case packing line, the ICE Vulcan print and apply labelling system now fully satisfies supermarket GS1 barcoding requirements by ensuring every SKU contains a clearly legible Grade A barcode that is positioned in a uniform way.

Supplied with a modular conveyor, engineered to address several specific automation challenges, Clearmark designed, built and delivered the print and apply labelling system to accommodate multiple pack formats, in less than 10 weeks.

Three times faster than conventional print & apply labellers, Fourpure’s ICE Vulcan was customised to streamline the labelling of packaged cans destined for British supermarkets.

Located on the outfeed of the case packer conveyor, Clearmark’s Direct Apply non-pneumatic application ensures the print and apply labelling system never misses a pack, no matter how close together they arrive and pass in front of the Vulcan. Even when cases aren’t evenly spaced or when the gap between two packs is as little as 10 mm.

“The Vulcan on cue printing is great for us and reduces our wastage,” says Kurt Fletcher, packaging manager at the Bermondsey brewery. “The physical application is seamless and places the label in the same spot every time, keeping up with our 30 packs per minute.”

INTELLIGENT MOTION
Irrespective of speed, Clearmark’s Intelligent Motion technology automatically adjusts and maintains the label reel tension, eliminating label slippage. Simultaneously, the solid state printhead delivers the exact pressure required for repeatable and high-quality print resolutions.

In keeping with Fourpure’s comprehensive but easily understood brand appeal, the award-winning brewery intentionally selected a labelling system that could clearly present all the traceability and GS1 information without compromising the craft brewer’s modest case designs.

For businesses investing in marking and coding solutions, paying the initial cost of a new printer can be a daunting expense. When you work with Newcode, we remove that challenge completely by providing your Hitachi printing equipment free of charge.

Come and meet us at PPMA TOTAL Stand D82 to find out more.

www.interactivecoding.co.uk

The brewery says its team members find the labelling system easy to use.
Searching For:

- Future proof flexibility for different pack styles & sustainable materials?
- Safe, intuitive, and easy to operate equipment to drive OEE?
- Industry-leading food safety design?

Then BW Flexible Systems is Your Solution.

Rely on more than 100 years of packaging expertise to solve your packaging challenges. Our innovative equipment solutions are versatile, intuitive, and sanitary. All with lifetime customer support. And ready to serve you for the next 100 years.