

reduces inventory and obsolescence, so in other words, if only as much packaging as needed is produced, less is thrown away only to end up in a landfill.

"Additionally, we offer recyclable and PCR based films and are engaged in R&D around compostable films as well. We are also working on a track and track application, only possible through digital printing, that would allow each brand and consumer to have visibility to track each discarded pouch and see where it ends up. As it relates to this project, our focus is on reuse/upuse, creating a true circular economy - not conventional recycling which we all know is ineffective."

ePac is a member of the SPC on a national scale and works with the communities in which it resides to reduce waste.

Given the company's growth in just four years, the ePac is proving to be rapidly evolving.

Biofilms and Recycling: Cortec Corporation

Cortec® Corporation is one of the global leaders in innovative, environmentally responsible VpCI® and MCI® corrosion control technologies for various industries, including packaging, to solve corrosion and preservation challenges. Headquartered in St. Paul, Minn., the company manufactures over 400 products distributed worldwide. Cortec has a global presence in over 100 countries around the world and operates in these countries via a network of field offices, distributors, manufacturers' reps, licensees and subsidiaries.

The company's primary focus in the packaging industry is the production and conversion of anti-corrosion film, bags and papers



Cortec's primary focus in the packaging industry is the production and conversion of anti-corrosion film, bags and papers to protect metals during storage, shipping, or in-process manufacturing.

to protect metals during storage, shipping, or in-process manufacturing. These VCI (vapor corrosion inhibitor) packaging materials are sold under the VpCI brand.

"We are able to extrude VpCI films from as small as 3 in. (7.6 cm) wide tubing to 30-foot (91 m) wide tubing and convert it into a variety of sheeting, bags and bag-on-a-roll formats," said Ana Juraga and Julie Holmquist, both communications managers at Cortec Corporation. "We also coat and convert our VpCI papers into sheeted widths and lengths from 3-56 in. (7.6-142 cm), with slitting and rewinding on rolls up to 100 in. (2.54 m) wide or 6000 lbs (2720 kg) in weight.

"Cortec oversees production from start to finish. This begins

with the creation of its specialty corrosion inhibiting VpCI masterbatch, goes on to the compounding and extrusion of VpCI film and the coating of VpCI paper, and finally reaches the point of converting finished goods into bags, sheeting, rolls and a variety of formats." By overseeing every stage of the process, Cortec is reportedly able to offer close quality management of the goods.

"One area where we could be considered an 'emerging converter' is in the area of biofilms and recycling," said Juraga and Holmquist. "Cortec has been a pioneer in the development and patenting of biodegradable corrosion inhibiting film technology, which promises to be important for the future as the concern for reducing plastics

pollution increases. Cortec has also led the way in offering special plastic recycling partnerships with regular customers who want to save costs and reduce their carbon footprint by returning used VpCI films to Cortec for recycling. Cortec reprocesses it into new VpCI film products at up to 20 percent recycled content, a level at which Cortec can ensure quality of the new product. Some bag makers are just now committing to reaching this goal by 2025."

On-pack Applications – Luminer

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said Tom Spina, president and CEO of Luminer. "It is exactly the same with Luminer. We continue to invest in machine and process improvements, to develop production techniques that set us apart.

"Many label printers have gone into short run digital printing, or flexible packaging, Luminer's path is to be a leader in expanded content labels and pressure sensitive functional devices. It is a never-ending search for new and better production techniques, raw materials and most of all the continued advancement of skilled operators and support team."

Luminer's primary focus is to supply pharma CPC's, and chemical company's with the expanded content labels they need for both their regulatory requirements and marketing material they need in on-pack applications. Since 1989, it has specialized in combining adhesive coating technology with narrow web flexographic printing and converting expertise.

In addition, Luminer is a prominent provider of on-pack/in-pack promotional products, cosmetic and fragrance sampling devices and pressure-sensitive adhesive coated products. The

company also serves the food and beverage and chemicals sector with a variety of labeling solutions.

Located in Lakewood, N.J. and Red Lion, PA, Luminer's two facilities are each ISO 9001:2015 certified, operate under cGMP guidelines, and regularly undergo audits from high-profile pharmaceutical, cosmetics and health and beauty aid clients.

"As there are so many very good printers in the narrow web flexo space, you definitely need something to set you apart," said Spina. "For Luminer it is twofold. First is our ability to manage multiple webs on multiple presses at one time. This allows the ability to create labels with a number of ply's serving the Expanded content label market and specialty device market. The second major differentiator is our ability to pattern adhesive coat in line with our printing and converting capabilities. This is done by proprietary adhesive coating systems strategically place mid web. This allows for the creations of zone coated labels, and a variety of product devices that have functionality other than just identification." ■

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