

# Plastics in Packaging

Issue 237: July 2021

## PROOF OF CONCEPT

*How Bekum's Michael Mehnert is on a mission to set the benchmark for blow moulding technology*

### IN THIS ISSUE:

Digital labels  
Encapsulation  
Foodservice packaging  
Form-fill-seal equipment

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



## Socar makes impact on thin-wall packaging

**S**ocar Polymer has introduced two new impact copolymer PP (ICP) grades suitable for rigid, thin-wall packaging.

The two ICP resins are the first in Socar's portfolio to incorporate Milliken Chemical's Hyperform HPN performance additive for PP. The two firms have been working together on developing the materials for the past year.

According to Socar, the new grades are ideal for use in thin-wall injection moulded (TWIM) packaging applications such as caps, closures and opaque containers, as well as in various housewares, sporting goods and toys.

The two new grades are CB 4848 MO (with a melt flow rate of 48) and CB 6448 MO (with a melt flow rate of 64), which are the most common melt flow rates for ICPs.

Both offer an excellent balance of end-use properties, Socar said. The grades deliver moulded parts that exhibit low shrinkage, improved thermal resistance, and an excellent balance between stiffness and impact resistance, the company added.

Additionally, Socar claimed the

two different grades enable converters to achieve faster processing, while allowing both newer and older injection moulding machines to efficiently process the material.

The company said the new grades advance its aim of providing customers with reactor grades of heterophasic copolymers that use no organic peroxides, and abide by its zero-phthalate philosophy. This means no catalysts and chemicals containing phthalate compounds are used at any stage of production. At the same time, the resulting products offer superior rigidity and dimensional stability, Socar explained.

The use of Hyperform in the ICP formulation is also said to aid processability by helping to boost converters' productivity through reduced cycle times, while also reducing their energy usage.

These efforts build upon the pre-

vious cooperation between the companies that last year led to the introduction of Socar's first two random copolymer PP grades – RB 4545 MO and RB 6545 MO.

Those grades use Milliken's Millad NX 8000 family of clarifiers, which Socar said can boost clarity in TWIM packaging products while maintaining an excellent balance of overall properties.

Based in Azerbaijan, Socar is currently marketing the ICP resins to customers in Russia, Turkey and other countries in the Commonwealth of Independent States.

*More information from Socar Polymer, 29 Garban Abbasov Street, Bayil Plaza, AZ1003, Baku, Azerbaijan. Tel: 994 12 404 53 30. Web: socarpolymer.az*



## To the point....

● Israeli packaging manufacturer Airmov has developed a range of rimless moisture-absorbing packets primarily designed for use in small pharmaceutical and diagnostics product bottles. Welded together using Dupont's HDPE brand Tyvek, Airmov said the sustainable packets offer greater moisture absorbing capacity while at the same time cutting raw materials usage by 25 per cent. The packets can be produced in single units down to just 19 x 25mm and 0.5g in weight.

More information from Airmov Healthcare Packaging, 6 rue Louise Michel, 94 603 Choisy-le-Roi, France. Tel: 33 1 41 76 20 00. Web: airmov-healthcare.com



● Thermoformer Waddington Europe is augmenting its TamperVisible range of protective packaging products with a hot fill option. Made from high-clarity rPET, the TamperVisible Hot Fill can withstand temperatures of up to 85 deg C, making it a packaging option for sauces, soups, noodles, pâté, ready meals and desserts such as steamed puddings – while also being microwavable. The TamperVisible range features a snap mechanism that must physically be broken to allow the lid to be opened, making any attempt to open the package clearly visible. More information from Waddington Europe (Par-Pak Europe), 37-39 Burners Lane, Kiln Farm, Milton Keynes, MK11 3HA, UK. Tel: 44 1908 260 900. Web: waddingtoneurope.com



● Israeli masterbatch maker Tosaf has developed a range of slip, anti-block, anti-static and anti-fog additives specifically tailored for biaxially-oriented PE film. The additives can be used individually or in combination, giving manufacturers a high degree of flexibility in meeting specific product requirements, Tosaf said. It worked with German film stretching equipment manufacturer Brückner Maschinenbau to validate the processing properties of the masterbatches. More information from Tosaf Compounds, Alon Tavor Industrial Area, PO Box 2633, Afula, 18126 Israel. Tel: 972 4 642 0419. Web: tosaf.com



## Cortec unveils biodegradable shrink wrap

**U**S-based Cortec has developed a commercially compostable alternative to common plastics shrink wraps for use in industrial packaging applications.

EcoShrink is sourced from certified commercially compostable resins and has a 45 per cent biopolymer content. The shrink wrap meets the ASTM D6400 standard, meaning it can be disposed of in a commercial composting environment to reduce the amount of plastics packaging that normally ends up in a landfill.

In addition to its environmental credentials, EcoShrink is described by Cortec as being shelf-stable, and will retain its integrity until disposed of properly.



Users of EcoShrink can shrink wrap their small or large components as normal to conform to the shape of the object, Cortec said. The shrink wrap serves as a great way to keep dust, dirt, and moisture off warehouse stock while keeping components bundled into a streamlined package, the firm added.

According to Cortec, the shrink wrapping process can be performed with a wide variety of standard shrink tools. It's a straightforward case of measuring the size of the unit, determining how much film is needed to wrap around it with enough

for overlap, then shrink wrapping as usual, the company suggested.

EcoShrink is available in 50- or 100-micron thicknesses and as single wound or centrefold sheeting in widths of 18-inch (45.72 cm) or 36-inch (91.44 cm).

Rolls come individually boxed or in cradle-packed pallets.

Cortec said it has been "working tirelessly" to introduce viable packaging options that can make the circular economy a reality.

"In today's world, many are looking for greener ways to approach packaging – this includes looking at the entire range of the product's lifecycle, from raw material sourcing to disposal," said a spokeswoman for the company. "Cortec has recently intensified efforts to develop a variety of practical alternatives to traditional plastics films and bags."

*More information from Cortec Corporation, 4119 White Bear Parkway, Saint Paul, Minnesota 55110, USA. Tel: 1 651 429 1100. Email: info@cortecvci.com. Web: cortecvci.com*