

A Good Year's Work...

Fillers talk to SPRAY about their progress and the state of the industry.

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The contract filler industry had a great deal of good news to report in the past 12 months. *SPRAY* asked fillers to tell us what was new and exciting at their home base, and reports were extremely positive.

In 2017, **Precise Packaging, LLC**, Fall River, MA, expanded its range of capabilities for personal care and over-the-counter (OTC) products and, to accommodate the additional product development and testing, opened a new laboratory. According to Shaun Gaus, Precise Packaging President & CEO, personal care products have continued evolving to keep up with trends and consumer preferences. Upscale trial- and travel-sized products are gaining in popularity, with growing consumer demand for favorite personal care products in small, on-the-go containers.

Aerosol Resource Innovations (ARI), Orchard Hill, GA, recently purchased its own Konica Minolta Bizhub Press C71cf, allowing it to digitally print labels in-house. This allows more flexibility to ARI and its customers when it comes to artwork and regulatory label changes.



(Bottom) Slide Products, Wheeling, IL; (Left) An example of cans filled by Slide Products; note the 20oz. product in the center.



By the end of year, the company plans to double capacity on its paint-filling aerosol line by adding an additional filling line. An automatic tipper was scheduled to be installed in January by MBC Aerosol, with an automatic capper to be installed later in the year.

Last year, **Slide Products**, Wheeling, IL, completed a multi-year upgrade and expansion of its filling line and equipment. These updates now allow Slide to fill with both 211 X 604 (16 fluid ounce) as well as 211 X 713 (20 fluid ounce) aerosol cans. The new filling equipment also allows for three styles of overcaps to be used for both Slide and private-label products, with production capacity increasing 25%.

In addition to the new filling equipment, Slide has increased facility safety following the installation of a flash activated deluge system in its gas filling house.

This year marks Slide Products' 65th anniversary. What started out of a small garage in Skokie, IL has grown to three facilities around the U.S.

According to **Cortec Corp.**, Spooner, WI, the company has long had an interest in providing more environmentally friendly corrosion control technology to the industrial world. As part of this effort, the filler has offered various formulas and technologies to its customers for private label. The last decade and a half saw Cortec launch several of its mainstay corrosion control tech-



(Left to right) EcoAir Graffiti Remover from Cortec; EcoAir Mold Release spray; Cortec's recyclable BOV EcoAir spray can.

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Cortec Corp., Spooner, WI

nologies in recyclable bag-on-valve (BOV) EcoAir spray cans that use compressed air. The corrosion inhibitor technologies that are formulated into the cans often have qualities that are environmentally- or user-friendly. These technologies include:

- A biobased temporary coating for storage/shipment of metal parts and equipment that can be rinsed off with water. (EcoAir BioCorr Corrosion Preventative)
- A water-based cleaner-degreaser that protects against flash corrosion on the metals it cleans. (EcoAir VpCI-414 Cleaner Degreaser)
- A waterborne vapor corrosion inhibitor that can be sprayed into void spaces. The vapor forms a protective layer even on hard-to-reach spaces. (EcoAir VpCI-337 Corrosion Inhibitor)
- Rust removers that are biodegradable and U.S. Dept. of Agriculture (USDA) Certified Biobased Products. (EcoAir VpCI-422 Rust Remover)
- A water-based replacement for oil-based rust preventatives that can be sprayed on metal parts for protection during indoor dry storage. It can be left on the metal as a thin protective layer or rinsed off with water. (EcoAir VpCI-377)

Cortec continues to expand the EcoAir brand, recently adding a corrosion inhibiting release agent for injection molds (EcoAir Mold Release) and a graffiti remover with flash rust inhibitors for graffiti removal on metal surfaces (EcoAir Graffiti Remover). The company has plans to further expand the EcoAir spray can line in 2018 and offers the EcoAir corrosion inhibitors for private label.

In 2017, **Formulated Solutions**, Largo, FL, increased its overall production footprint by 20% in support of production demand and introduction of new platform innovations. According to Scott Carpenter, VP Marketing & Partner Innovation, the company increased its pre-weigh areas at three individual sites, added a new, high viscosity/high alcohol XP blending site and significantly increased analytical capabilities.

Formulated Solutions also installed multiple new pieces of filling equipment. For instance, it increased its BOV filling capacity by 100% with a Pamasol 24-head filler and a complementary fully automated high speed production line. It commissioned a new metal tube filler (Norden 702), Scholle liquid bulk bag filler and high viscosity packette filler (Korber Medipak LA300). The company upgraded its gas house to become one of the first

North American clean room flammable gas charging areas (Class 100,000, ISO 8).

"We commercially launched two new platform innovations, one of which has already been recognized with five industry awards," explained Carpenter.

"eN2fused is a totally new pressurized dispensing platform designed to enhance the topical product application experience and increase user compliance. cryO2fused is a refreshing approach to cryogenically activated ultra-cooling skin care."

"Formulated Solutions is a complete manufacturing and 'innovation-forward' development company, serving our partner in the O-T-C consumer healthcare, Rx pharmaceutical, medical device and prestige personal care industries," concluded Carpenter.

In 2017, **Tri-Pac, Inc.**, South Bend, IN, registered with the U.S. Food & Drug Administration (FDA) to manufacture O-T-C products. The company has committed to becoming a leading contract development and manufacturing organization (CDMO) with R&D and regulatory expertise.

In 2018, the company will be moving its manufacturing operations from Vandalia, MI to its new facility in South Bend, IN. According to Tri-Pac President Vikram Shah, the new facility has over 60,000 sq. ft encompassing manufacturing, blending,

Formulated Solutions, Largo, FL

