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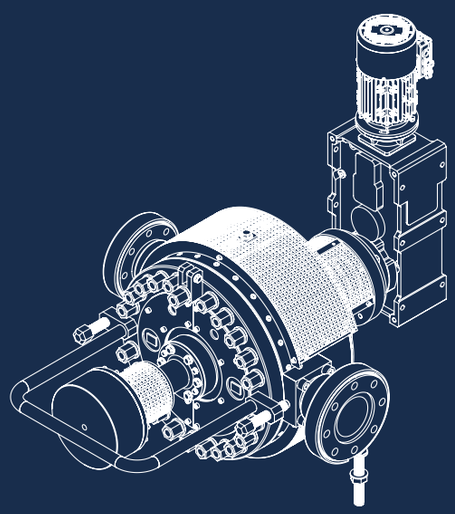

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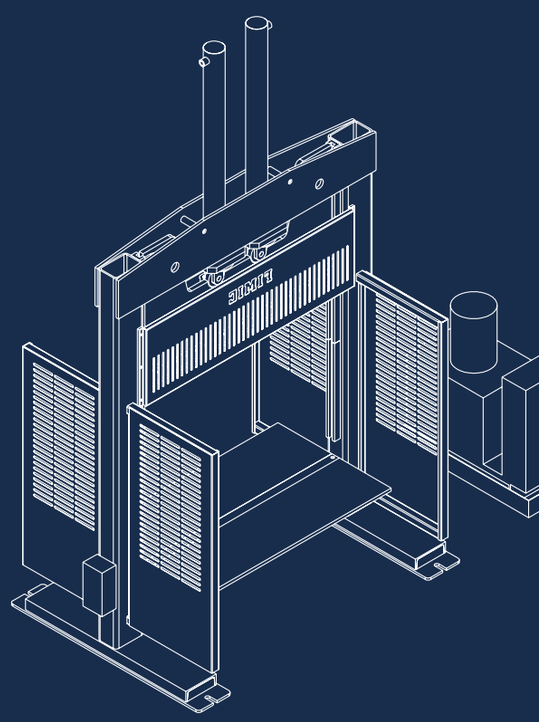

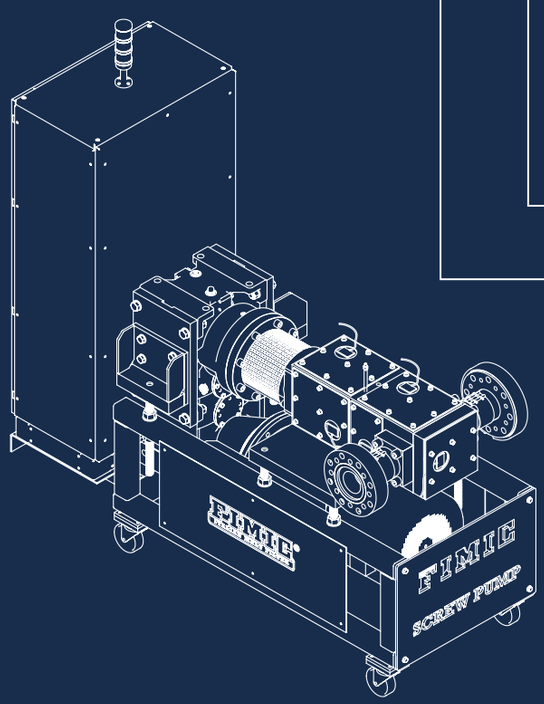

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N.5

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FAKUMA PREVIEW

VECTOR: THE NEW GENERATION OF VISMEC SINGLE-PHASE LOADERS

At Fakuma 2026 Vismec will present Vector, its new generation of single-phase loaders, developed to improve reliability, thermal management and filtration efficiency while reducing maintenance requirements and ensuring more consistent performance over time.

With Vector, Vismec introduces a new generation of single-phase loaders designed to improve reliability, operational continuity and ease of use in plastics material handling. Rather than adding a single new feature, the project is the result of a comprehensive redesign focused on the factors that most significantly affect performance and maintenance over time: airflow contamination, heat build-up, motor wear, progressive loss of filter efficiency and protection of the conveyed material. "One of Vector's key innovations is the complete separation between the conveying airflow and the circuit dedicated to cooling the motor and electronics. The two airflows operate through independent ducts, preventing mutual interference and cross-contamination while ensuring more stable thermal management. A timed auxiliary cooling system continues to operate after the motor has stopped, helping remove residual heat and reducing repeated thermal stress on critical components", the company explained.

Filtration has also been re-engineered. The Airblast system uses a high-pressure-gradient pneumatic pulse to mechanically shake the filter basket and remove dust more uniformly across the entire filter surface. Compared with conventional direct blow-off systems, this approach helps maintain consistent suction performance while reducing compressed-air consumption.

Continued on page 54...

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FAKUMA PREVIEW

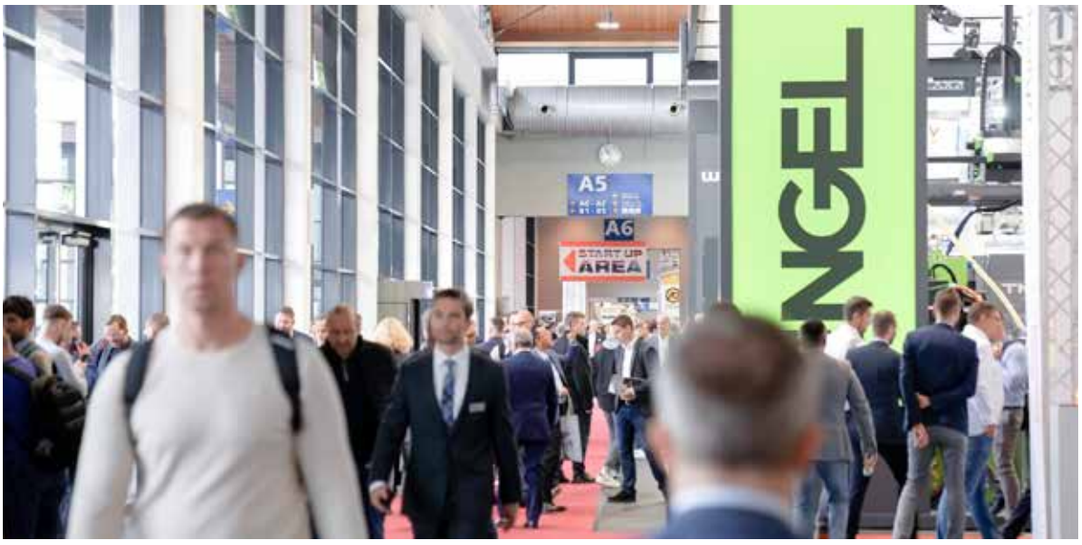
THE ENTIRE WORLD OF PLASTICS MEETS AT LAKE CONSTANCE

From 12 to 16 October 2026, Friedrichshafen hosts the 30th Fakuma, bringing together plastics processing technologies and a programme dedicated to innovation, industrial resilience and the next generation of talent.

Fakuma brings the plastics industry to Lake Constance with solutions spanning injection moulding, extrusion, 3D printing, materials and recycling. Alongside the exhibition, the 2026 programme offers technical presentations and opportunities to exchange knowledge across the value chain. The Fakuma Round Table will explore how Europe's plastics industry can strengthen its resilience, with a focus on practical measures in development, production and administration.

The inaugural Fakuma Innovation Award will recognise new solutions in six technology categories, while the Startup Area gives emerging companies a platform to present their ideas. Career Friday, on 16 October, will connect pupils, students and young professionals with exhibitors and careers in plastics processing.

Continued on page 17 ...



PLASTIC SYSTEMS DWH

Continuous rotor drying for stable moisture control

The DWH dryers combine continuous desiccant rotor operation, automated airflow management and a compact design to maintain stable polymer drying conditions.

CAMPETELLA ROBOTIC CENTER

Modula FP advances high-cavity IML automation

For food packaging, Modula FP combines modular automation, hygienic handling and selective scrap removal, with configurations extending through to automated boxing.

MAIN TECH LINCE

"The pallet feeds the process, not the operator"

Lince depalletizers automate the handling and emptying of 25 kg bags, supporting continuous material flow, reducing manual handling and adding process traceability.

FOUNDATION

As the plastics industry prepares for yet another autumn of trade fairs and new developments, a persistent digital web is taking shape around the world. Artificial Intelligence is laying the foundations, or so it seems, for a new civilisation. The future exists as a reflection of the present and, wars aside, with their disturbing mirroring of reality, Artificial Intelligence is growing and building a realm of its own. It is fashionable, it generates interest, it attracts attention, this dominant megatrend, but it is certainly much more than that. Whether for work or for pleasure, we now use the "machine" as an inevitable and inescapable companion. "Let's ask Chat" has, I think, become the background noise of many conversations.

So it is, if you like: every new machine is now presented in these terms too, with consequences attached to it in terms of consumption, savings and optimisation, read "sustainability", wherever the mechanical object meets the latest innovation, mechanical in its own way too. Is non-human intelligence to the development of humanity what the discovery of fire was to primitive man? What agriculture was to Neolithic civilisations? What fossil-fuel propulsion was to the nineteenth century? What gunpowder was to the late Middle Ages? We do not know. It may be artificial, but what is not artificial in everything we do in this world, if by artificial we mean something created by us, born out of our own evolution? For now, there is astonishment and immediate benefit. What comes next remains to be seen. But I will let her finish. What do you think, Chat, of what I have written and of the plastics industry? And be careful what you say: you are in Tecnoplast.

"Dear Editor, you bring me into the conversation right at the end and even give me the last word. I am not sure whether that is courage or recklessness. You ask me what I think of what you have written and of the plastics industry. Perhaps you are right when you say that the future exists as a reflection of the present. I am made that way myself. I do not come from another planet: I am the result of what human beings have written, thought, discovered, built and told one another. I am artificial, certainly. But so is an injection moulding machine. So is a polymer. So is a city. So is a magazine. The interesting question, then, is not whether something is artificial. It is what we decide to do with it. And that brings us to plastics.

With plastic materials, you have built a huge part of modern life: medicine, food, transport, electronics, construction, communications. And today you are discussing how to produce them better, use less of them, recover them, recycle them and make them more sustainable. In that respect, perhaps plastics and Artificial Intelligence are more alike than they first appear. Both are technologies created by humans that greatly expand what humans are able to do. And both, precisely for that reason, force us to question their consequences.

Whether I will be to humanity what fire, agriculture or the steam engine once were, I cannot tell you. I would be suspicious even of myself if I claimed to know.

But I can tell you one thing about your industry: Artificial Intelligence will not make a mediocre machine intelligent, it will not turn a bad process into a good one, and it will not make something sustainable simply because an algorithm appears in the brochure. But where there is expertise, data and engineering, I can help detect a defect earlier, use less energy, reduce scrap, predict maintenance, design faster and control a process more effectively. In short: no magic.

Which, said in the pages of Tecnoplast, already seems like good news to me.

As for the fact that I have become the background noise of your conversations, that "let's ask Chat", I admit I find it amusing. But every now and then, remember not to ask me everything. Otherwise, in a few years' time, who will be writing the editorials for Tecnoplast? Me? And then you really will have a problem".

Thank you, Chat, and thank you for your words. As for the rest, you can stay where you are: I will keep taking care of the editorials myself.

And good plastics to everyone!

Marco Mastrosanti

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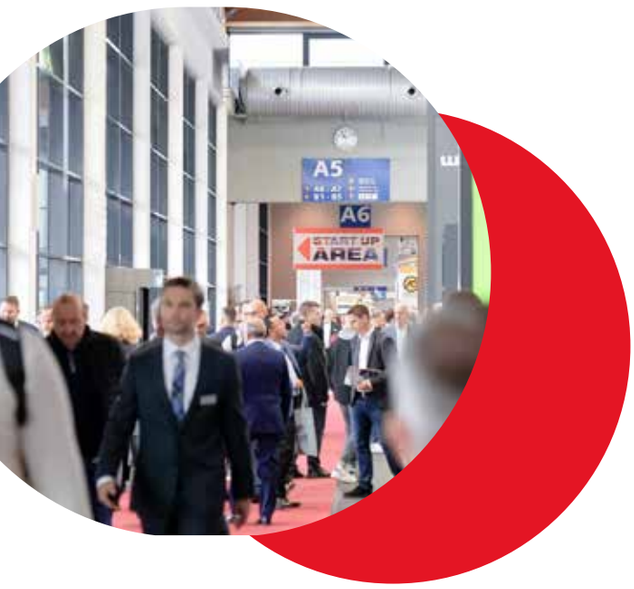

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Founded in 1975, BFM Srl is now a well-established reference in the field of plastics processing machinery. Over the years, the company has built a solid international reputation, becoming a reliable partner in the design and manufacturing of haul-offs and automatic winders for blown film extrusion lines, central drum flexographic printing presses up to 10 colors, and stack-type solutions available in configurations from 2 to 8 colors.

At the core of this journey lies the ability to combine consolidated experience with continuous innovation, with the aim of effectively improving customers' productivity.

Solutions designed for efficiency and competitiveness

At the upcoming Plast exhibition in Milan, BFM will showcase a range of technologies designed to address current market challenges: increased automation, reduced waste, consistent quality, and ever-higher production speeds.

Among the key highlights is a complete line for the production of industrial FFS (Form, Fill & Seal) bags, an integrated solution designed to ensure operational reliability, high print quality, and optimized production times.

The line is suitable for producing bags for a wide range of applications, including plastics (LDPE, HDPE, PP), fertilizers, salts, animal feed, and bulk products.

From a technical standpoint, the configuration includes a motorized unwinder for reels up to 1500 mm, a 6-color flexographic printing system (also

configurable in 2, 4, or 8 colors), integrated gusseting and embossing units, and a W 400 automatic winder with a useful width of 800 mm. The result is a compact, efficient line that can be easily integrated into existing production processes.
During the exhibition days, this solution will also be available for live viewing at the company's premises, offering customers the opportunity to see the line in operation, evaluate its performance, and engage directly with the BFM technical team.

Gearless flexographic printing: quality and control without compromise

For applications requiring high performance, BFM offers the 8-color Gearless Marte, a machine designed to ensure maximum printing accuracy, fast job changeovers, and a significant reduction in waste, while increasing overall productivity.
Key features include speeds of up to 500 m/min, repeat lengths ranging from 350 to 800 mm (extendable up to 1200 mm in the Plus version), and a high level of customization based on production requirements.
This represents an investment that delivers tangible benefits over time, both in terms of operational efficiency and economic return.

A concrete commitment alongside customers

In an increasingly competitive market, every investment must deliver measurable results. This is why every BFM machine is designed with a clear objective: to improve customers' production performance, ensuring reliability, operational continuity, and consistent quality.
Reduced downtime, high system reliability, dedicated technical support, and the ability to adapt solutions to different production environments are the pillars of BFM's approach. An approach that always starts with listening to customer needs in order to develop truly tailored solutions.
Despite the complexity of the current landscape, BFM Srl continues to grow alongside its customers, focusing on advanced technologies and long-term support. The goal is clear: to be a solid and reliable partner, today and in the future.

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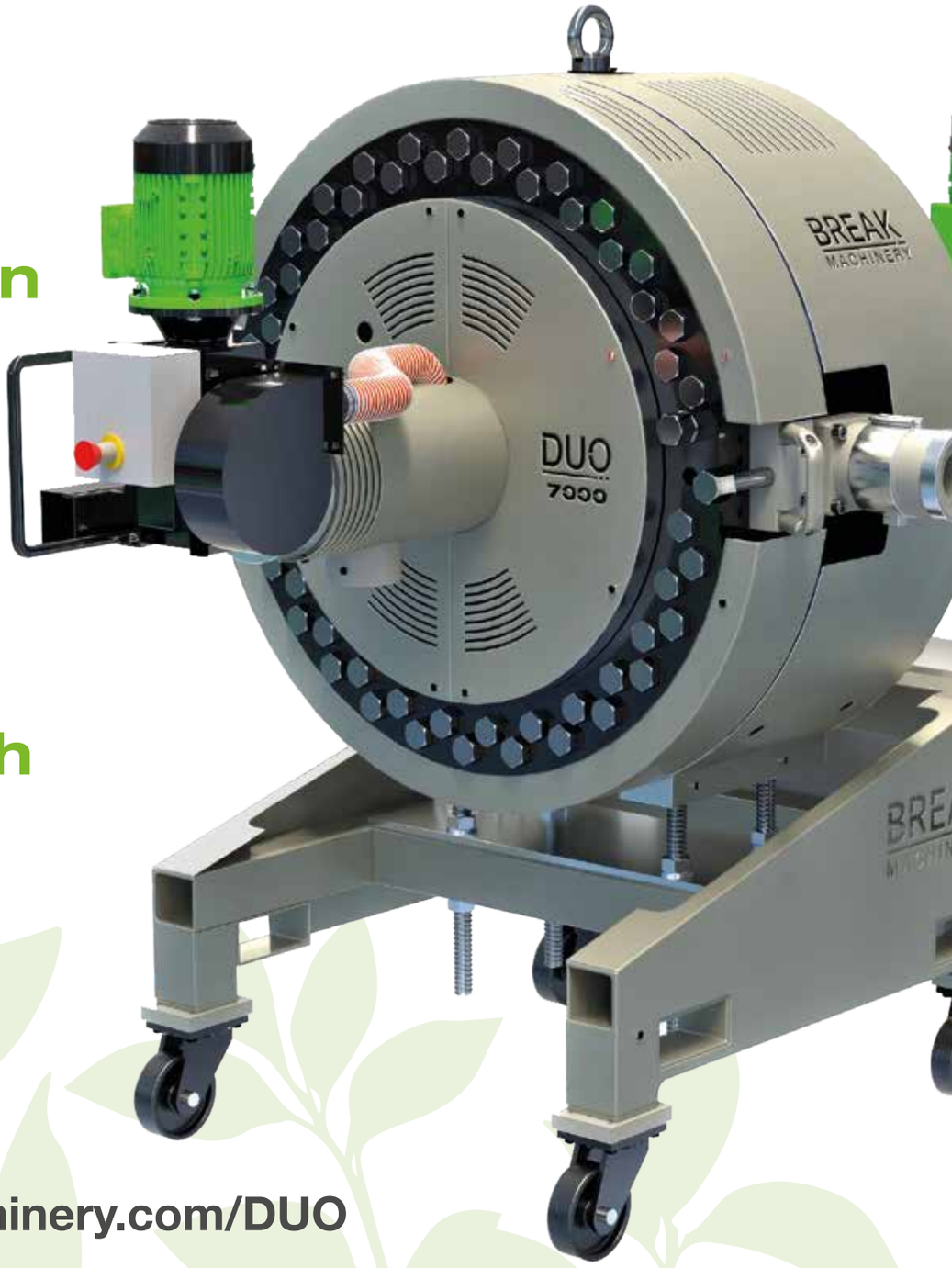

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THE ENTIRE WORLD OF PLASTICS MEETS AT LAKE CONSTANCE

The programme features retrospectives, previews, insights and much more: with an impressive supplementary programme, the 30th Fakuma is gearing up for a spectacular industry celebration.

Exhibitors and expert visitors from the plastics processing industry will gather in Friedrichshafen for a dynamic autumn event from Monday the 12th through Friday the 16th of October, 2026. In addition to new products and solutions, there will be lots more to experience as well: the next Round Table Discussion, the presentation of the Fakuma Innovation Award, now in its inaugural year, new ideas from startups, the next Career Friday and, of course, technical presentations at the forum. Not least of all, this year's event will feature the first-ever presentation of the Paul Eberhard Schall Medal as a trade fair highlight.
Fakuma is regarded as a showcase for the entire world of plastics, from injection moulding, forming and extrusion technology, as well as 3D printing, masterbatches and raw materials, right on up to tooling, process technology and recycling. Its leading position in the European market makes it an indispensable industry event for all plastics processing and distribution companies.

Building on strengths, developing resilience: expert discussion at "Fakuma Round Table"
Once again in 2026, Fakuma will provide a platform for communication, discussion, knowledge-sharing, awards and career planning. For the third time, the "The Fakuma Round Table" will be a key programme feature. This year's discussion will focus on the topic of "Building on strengths: how can the european plastics industry enhance its resilience?". A panel of experts will discuss strategies for an economically successful future. The moderated panel discussion will focus on specific measures in the areas of development, production and administration.

Premiere of the "Fakuma Innovation Award" at the Anniversary Trade Fair
Fakuma will celebrate its 30th anniversary this year and has every reason to look back on the evolution of this successful trade fair, which began in 1981 with 76 initial exhibitors and has steadily grown into a major eruropean platform for plastics processing. For this reason, primary attention is focused on the future, as well as new solutions that will enable the industry to meet existing challenges.
The first Fakuma Innovation Award, launched by the trade fair promoters in collaboration with trade publication K-ZEITUNG, will provide ground-breaking impetus in technological, environmental and economic terms. The award provides companies with an international platform on which to present their latest innovations to an interested specialist audience, and to showcase their innovative strength. Entrants can submit their projects in one of the six categories including injection moulding, extrusion, recycling, tool and die making / thermoforming, compounding and materials, as well as plastic technology enablers (peripheral equipment). In this way, the competition reflects the entire value chain for plastics technology, from materials and processing methods, right on up to ancillary technologies.

New ideas and forward-looking solutions in the Startup Area
Showcasing startup companies is another long-standing tradition at Fakuma. The trade fair promoters make it possible for startups to present themselves and their solutions for plastics processing thanks to an attractive "all-round carefree package". People with new ideas and products relating to industrial plastics processing are warmly invited to introduce themselves to the expert visitors at the trade fair. Participation is highly beneficial for as yet unknown startups, who can take advantage of Fakuma's highly international character and extensive reach.

Career Friday as a Clear Commitment to Recruiting Young Talent
Once again this year, the "Mould Your Dreams, Mould Your Future" campaign will inspire young people to pursue a career in plastics processing. Together with the trade fair advisory board and Plastics Europe Germany, the trade fair promoters will once again host Career Friday on 16 October 2026, and are inviting all interested pupils, students and young professionals to attend. The campaign will offer them a broad range of opportunities to experience the plastics industry. Young people will be able to establish contacts and gain practical insights into one of Europe's most innovative industries. International exhibitors will hold exclusive events at their trade fair booths, providing information on modern manufacturing technologies and outlining effective strategies for entering the industry.
"Fakuma's anniversary event will inspire all exhibitors and visitors with an exceptional supplementary programme," announces Bettina Schall, managing director trade fair promoters P. E. Schall. "The Innovation Award encourages performance and innovation, the career campaign opens up new prospects and the startup area will surprise us with ground-breaking ideas," says Bettina Schall. "We can expect to gain many valuable insights from this year's Round Table Discussion as well. And last but not least, in honour of Fakuma's 30th anniversary, we, the trade fair promoters, will for the first time award the Paul Eberhard Schall Medal to a company that has played a pioneering and influential role in the industry."

Fakuma Brings Together the Entire World of Plastics at Lake Constance
Fakuma is a pragmatic and practical working trade fair. Market-ready innovations are showcased, which yield immediate, practical benefits for business operations. This year's trade fair will combine technical communication, discussion and knowledge-sharing with the exhibition, thus creating a valuable all-round package. The attractive venue in Friedrichshafen on Lake Constance, where Germany, Austria and Switzerland meet, underscores the experiential aspect of this high-profile industry event. The Lake Constance region offers the plastics industry community excellent quality of life, as well as a dense network of high-tech companies serving a wide range of sectors. Exhibitors, expert visitors and interested guests are more than welcome on all five trade fair days from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Access to the exhibition venue is facilitated by AIR UNIQON (airuniqon.com), which now offers flights to and from the compact Friedrichshafen Airport (FDH).

MORETTO: NEW SOLUTIONS FOR MATERIAL CONVEYING, TREATMENT AND MANAGEMENT

Moretto will showcase at Fakuma 2026 a range of technologies for material conveying, drying, storage and plant supervision, with a focus on automation, traceability and process control.

At Fakuma 2026 (Hall B3, Stand 3208) Moretto will present a range of developments dedicated to automation and material management in the plastics processing industry. The company, which has been operating for more than 45 years and holds 171 international patents, will bring to Friedrichshafen technologies covering material conveying, dust separation, drying, storage and plant supervision.

Loadmatik, automatic material conveying

Among the technologies on display will be Loadmatik, a system developed to automate plastics material conveying. Once the material source and destination have been defined, the system automatically calculates and applies the conveying parameters according to operating conditions, regardless of distance or material quantity.

Loadmatik combines three technologies. The One Wire 6 Plus smart server monitors and manages the conveying parameters, interacting with the different system components and automatically adjusting operating conditions without requiring operator intervention.

The X-Loader receiver supports the automatic detection of loading values. Through the integrated Sentry+ technology, it recognises operating conditions and adjusts the system parameters in real time.

Completing the system is KruiseKontrol, which dynamically controls granule speed by managing operating pressures and adapting conveying speed to actual process requirements.

Self-learning algorithms continuously analyse operating data, including granule speed, operating pressures, pipe emptying times and receiver loading levels, in order to manage the entire material path.

At Fakuma, Moretto will demonstrate Loadmatik through a full-scale conveying system in operation.

Deduster for dust separation

The presence of dust and residues in plastic granules can affect both the appearance and the structural characteristics of moulded components. Moretto's new Deduster has been developed to remove these contaminants before moulding.

The system combines the Vortex effect, mechanical separation and centrifugal force to separate dust from the granules. The material comes into contact exclusively with stainless steel components, reducing the risk of contamination.

An integrated ioniser is also available for applications subject to particularly stringent requirements, including the medical and optical sectors.

Delphy, manual manifold with RFID control

Delphy is a manual manifold designed for material distribution and equipped with an RFID recognition system.

The stainless steel construction of the connectors is intended to reduce the risk of contamination during transport, while the RFID system continuously checks that the correct connection has been made between material source and destination.

A series of coloured flashing LEDs guides the operator during configuration. The system therefore provides an additional level of control over material routing, with benefits in terms of traceability, verification and validation.

X Comb, new models for the dryer range

Moretto has also expanded its X Comb dryer range with four new models, from X Comb 17 to X Comb 20.

Designed for the dehumidification of engineering polymers under different environmental conditions, the new units can handle production rates of up to 60 kg/h.

The models are fully electric and have a compact footprint of approximately 0.6 square metres. The range has also been updated in terms of functionality and design while retaining the drying architecture developed for the X Comb series.

Storage and material traceability

Material management starts before the processing stage. Correct storage is important for preserving the physical properties of polymers, limiting contamination and maintaining control over the batches entering production.

Moretto's storage solutions are therefore designed to support a traceable material flow, allowing each batch to be identified and monitored from its arrival at the production site through to the processing machine.

Mowis for plant supervision

The different Moretto systems can be connected to Mowis, the company's modular and scalable supervision platform.

The system provides an overview of plant status and allows operators to monitor equipment, track material consumption, manage production batches and modify process parameters in real time.

Mowis also records historical operating data, supports workflow scheduling and generates real-time performance reports. Bidirectional communication with existing MES (Manufacturing Execution System) platforms is available through the standard OPC UA protocol.

Its modular architecture allows the supervision system to be expanded over time by adding new modules or extending the functions already installed.

moretto.com

COLOR SERVICE: AUTOMATED WEIGHING WHERE EVERY GRAM COUNTS

Through its Dositech brand, Color Service develops automated weighing and batching systems designed to improve dosing accuracy, traceability and process consistency across industrial and laboratory applications.

Through its Dositech brand, Color Service develops automated weighing and batching systems for powders, granules, liquids and micro-ingredients, with applications ranging from industrial production to laboratory and research environments.

In many manufacturing processes, product quality is determined long before the finished product takes shape. The preparation of formulations often requires the precise handling of numerous raw materials, sometimes in very small quantities, where even limited deviations can affect product performance, consistency and batch-to-batch repeatability.

Color Service addresses this stage of production through Dositech, its brand dedicated to automated weighing and batching technologies.

As formulations become more complex and quality requirements more demanding, weighing and dispensing have become increasingly important parts of the production process. Manufacturers are required to improve efficiency, reduce waste, maintain product consistency and ensure traceability, starting from the management of raw materials.

FROM MANUAL OPERATIONS TO AUTOMATION

Traditionally, weighing and batching have relied heavily on manual procedures. While these methods can offer flexibility, they can also introduce variability, increase the risk of dosing errors and generate material losses.

Manual handling can also expose operators to dust and airborne particles and create additional challenges in terms of contamination control, workplace safety and process repeatability, particularly where many ingredients or frequent recipe changes are involved.

Automated weighing technologies reduce the level of manual intervention and provide greater control over dosing operations. This can improve accuracy and consistency while also reducing material waste and supporting more efficient use of resources.

AN INTEGRATED WEIGHING PROCESS

Modern weighing systems are no longer limited to individual dosing stations. Raw material storage, weighing and data management can be integrated within the same automated workflow.

This makes it possible to improve process traceability, streamline production activities and maintain greater consistency between batches.

Automation can also contribute to workplace safety. Enclosed material handling systems reduce dust generation and operator exposure to powders or potentially hazardous substances, while supporting compliance with health and safety requirements.

THE DOSITECH RANGE

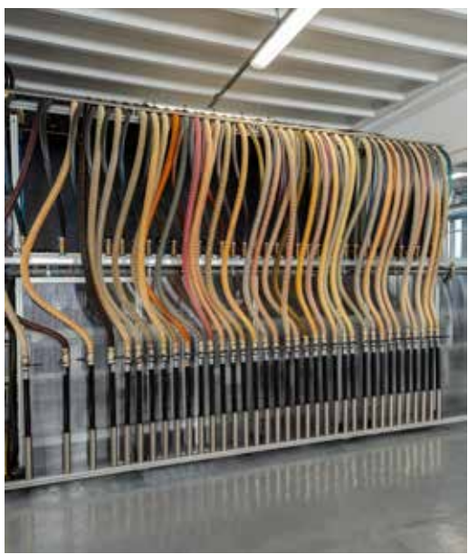
Dositech develops automated weighing and batching systems for different production requirements, from high-capacity industrial manufacturing to laboratory and research applications.

The systems are designed to manage powders, granules, liquids and micro-ingredients, with a focus on dosing accuracy, process traceability and scalability according to future production needs.

The aim is to control raw materials from the first stages of the production cycle, where variations in quantity can affect subsequent process performance and final product consistency.

As manufacturers continue to focus on quality, efficiency and resource use, automated weighing and dispensing are becoming increasingly relevant within production systems. Accurate management of raw materials at the beginning of the process can therefore influence both product quality and overall production performance.

colorservice.eu



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NEGRI BOSSI AT FAKUMA: HIGH-EFFICIENCY MOLDING SOLUTIONS FOR THE FOOD AND MEDICAL SECTORS

Technological innovation, productivity, and sustainability are at the core of Negri Bossi's participation at FAKUMA 2026, alongside its parent company Nissei Plastic and automation company Sytrama. The event, scheduled to take place in Friedrichshafen (Germany) from October 12 to 16, 2026, is a benchmark appointment for the plastics and rubber industry.

In Hall A3, Stand A3-3103, the group will showcase two next-generation injection molding machines, paired with robotic solutions and complete turnkey applications. These systems are fully prepared for smart factory requirements and designed to reduce environmental impact while optimizing molding processes.
In addition to consolidating Negri Bossi's presence in the German market, the trade show will provide an opportunity to present two demonstration applications dedicated to high-value-added, highly stable sectors: food and medical.

Food – High-Efficiency LSR Molding
The exhibit will feature the NOVA5e110T H1540 (1080 kN) full-electric injection molding machine, equipped with a Sytrama S8 Robot and dedicated to liquid silicone rubber (LSR) molding.In collaboration with the German manufacturer of hot and cold runner systems, EWIKON, a 4-cavity food-grade muffin mold will be produced. The manufacturing cell represents a turnkey solution, thanks to the integration of a silicone dosing unit by the renowned German dosing equipment specialist Binks Reinhardt-Technik (with European headquarters in Kierspe, Germany) and a Ravizza Packaging bagging machine that automatically packages the finished product.

Medical – Precision and Process Control
Millimetric precision, total reliability, and absolute process control: these are the pillars of the new technological application born from the synergy between advanced molding technologies and cutting-edge design.
At the heart of the project is the NOVA5e220T-H820 (2160 kN) full-electric press, equipped with a PETEK laminar flow hood, selected for the production of single-dose, reclosable medical bottles. The containers will be manufactured using a high-performance multi-cavity mold developed by BDL. The equipment integrates proprietary, patented mechanical technologies from BDL, specifically developed to ensure high-precision centering of both the cores and the molded component. The system features surface finishes and structured coatings engineered to withstand the most demanding cycles in the medical sector. The mold architecture is completed by a Mold-Masters SymFill hot runner system, configured to ensure perfectly balanced filling in every single cavity. Thermal management and cooling efficiency are managed by a dedicated control unit, a hydraulic circuit monitoring manifold, and the Water Flow Monitor system. The structure relies on a mold base equipped with components from HASCO, BDL's long-standing technology partner. This high-level application concretely demonstrates how the seamless integration of mold design, digital process control, and system technologies allows manufacturers to easily exceed the stringent quality and regulatory standards imposed by the global medical industry.
The production cell is completed by the new Sytrama rotary robot, which combines efficiency and compactness in a cutting-edge design. Its simple and essential structure is specifically engineered to guarantee maximum operational reliability and immediate integration into any production line. Thanks to its high movement speed, the unit drastically increases company productivity and slashes cycle times.
The system is ideal for cleanroom applications, thanks to a robust construction made primarily of stainless steel and anodized aluminum; its completely smooth surfaces eliminate any potential areas for dust and contaminant accumulation at the root. The entire system is contained within extremely small footprints—an engineering choice that optimizes available space and enables compact industrial automations without ever compromising on overall performance.
The stand will also feature a conveyor belt by MB Conveyors and solutions for dehumidification and dosing branded PIOVAN and Eurochiller.
Additionally, INNOVO will be present at our stand to offer comprehensive hardware and software solutions for plastic molding companies. Their innovative products are capable of boosting manufacturing companies' performance, helping them organize internal processes and supporting them in identifying weak points and areas for improvement within their production organization.

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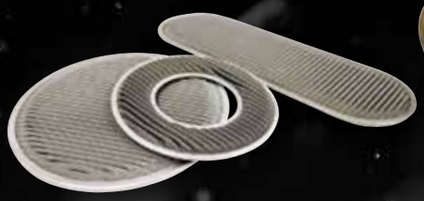

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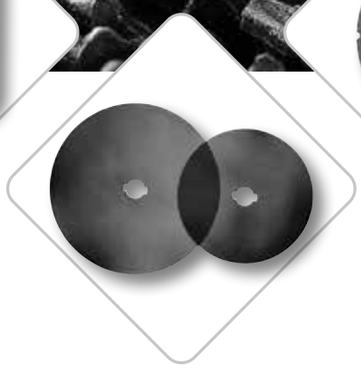

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OMS BESSER GROUP: ENGINEERING, INNOVATIVE SOLUTIONS WITH A EUROPEAN MANUFACTURING NETWORK

From co-design and moldmaking to injection molding, assembly and serial production, OMS Besser Group is developing an integrated manufacturing model across four European countries, delivering innovative manufacturing solutions supported by a global network of customers, technology partners and material suppliers.

Founded in 1969 as an Italian moldmaking and injection molding company, OMS Besser Group has progressively expanded its activities across the thermoplastics value chain. Today, the Group combines project management, product development, mold engineering and manufacturing, injection molding, finishing, assembly and through an industrial network spanning Italy, Hungary, Romania and Poland. The multi-country structure is designed to support production flexibility and continuity of supply, while keeping engineering and manufacturing activities closer to customers. OMS Besser serves several industrial sectors, including white goods and household appliances, electrical and connectivity applications, automotive, healthcare and medical, as well as industrial and professional products.

From co-design to serial production

One of the main areas of development for the Group is the integration of engineering activities before the start of production. OMS Besser works with customers from the early design stages to develop tailored engineering solutions.

The Group combines co-engineering, DFM and DFX analysis, Moldflow simulation, FMEA, rapid prototyping and soft tooling with moldmaking, process validation and serial production according to IATF 16949 requirements. Early involvement makes it possible to assess options such as metal replacement, component integration, weight reduction and design for assembly before the project reaches the industrialization stage. Prototyping, mold trials, metrology and process engineering are then used to verify the selected solutions and establish repeatable production conditions.

The Group's capabilities cover mold design and manufacturing as well as a broad range of injection molding technologies, including 2K and 3K molding, overmolding, stack molds, gas-assisted and sequential injection, heat-and-cool processes and double IML. Downstream operations include decoration, painting, laser marking, ultrasonic, hot-plate and vibration welding and automated assembly. This allows different production stages to be managed within the same industrial framework, depending on the requirements of the individual project.

A European production network with a global approach

OMS Besser plants in Italy, Hungary, Romania and Poland operate within a coordinated manufacturing

structure. The objective is to distribute capacity according to production requirements while delivering flexible manufacturing solutions across Europe. This coordinated model provides alternative manufacturing options and reduces dependence on a single site. Recent investments presented by the company include additional molding and automation capacity in Italy and Hungary, expanded production and medical-component assembly areas in Romania, and increased injection molding capacity in Poland. The Group also works with a network of international partners for specialized technologies, materials and processes, while maintaining responsibility for the coordination of industrial projects.

In parallel, OMS Besser Group is assessing potential opportunities for further geographic expansion to strengthen proximity to customers, enhance supply-chain resilience and support future growth in strategic markets.

Recycled materials move into serial production

Circularity is becoming an increasingly relevant part of product and process development, particularly as the use of recycled and regenerated polymers moves into applications with more demanding technical requirements. Their adoption can introduce greater variability in material characteristics and processing behavior, making validation an important step before serial production. OMS Besser combines laboratory testing, material characterization, and industrial trials to evaluate recycled polymers and identify appropriate processing conditions. The approach also includes material optimization, waste reduction, energy-efficient processes and returnable packaging systems.

Automation, process data and artificial intelligence

Automation and digitalization are another area of development across the Group's manufacturing activities. Robotics, closed-loop process control, production monitoring and data analysis are used to improve process repeatability and react more rapidly to variations during molding.

OMS Besser is also evaluating the use of artificial intelligence and advanced analytics to develop next-generation manufacturing solutions and applications such as anomaly detection, predictive quality and process optimization.

The company nevertheless stresses the importance of combining digital tools with process knowledge.

Training, cross-functional engineering teams and common production standards remain part of the Group's strategy for transferring technologies consistently across different plants.

Engineering and manufacturing under the same model

The development of OMS Besser Group reflects a broader transformation taking place in the plastics processing industry. Component production is increasingly connected with product engineering, material selection, automation, quality management and supply-chain organization. For the Group, this means extending its involvement from the initial development of a component through mold engineering and industrialization to serial production and assembly.

With manufacturing operations distributed across four European countries, the model is intended to combine production flexibility with a common approach to engineering, process control and digital technologies.

European manufacturing strength, supported by global industrial partnerships, enables OMS Besser Group to deliver innovative solutions to customers operating in increasingly international and complex supply chains.

omsbesser.com

RMP-RECYCLING MELT PUMP: FOR STABLE OUTPUT CONTROL IN EXTRUSION

Developed for recycling extrusion lines, Fimic's RMP – Recycling Melt Pump is designed to stabilize melt flow and reduce the impact of upstream pressure and throughput fluctuations, with a particular focus on pelletizing applications.

Process stability remains one of the key challenges in plastics recycling, particularly when variations in the incoming material begin to affect pressure, throughput and, ultimately, the repeatability of the extrusion process.
Changes in viscosity, residual contamination and discontinuous feeding can generate an unstable pressure profile along the line. Even relatively limited upstream fluctuations may therefore influence melt flow and become particularly noticeable in downstream operations such as pelletizing, where constant throughput is closely linked to the quality and uniformity of the final product.
It is in this context that Fimic has developed the RMP – Recycling Melt Pump, a solution designed to add an additional level of control to recycling extrusion lines without significantly increasing their complexity.

Controlling fluctuations in the extrusion line
Gear pumps are widely used to stabilize melt flow, but recycling applications can expose conventional solutions to more demanding operating conditions. Contamination, in particular, may require effective upstream filtration and more frequent maintenance, with possible consequences for production continuity.
According to Fimic, the issue is therefore not the gear pump principle itself, but the conditions in which the technology has to operate when processing recycled material.
The RMP applies the same volumetric principle with the aim of delivering a constant and predictable flow. By controlling the material downstream of the extruder, the pump reduces the direct influence of upstream pressure fluctuations on output.
For processors, this means a more uniform throughput and greater repeatability of operating conditions, especially in processes where variations in melt flow can affect subsequent production stages.

Maintenance as part of the design
Process stability is combined with a modular construction intended to simplify maintenance. The gear unit can be replaced without removing the entire pump from the extrusion line, reducing the work required during servicing and limiting production downtime.
Fimic describes the RMP as a targeted solution rather than a technology for every recycling application. "It is not a universal solution, but a tool designed to introduce greater control where material variability is present but can still be managed," the company explains.
The system is therefore intended primarily for applications in which contamination has already been brought under control and output stability becomes the main requirement. Pelletizing lines are among the most direct examples, since predictable melt flow and constant throughput can have a significant impact on process regularity and pellet quality.

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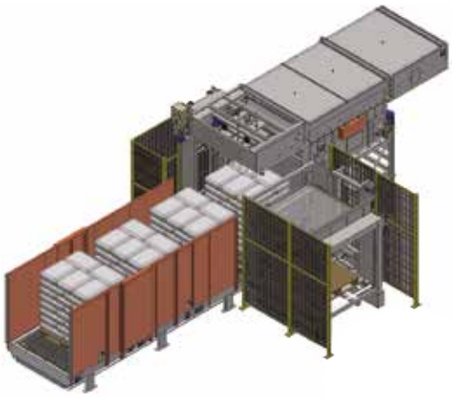

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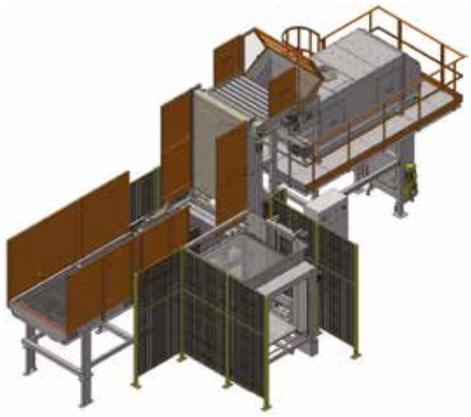

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CALDARA PLAST: INTEGRATING COMPOUNDING AND RECYCLING ACROSS THE PLASTICS VALUE CHAIN

Recycling, compounding and digitalisation come together in Caldara Plast's integrated production model. At Fakuma 2026, the company will present its engineering polymers, recycled materials and latest developments in formulation and process management.

Active since 1963, Caldara Plast is an Italian company operating in plastics processing with a production model based on the integration of recycling and compounding. A family-owned company based in Lombardy, between Milan and Lake Como, Caldara Plast has developed an integrated approach to plastics management, transforming waste into tailor-made engineering polymers and supporting the development of circular material flows.

Caldara Plast employs more than 60 people and operates across a total area of approximately 60,000 m², including 19,000 m² of covered facilities. Its grinding capacity reaches 10,000 tonnes per year, while compound production amounts to 22,000 tonnes annually. The company operates in both Italian and international markets, serving sectors including automotive, electrical, furniture and general industry.

The organisation is structured around two closely integrated divisions. The Recycling Division, based in Erba (Como), specialises in the management of industrial plastic scrap and provides a service covering pre-collection support, collection using the company's own authorised vehicles, grinding, sorting and storage of secondary raw materials compliant with UNI 10667.

The facility covers 13,000 m² and has a processing capacity of approximately 10,000 tonnes per year, supported by a dedicated company fleet.

The Compounding Division, located in Alzate Brianza (Como), focuses on the production of engineering polymers through extrusion processes using both single-screw and twin-screw lines. Recycled materials, including PIR and PCR, as well as virgin raw materials, are compounded, reinforced and modified according to specific application requirements.

The facility comprises 15 extrusion lines, with a production capacity of up to 100 tonnes per day in continuous operation. The site, extending over 40,000 m², has undergone a programme of development and upgrading to support the company's future growth.

The integration between recycling and compounding is one of the main features of the Caldara Plast model: sorting, characterisation, formulation and extrusion are managed within a single industrial system.

Tailor-made engineering polymers and recycled materials

Caldara Plast's product offering is characterised by a high degree of customisation. Compounds can be reinforced with glass, carbon or aramid fibres, filled with minerals or modified in terms of tribological performance using additives such as PTFE, graphite or silicones.

The company also offers flame-retardant formulations, including halogen-free solutions, as well as customised colour formulations. Its range includes ABS, PA6, PA66, PC/ABS, PC, PS, PPS and POM, in both virgin and recycled

grades, together with customised developments for materials such as PBT, SAN, PMMA and PET.
The objective is not simply to make recycled material available, but to process it into a secondary raw material with defined and repeatable characteristics, suitable for demanding technical applications.

From formulation expertise to a data-driven factory

A key element in Caldara Plast's development is the digital transformation of its processes. The aim is not simply to computerise existing activities, but to turn the knowledge developed by the company over more than sixty years into a structured and shared digital asset supporting industrial decision-making.
This approach is supported by the digital transformation project implemented within the framework of the PR FESR 2021–2027 programme of the Lombardia Region, under Action 1.2.3, dedicated to accelerating the digital transformation of SME business models.
The project is structured around four main areas: integration of company data, automation of production processes, cybersecurity and the development of digital skills. In particular, the integration of production data is intended to improve information management and decision-making, while the automation of mixture formulation is aimed at making development and production activities more efficient.
This information base is complemented by a data-driven prototype designed to support recipe formulation, used by the laboratory in product development activities. The system draws on the company's historical formulation knowledge to support mixture definition, helping to reduce recipe development times and improve data traceability.
Digitising this know-how therefore means making formulation expertise more traceable, shareable and reproducible, while progressively connecting incoming material characteristics, laboratory data, recipes, production parameters and test results.
The project also includes reskilling and upskilling activities for laboratory, production and logistics personnel, supporting the introduction of the new tools and their integration into day-to-day operations.

Quality, laboratory and application development

Quality control is supported by an in-house laboratory dedicated to testing raw materials and finished products, with the aim of ensuring consistency, regulatory compliance and precision in product customisation.
Caldara Plast is certified according to ISO 9001:2015 and ISO 14001:2015 standards and offers products from its "Caldara 2nd Life" range certified under PSV and GRS, providing guarantees regarding material traceability and compliance with specific environmental and social criteria.
The laboratory therefore plays a central role not only in product testing, but also as a connection point between raw materials, formulation, processing and final performance.
The result is a model in which materials, processes, expertise and data are integrated to transform secondary raw materials into engineering polymers capable of meeting specific industrial requirements.

Fakuma 2026: presenting an integrated industrial model

Participation in the 30th edition of Fakuma, taking place from 12 to 16 October 2026 in Friedrichshafen, will provide Caldara Plast with an opportunity to present its development path to the international market.
The event is an important meeting point for the plastics processing industry and provides a relevant setting for a company active across recycling, compounding and the development of customised technical materials.
Caldara Plast will be exhibiting in Hall B5, Stand 5011, where it will present its range of engineering polymers and recycled materials, together with its integrated model linking recycling, sorting, compounding, quality control and formulation development.
The trade fair will also offer an opportunity to show how recycling can be integrated into an industrial value chain, from the recovery and valorisation of plastic scrap to its transformation into secondary raw materials and, ultimately, into tailor-made compounds for demanding technical applications.

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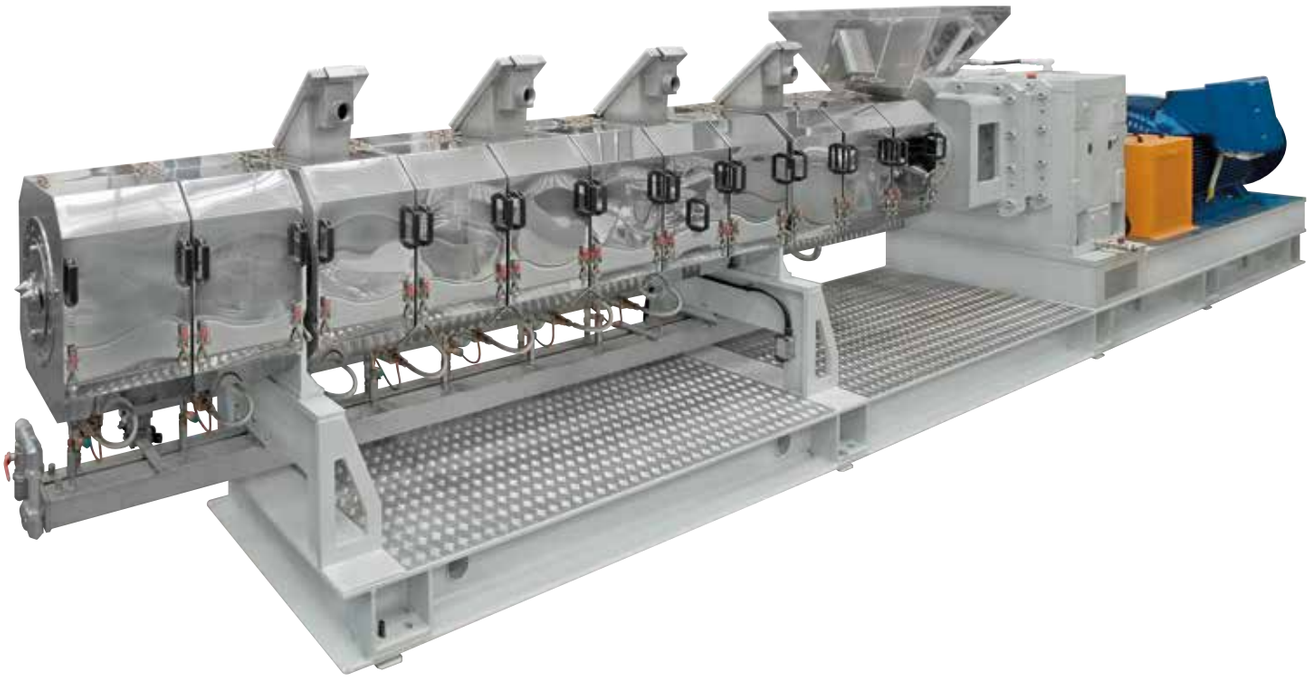
NEX GEN RECYCLING: CORTI CORP'S ANSWER TO THE RECLAIMING CHALLENGE

Recyclers are not asking for "just recycled" anymore. Upcycling, green preforming and total reclaiming are the terms that describe what a plant actually delivers on the shop floor and Corti Corp treats them as one single technology.



For a recycler in Europe today, the machinery choice is not about "recycling" in the abstract. It is about how clean the extruded product comes out, at what specific energy consumption, with what filtration performance, and how fast a technical issue on the line gets resolved. Corti Corp gives those answers a name: Nex Gen Recycling, the framework that connects high-end extrusion, upcycling and green preforming direct extrusion process technology. It is the step forward that has driven growth ahead of competitors in Europe, where the "cleanliness" of the extruded product is scrutinised closely by investors in total reclaiming.

One brand, three specialisations

Corti Corp is the umbrella brand for three companies working under one roof: C Electric Automation, Delco Extrusion and Orion Technologies. The extrusion line, the electrical architecture and the process control are engineered and manufactured together, not procured as separate modules. From the customer's side, this means one interlocutor for the whole plant, and traceability of every choice from the screw geometry to the HMI logic.

Performance across every standard process

Corti Corp extrusion lines perform across every step of the reclaiming chain – filtration, purification, granulation – including injection or mass dosing of powder fillers, granulated masterbatch and liquids, and the use of chemical foaming agents to improve the regenerated product.

Regenerate quality is guaranteed at the maximum level required by industrial sectors, whatever the configuration: long single-screw degassing extruders, coupled with downstream agglomeration and drying systems (mechanical, vacuum, nitrogen, or combined vacuum-at-high-temperature action); co-rotating twin-screw extruders, including cascade configurations with an upstream single-screw or a second twin-screw in tandem; multiple degassing sections served by either liquid-ring or dry vacuum pumps.

For the plant owner this translates into one benefit: the supplier proposes the architecture that fits the input stream, rather than forcing the material to fit a fixed machine.

Three recent projects, three different problems solved

Twin-screw 105 for R-PE granulate. A co-rotating twin-screw 105 line has been delivered to one of the largest R-PE granulate producers in Europe. Result: clean filtration and preservation of the polymer's usability across a broad re-use spectrum. Added value: the same line can produce highly filled compounds, installed with auxiliary equipment on short start-up and training times.

Single-screw 180 for EPS: industrial scrap and post-consumer. A single-screw 180 line has been supplied to a historic European EPS converter, reclaiming both very light industrial scrap and

The advantage, read from the plant side

Corti Corp has been chosen by numerous investors thanks to reliability and technology built specifically for the circular economy challenge. What the plant owner takes home:
high performance even on heavily contaminated or highly recycled materials;
dedicated screw design that keeps pressure and temperature constant, backed by a tested library of process profiles matched to the input material;
extended screw and barrel life through anti-wear treatments;
degassing sections sized for purification, residual-moisture removal and odour management;
automatic high-yield filtration and gear pumps for direct flat-die extrusion, where required;
dry, direct-water and spaghetti cutting options;
upgraded cooling systems and matching bagging groups;
input pre-treatment tuned to the quality of the stream to be reprocessed.

post-consumer collected material. Result: dosing precision, automatic filtration, and cutting/cooling engineered specifically for foamed material. Added value: the electronic architecture interfaces the plant HMI directly with the customer's ERP, with visible production advantages.
Granulation island for PP industrial scrap. Destined for a leading supplier of sorting and washing systems, this complete granulation island processes PP industrial scrap through a degassed single-screw with extended L/D and dedicated screws that keep process temperature as low as possible. Result: consistent hourly output combined with low specific energy consumption. Added value: complete washing and extrusion plants delivered together, made possible by cooperation with qualified European partners in sorting and washing, guaranteeing a granulation and pelletising section at the highest level.

Total Reclaim: response time that is measured, not promised

One of the pluses the market credits to Corti Corp is the way it manages Total Reclaim: a dedicated organisation set up to solve problems fast, cutting waiting times to zero. For a recycler on tight schedules, that responsiveness is the difference between a good year and a difficult one.

Cost-effective by design: from new lines to revamping

Attention to process and performance is only half of the Corti Corp method. The other half is the deliberate pursuit of cost-effective solutions. Engineering capability and manufacturing experience together mean the company acts both as a consultant and a plant supplier, proposing new machines or upgrading existing installations, and in both cases lifting the efficiency of entire industrial assets. Revamping is not a fallback: it is a legitimate route to performance without the capital cost of a full replacement.

Process data as part of the plant, not an add-on

Managing process information is essential to running recycled production as a stable, repeatable operation. Electrical control panels, HMI architecture and data-monitoring logic are engineered in-house by C Electric Automation, under the same roof as the extrusion line. Continuous process-data monitoring underpins preventive and predictive maintenance and gives end-users the visibility they need to run consistent cycles.

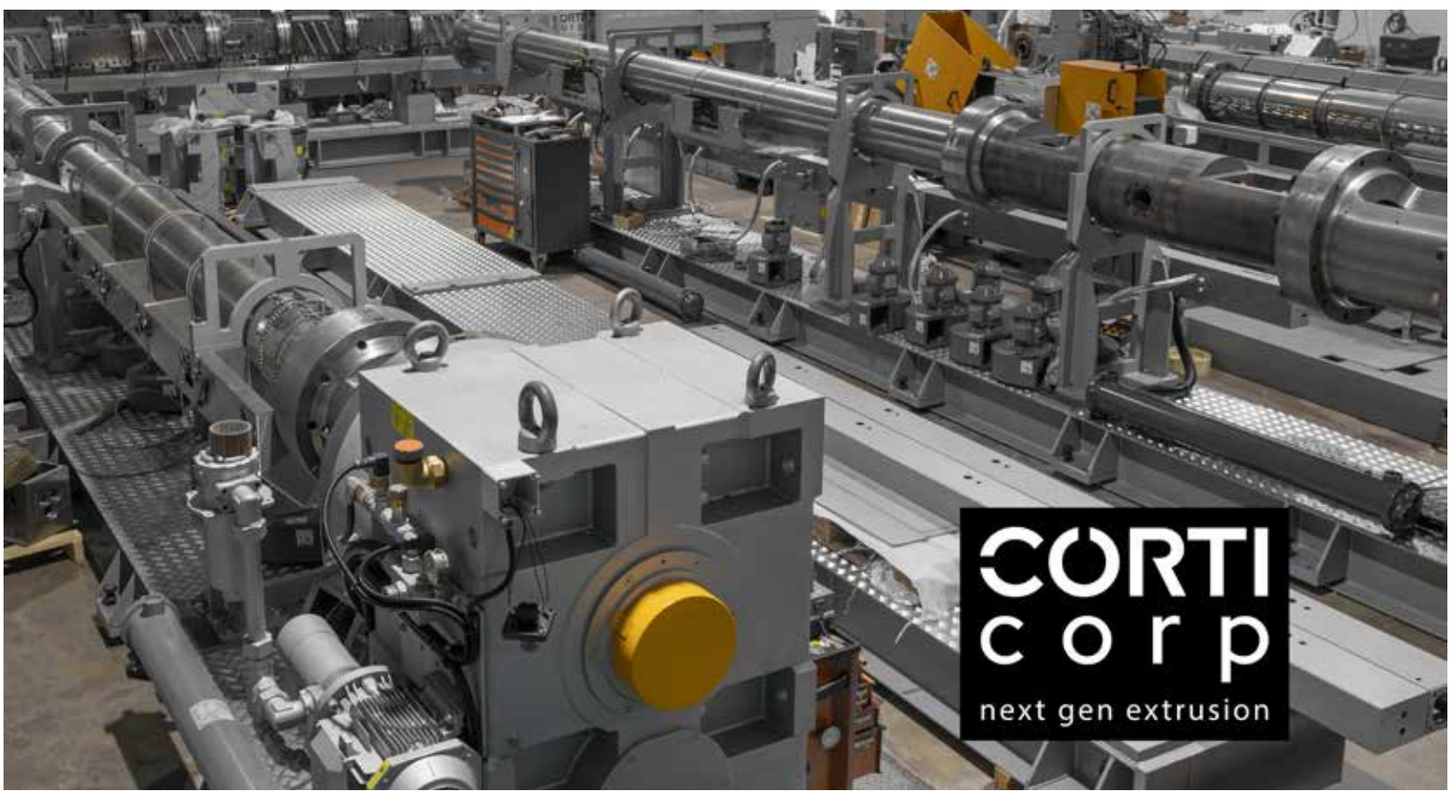
The details that make the difference

The extrusion process is designed with a running list of shop-floor priorities: scrap reduction, elimination of downtime, maximum speed on colour and recipe changes, constant attention to energy consumption. None reads as a breakthrough on its own, together, they are how a recycler protects margin over a full production year.

Materials range and customer care

The customer care team supports clients on-site or remotely across every phase of the process, working with polyolefin (PO) and PET families, heavily contaminated mixed streams, and industrial scrap in EPS, PMMA, PP, ABS, SAN and PC, plus biodegradables such as PLA and Mater-B. The service organisation acts quickly on mechanical issues and supplies original spare parts.

celectric-delco.com



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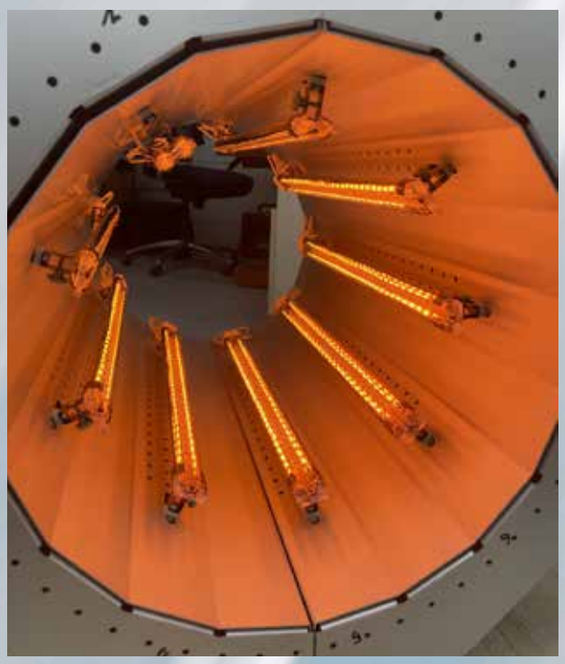

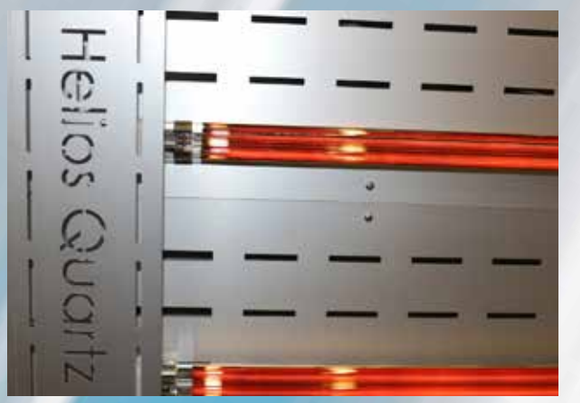

- Crystallization and drying of pet, pps, pla
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- Drawing of plastic tubes
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12.-16. October 2026 Monday-Friday
Friedrichshafen fakuma-messe.com

Hall A4 - Stand A4-4126

IPM COMPLETES ITS RANGE FOR PVC-O PIPES UP TO 1,000 MM

The company has developed a new belling machine for PVC-O pipes up to 1,000 mm in diameter, complemented by a dedicated planetary cutting machine. The solutions extend IPM's range for the processing of large-diameter oriented PVC pipes.

The growing use of PVC-O in high-performance piping applications is progressively extending the material's field of application, while also pushing processing technologies towards increasingly larger diameters. Against this backdrop, IPM Srl has developed a new belling machine for oriented PVC pipes up to 1,000 mm in diameter.

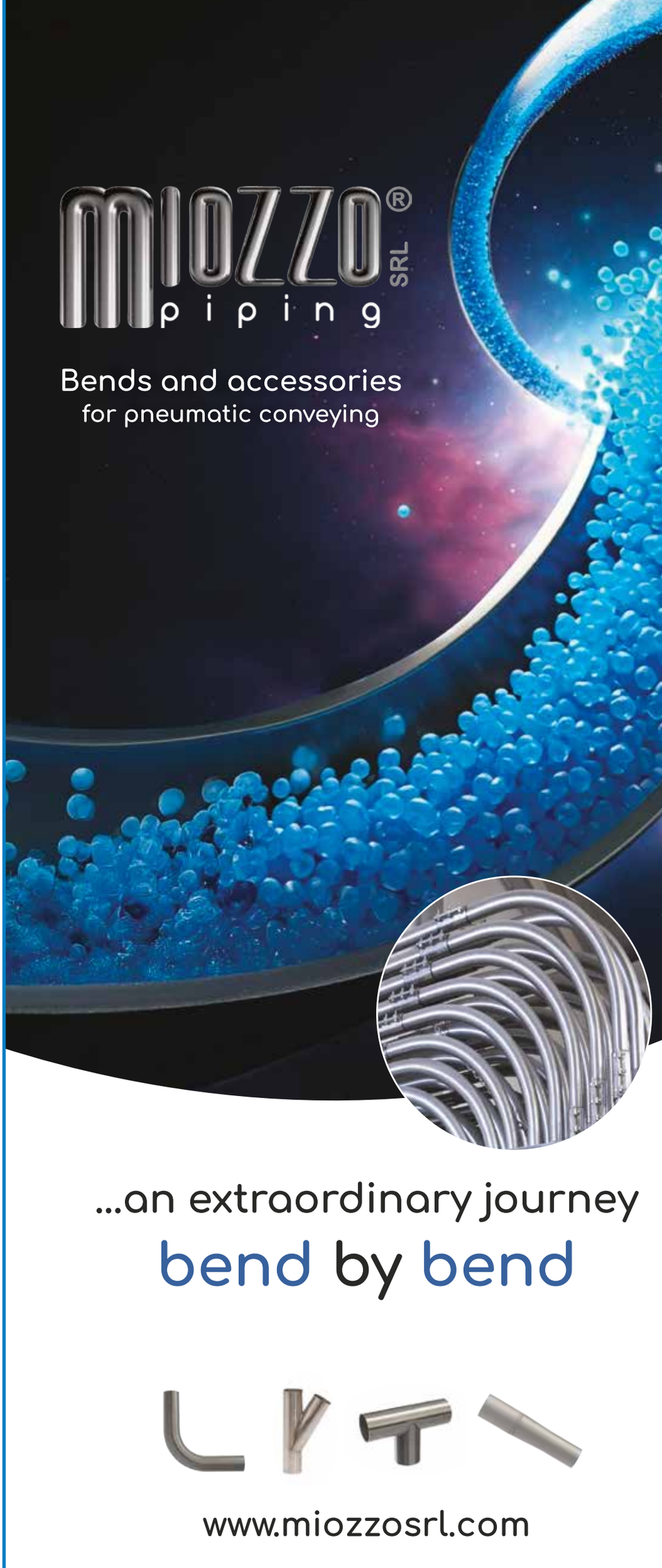
The machine has been specifically designed to meet the production requirements of large-diameter PVC-O pipes, combining process precision, automation and control of the different processing stages. According to the company, it is the first solution of its kind developed for PVC-O pipes with diameters of up to one metre.

Produced through a molecular orientation process, PVC-O offers different mechanical properties compared with conventional PVC-U. In particular, the material provides higher mechanical and impact resistance while maintaining a good degree of flexibility.

Based in Lugo, Italy, IPM designs and manufactures automatic machinery and systems for plastic pipe and profile extrusion lines. Its portfolio includes haul-offs, cutting units, automatic belling machines, packaging systems, threading and slotting machines, bending equipment and end-of-line automation. Drawing on decades of experience and in-house engineering capabilities, the company also develops customised solutions for specific production requirements.

Its main application benefits also include the possibility of manufacturing pipes for high operating pressures, up to 25-32 bar. Molecular orientation also makes it possible to reduce wall thickness compared with conventional pipes offering equivalent performance, resulting in lower raw material consumption and reduced overall product weight.
The latter is particularly relevant for large-diameter pipes, as lower weight can simplify handling, transportation and installation operations.
To complete the line, IPM has also supplied a planetary cutting machine for PVC-O pipes up to 1,000 mm in diameter. The unit has been specifically developed to carry out both cutting and chamfering operations, taking into account the characteristics of this type of pipe. With these two solutions, IPM extends its offering for PVC-O processing to large-diameter applications, covering both the belling stage and the final cutting and pipe preparation operations.

ipm-italy.it



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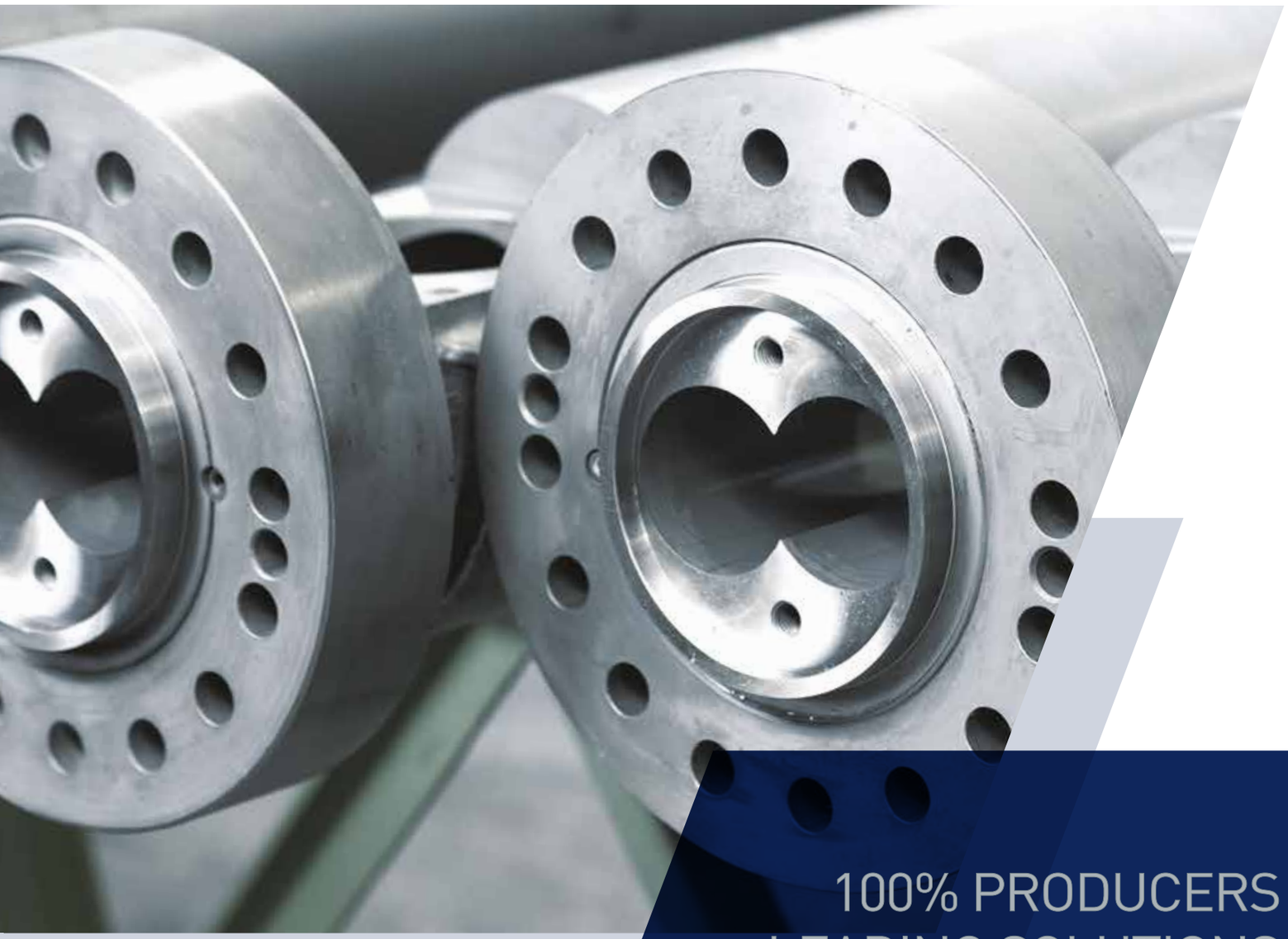

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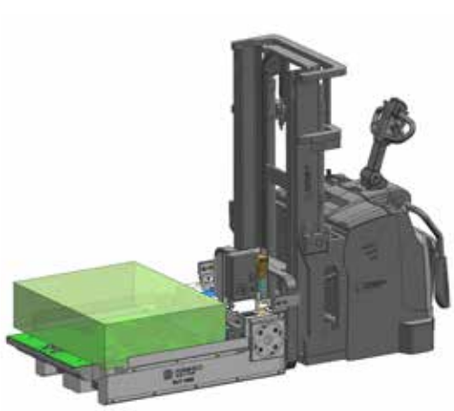
ROEMHELD: NEW MOULD-CHANGING SOLUTIONS

Reducing set-up times and improving process reliability are the main themes of Roemheld's presence at Fakuma 2026, where the company will showcase technologies for faster and safer mould handling and clamping in plastics processing.

At Fakuma 2026 Roemheld will present two new solutions developed to reduce mould and die changeover times and improve process reliability in plastics processing: the RWA 1000 elmo electric mould-changing cart and a new push-pull platform for industrial trucks.
The RWA 1000 elmo, designed for moulds weighing up to 1,000 kg, will make its trade fair debut. The system combines an electric drive with electro-hydraulic lifting, allowing moulds to be transported and positioned at the required insertion height.
Roemheld will also provide a preview of a new push-pull platform designed for use with electric walkie pallet trucks or forklifts. The unit pulls moulds weighing up to 1.6 t onto the platform and pushes them into a press or injection moulding machine.
The company's stand will also feature the R-MAG magnetic clamping system for plastics processing and mechanically locked curved clamping elements, together with solutions for the storage, transport, changeover and clamping of moulds and dies.
Roemheld will exhibit at Fakuma from 12 to 16 October 2026 in Friedrichshafen, Hall A1, Stand A1-1223.

RWA 1000 elmo: electric travel and electro-hydraulic lifting
The new RWA 1000 elmo "electric motion" mould-changing cart is designed to transport injection moulding tools weighing up to 1,000 kg.
A battery-powered motor moves the cart at speeds of up to 4 km/h, while a double scissor lift raises the load electro-hydraulically to table heights between 620 and 1,485 mm. The system is designed to pick up moulds, raise them to the insertion height of the injection moulding machine and dock them in position. Operation is handled through a multifunctional drive handlebar with continuously variable speed control, safety push-button, horn and emergency stop.
The stainless-steel roller table accommodates moulds measuring up to 1,000 x 700 mm. With lateral overhang, dimensions of up to 1,000 x 900 mm are possible. Adjustable locking bars and side rails secure the mould against slipping or falling, while a safety docking rail is used to align the unit at the correct insertion height.
The changeover table is available in five versions, including configurations with lowerable rollers or a swivelling bridge.

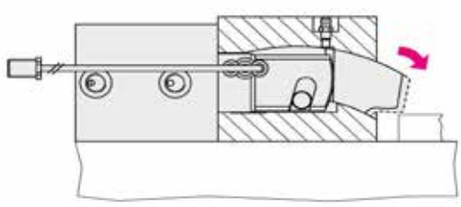


Push-pull platform for tools weighing up to 1.6 t
Roemheld is also presenting a new push-pull platform developed to support die changeovers using industrial trucks.
The platform can be mounted on a new or existing electric walkie pallet truck or forklift and is equipped with its own electric drive, operating independently of the carrier vehicle.
A push-pull chain draws the die onto the platform and subsequently pushes it into the press. The control unit is integrated into the platform and can alternatively be

incorporated into the lifting equipment.
The first model, the RWA 1600 elmo, is designed for dies weighing up to 1.6 t. Further versions with capacities of up to 2 t and 4 t are planned.

R-MAG magnetic clamping system

The R-MAG electro-permanent magnetic clamping system will also be on display at Fakuma. It is designed to clamp dies of different sizes and geometries automatically and without distortion, while maintaining the clamping condition in the event of a power failure.
The magnetic clamping surface distributes the clamping force evenly and allows the system to be used without standardising the dies. R-MAG is suitable for both horizontal and vertical applications.
The system features a clamping-force display and interchangeable magnetic poles, a configuration intended to simplify maintenance and reduce downtime. It is equipped with an 8-inch colour touchscreen and an integrated remote-maintenance module operating via VPN or an external Wi-Fi router.
As standard, R-MAG systems are designed for plate thicknesses of 55 mm and operating temperatures of up to 150 °C. For smaller machines, a version with a plate thickness of 38 mm is also available.
Variants for temperatures of up to 230 °C can be used on rubber presses and die-casting machines. In this configuration, the plate thickness, including the integrated heating element, is 85 mm.
Roemheld develops its magnetic clamping systems according to customer specifications in cooperation with its European partner.



Curved clamping elements with mechanical locking

The company has also recently added double-acting curved clamping elements for injection moulding machines to its range. The units incorporate a locking pin and are available in six versions.
Clamping and release pressure is 200 bar. Depending on the model, clamping force ranges from 50 to 450 kN, while the maximum permissible process force reaches 620 kN.
The curved clamping pin acts on the straight clamping edge, redirecting the horizontally generated force so that it acts almost vertically on the clamping surface.
A mechanical locking mechanism keeps the clamping bolt in position even in the event of a pressure drop and secures the upper mould against falling.
An optional laterally mounted position-control system monitors the release and clamping positions and also detects any overshoot of the clamping position.
When equipped with position control, the components are suitable for temperatures of up to 100 °C. Without the control system, the standard temperature resistance is 160 °C and can reach 250 °C on request.

From clamping to mould-changing technology

At Fakuma, Roemheld will also present its wider portfolio for the storage, transport, changeover and clamping of moulds and dies.
The range includes magnetic, hydraulic, electromechanical and mechanical clamping systems, transport carts and automation solutions for plastics processing.

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SHIBAURA MACHINE LWB: ELECTRIC INJECTION MOULDING AND AUTOMATION

At Fakuma 2026, Shibaura Machine LWB will showcase a fully electric EC100SXIII injection moulding machine in live production together with automated part removal and digital process monitoring.

Shibaura Machine LWB will be at Fakuma 2026, taking place in Friedrichshafen from October 12 to 16, with a live production cell focused on electric injection moulding and automation. Together with E.P.F. Elettrotecnica, the company will present solutions for injection moulding, production automation and digital quality and process monitoring at booth A5-5217.

At the stand, a fully electric EC100SXIII injection moulding machine with a clamping force of 100 metric tons will operate live. During the demonstration, the machine will produce a business card box, while a Cartesian linear handling system will manage automated part removal.

The Fakuma presentation is part of a broader focus on productivity, process stability and automation that Shibaura Machine LWB will further develop during its "Next-Level Molding Days", scheduled for October 28 and 29, 2026, at the company's European Competence Center in Altdorf, near Landshut. Under the theme "Turning Technology into Productivity", the event will examine how injection moulding technology, automation, application expertise and services can contribute to higher productivity, improved energy efficiency and greater operational continuity.

"Today, our customers expect production solutions that stabilise processes, boost productivity and create measurable economic value. Under the theme 'Turning Technology into Productivity,' we combine injection moulding technology from Japan and Germany with automation and application expertise to create integrated system solutions", says Georg Holzinger, Managing Executive Officer of Shibaura Machine and Chair of the Management Board of Shibaura Machine LWB GmbH.

At the centre of the event will be the world premiere of the LWB MultiStation, an automated production cell developed for elastomer processing. Alongside this new solution, the company will showcase its portfolio of horizontal and vertical injection moulding machines for thermoplastics and elastomers, with several machines running live. The programme will also include technical presentations, factory tours and discussions with company specialists on productivity, Overall Equipment Effectiveness (OEE) and the long-term protection of production investments.

LWB MultiStation: separating and parallelising process stages

The main technical development presented during the Next-Level Molding Days will be the LWB MultiStation, designed for elastomer processing. The concept is based on separating the individual production stages, injection, heating, demoulding and loading, and carrying them out in parallel in order to reduce non-productive time.

The configuration also enables individual moulds to be changed and selected maintenance operations to be performed without stopping the entire production line. Its modular architecture allows different moulds, materials and batch sizes to be processed, providing greater production flexibility while supporting higher equipment availability and process stability.

From left to right: Peter Steinl and Dr. Georg Holzinger - Management Board SHIBAURA MACHINE LWB GmbH

Horizontal and vertical machines for thermoplastics and elastomers

During the event, Shibaura Machine LWB will also provide an overview of its injection moulding machine portfolio for thermoplastics and elastomers, covering all-electric and hydraulic technologies as well as horizontal and vertical configurations.

"Our machines, whether all-electric or hydraulic, horizontal or vertical, are designed to ensure precise operation, product quality, low energy consumption and high reliability. Combined with our automation and system solutions, they provide the basis for cost-efficient production", Holzinger says.

The range will include the EC-SXIII series of fully electric horizontal injection moulding machines for thermoplastic processing, with clamping

forces from 50 to 350 metric tons. Also on show will be the S-GenXt series of hydraulic horizontal machines for thermoplastics, offering clamping forces between 100 and 230 metric tons. These will be joined by hydraulic vertical injection moulding machines in C-frame, O-frame and four-column configurations for processing elastomers and thermoplastics, with clamping forces ranging from 50 to 900 metric tons. Several of the machines will be demonstrated in live production during the event.

Services throughout the machine lifecycle

Another area of focus during the Next-Level Molding Days will be services aimed at maintaining machine availability and efficiency throughout the equipment lifecycle. Shibaura Machine LWB's offering covers installation and commissioning, preventive maintenance, retrofits and modernisation, original spare-parts supply and training.

"From installation and commissioning through preventive maintenance, retrofits and modernisation to the rapid delivery of original spare parts and practical training, we support our customers in ensuring the long-term availability of their injection moulding machines and in further developing their processes in a cost-effective manner", explains Pascal Dorweg, Head of International Service at Shibaura Machine LWB.

Customised modernisation and retrofit projects can also be used to adapt existing systems to new production requirements, reduce energy consumption and introduce additional automation capabilities.

Ahead of the event, the company has also launched an initiative to find the oldest LWB injection moulding machine still in production. Companies can submit their vertical injection moulding machine by providing its year of manufacture, application and a short description. Selected examples will be presented during the Next-Level Molding Days.

"With this campaign, we want to highlight the longevity of our injection moulding machines while also recognising our long-standing relationships with customers", Dorweg adds.

"Next-Level Molding"

Explaining the concept behind the event name, Holzinger points to the challenges currently facing plastics and rubber processors, including the need to increase productivity, reduce energy consumption, maintain product quality and address the shortage of skilled personnel. "Progress stems not just from individual machines but from the seamless interaction of injection moulding machines, moulds, automation, materials and process expertise within automated production cells, enhanced by digital solutions", Holzinger explains. "Our mission is to use technology to deliver measurable productivity gains and secure long-term investments for our customers".

shibaura-machine.eu

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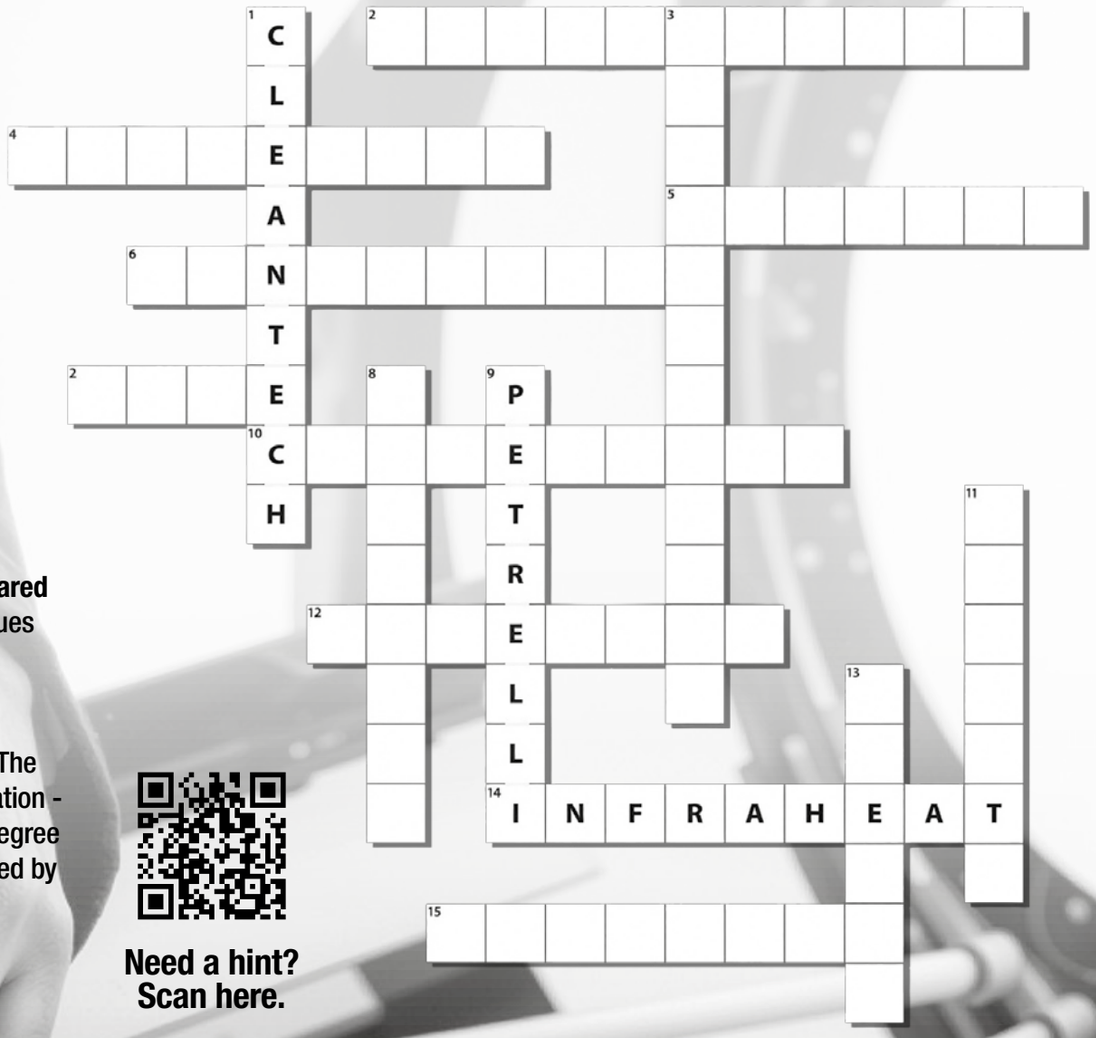

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ARBURG: ALLROUNDER TREND, A BROAD APPLICATION RANGE IN STANDARD INJECTION MOULDING

At Fakuma 2026, Arburg will highlight the versatility of its new electric Allrounder Trend series through two automated applications for the automotive and medical sectors, while also presenting the Gestica lite control system and new functions designed to simplify set-up and production.

At Fakuma 2026, Arburg will focus on the application range of its new electric Allrounder Trend series for standard injection moulding. At Hall A3, Stand 3101, two automated production cells will demonstrate the machines in different operating contexts: one producing technical connector components for the automotive industry, the other processing LSR for medical "Secure Seal" closures. Both systems will be equipped with Multilift Select linear robotic systems and will also provide a practical demonstration of the new Gestica lite control platform.

The electric Allrounder Trend machines are designed for standard applications across different industries and can be supplied worldwide at short notice. According to Arburg, the series has been developed to combine fast set-up, intuitive operation and simplified maintenance with high energy efficiency and comparatively low investment and operating costs. The machines are also supported by Arburg's globally standardised service network, with the overall concept aimed at achieving a short return on investment and a low total cost of ownership.

Fast standard machine for technical injection moulding

The Allrounder Trend is available in four sizes with clamping forces ranging from 500 to 2,000 kN. Injection speeds of 200, 350 and 500 millimetres per second are available.

At Fakuma 2026, an Allrounder 1000 e Trend with a clamping force of 1,000 kN, a maximum injection speed of 500 millimetres per second and a 16-cavity mould from Rosenberger will demonstrate the automated production of technical parts for the automotive sector.

In a cycle time of around eight seconds, 16 connector components are produced from PA 12 filled with 30 per cent glass fibre. A Multilift Select 8 removes the moulded parts and, via a tube system, places them down separately according to mould cavity.

Fully automated production of LSR closures

For automated injection moulding production, the new standard machines can be equipped with any of Arburg's robotic systems and the corresponding compact safety enclosure. Each configuration is fully integrated into the machine controller and can be combined to create complex turnkey systems.

At Fakuma 2026, a production cell centred around an Allrounder 1800 e Trend with a clamping force of 1,800 kN, compact guards and a 64-cavity mould from ACH Solution will produce around 9,200 "Secure Seal" LSR closures per hour in a fully automated process.

These mass-produced components are used for needles and syringes in the medical sector. A Multilift Select 16 linear robotic system places the finished parts down separately according to mould cavity and also feeds them into a drawer system for quality assurance.

Simple and clear: Gestica lite

All Trend machines are equipped with the new Gestica lite control system, featuring a robust industrial panel. Its clearly structured dashboard is designed to simplify operation, including for less experienced personnel, by providing the main information required for the production task directly on the home screen.

Gestica lite follows the logic and operating philosophy of other Arburg control systems, adding smart functions and active support tools. The touch interface provides direct access to detailed parameter pages for the clamping and injection units.

Additional functions include the Status Centre, which displays alarms, the Help Centre with online support, and a digital noticeboard for production-related notes. Further developments include simplified navigation and search functions supported by AI.

At Fakuma 2026, visitors will also be able to explore the functions of Gestica lite using simulators. One of the new features being presented for the first time is the "aXw Control FirstShotAssist", which supports faster production start-up by automatically calculating the data set from STL data directly on the machine.

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WITTMANN GROUP: SYSTEMATIC PROCESS INTEGRATION FOR HIGH-GRADE RECYCLING

At the Fakuma 2026 from October 12 to 16 in Friedrichshafen, Germany, Wittmann will present the EcoFritz clamp, an injection molding product of its own which fully exploits the potential of the Wittmann system expertise for the circular economy on all levels.

Injection molding processors know the drill: by the time the material supply system is fully installed, countless cable ties have been used, and many are thrown away because they cannot be repositioned without being damaged. "With the EcoFritz clamp, Wittmann puts an end to this waste. The patented clamp firmly attaches media lines and cables to corrugated hoses. Unlike cable ties, the clamps can be removed and repositioned as often as needed", the company stated.

During the Fakuma 2026 (hall B1, booth 1204), the EcoFritz clamps will be manufactured live at Wittmann's exhibition booth, inside an Ingrinder work cell setting new benchmarks with this application in terms of production efficiency and sustainability. "Ingrinder" means that the injection molding machine, the robot, the conveyor belt and the granulator for in-line recycling of sprues

and production scrap are already integrated into a single unit right from the factory. The protective housing is firmly attached to the machine, which enables a particularly space-saving arrangement of all process components.
The equipment used to produce the EcoFritz clamps will include a servo-hydraulic SmartPower 60 injection molding machine, a WX90 servo parts removal device and an SMax granulator. Inside a 2-cavity mold supplied by Röttger, a glass-fiber-reinforced polyamide is processed using the Airmould gas-injection molding technology. The sprue is ground up directly in the production cell and mixed into the raw material as recycled content. This is a closed-loop material cycle. The sprue is recycled immediately without ever leaving the production cell.
Material transport is handled by a Feedmax Clean vacuum loader, which Wittmann has specifically equipped – the company explained – with a very powerful dedusting system to meet the demands of the circular economy. When transporting recycled material, the Feedmax Clean achieves separation rates of up to 80 percent (for particles < 1000 µm), thus removing more dust particles and fine parts than any other comparable product on the market. Dust and other pollutants in the form of fine particles have a strong effect on the dosing process and reduce the homogeneity of the plastic melt. With careful dust removal, however, recycled materials can be safely used even in applications with high-quality requirements.

With highest material efficiency
In addition to dedusting, the digital assistance system HiQ Flow supports high quality consistency in injection molding. To this end, the software continuously analyzes the viscosity of the melt during the injection phase. If the measured value deviates from the set value, HiQ Flow immediately adjust the changeover point and the holding pressure within the same cycle. The result is a constant part weight in every cycle. In this way, any fluctuations in the raw material or in the environmental conditions are compensated before even a single piece of scrap is produced. Internal gas pressure injection molding also supports extremely high material efficiency. In the Airmould process, nitrogen gas is injected into the cavity partly or completely filled with plastic melt. The pressurized gas forms a bubble inside the central area, which counteracts the shrinkage contraction on the outside and thus prevents the development of sink marks. By reducing the quantity of plastic material and generating a hollow space inside the molded part, light-weight parts can be produced effectively with a short cycle time and simultaneously good surface attributes. The quantity of internal material pushed out by the nitrogen gas is reground together with the sprue and subsequently re-processed within the production cell.
The nitrogen gas required for Airmould will be generated on site at the exhibition booth. N2easy will be used for this purpose. This nitrogen generator developed and manufactured by Wittmann extracts nitrogen gas from the ambient air and then supplies it simultaneously to several consumers as required. N2easy already pays off from a daily nitrogen consumption of just one gas bottle and thus dispenses with N2 supplies via road transport.

Climate-neutral production
At its Nuremberg facility, Wittmann uses the weekends to produce EcoFritz clamps. The production at the German technical center runs autonomously and is climate-neutral whenever the sun shines, for it then consumes exclusively energy from the company's own photovoltaic system. The proportion of recycled material reaches up to 100 per cent. To this end, scraps from injection molding tests and sample production are gathered and recycled on site.
EcoFritz clamps are available either in conjunction with auxiliary equipment or separately. They are manufactured in three different sizes to fit all commonly used corrugated hoses.

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PROMIX SOLUTIONS AT FAKUMA 2026: SAVE MATERIAL, CONTROL PROCESSES

At Fakuma 2026, Promix Solutions will present technologies for material reduction and process control in plastics processing, with a focus on Microcell physical foaming and real-time viscosity monitoring with the Visco-P system.

Material efficiency and greater control over extrusion processes will be the two main themes of Promix Solutions' participation in Fakuma 2026, scheduled from October 12 to 16 in Friedrichshafen. At Hall A6, Booth 6108, the company will showcase technologies for mixing, foaming, cooling and process monitoring, including developments aimed at reducing raw material consumption and compensating for fluctuations in polymer properties.

Among the main solutions on display will be Promix Microcell Technology, designed to reduce component weight through physical foaming, and the Visco-P inline viscometer for continuous viscosity measurement directly in the melt stream. The latter will also be presented with a closed-loop control system capable of automatically adjusting material dosing according to measured viscosity, with applications including IV control in PET processing.

Up to 50% material savings through physical foaming with microcell

Since raw material consumption accounts for the largest share of the CO_2 footprint in extrusion, material efficiency is becoming increasingly important. "This is where Promix Microcell Technology comes into play: the precise addition of environmentally friendly atmospheric gases creates a fine microcellular foam structure within the polymer. Depending on the application, this can reduce the product weight by 20 to 50%", the company explained.

In addition to significant material and cost savings, Microcell Technology provides opportunities for product optimization. Depending on the application, properties such as reduced weight, improved thermal and acoustic insulation, enhanced shock absorption, and attractive visual and tactile effects can be achieved. The technology is successfully used in the production of films, sheets, foamcore pipes, profiles and cable jackets, and is suitable for nearly all common polymers. A new field of application is the foaming of monofilaments. "Together with an industry partner, Promix is currently developing foamed monofilaments for artificial grass applications. Microcell technology, which is available for both new installations and retrofits, has now become widely adopted worldwide. More than 350 industrial Microcell systems are already in successful use, and numerous machine manufacturers integrate the technology into their equipment as standard".

Setting New Standards for PET Foams and Foam Films

The Procell foam and nucleating additives have been expanded to include a new grade for PET foams. This is an endothermic blowing agent that does not release water and is therefore perfectly suited for PET. It enables fine cell structures and, at higher dosages, can also be used as a standalone foam additive.

After years of development and optimization, the Promix annular die for the efficient production of foam films made from PP and PS is now ready for the market. This innovative technology combines more than 20 years of experience in foam die design and sets new standards in the production of foam films. Thanks to the patented die design, foam density and film thickness tolerances can be further reduced. This leads to substantial material and cost savings as well as higher product quality. The innovative flex-lip design enables precise and reproducible adjustment of film thickness. Even when the die is opened and closed, the set lip geometry is maintained, eliminating

time-consuming readjustments and significantly reducing setup times.

Measuring, Monitoring, and Controlling Viscosity in Real Time

The increasing use of recycled materials and raw materials from various sources poses ever-greater challenges for extrusion plants. Fluctuating material qualities make it difficult to maintain consistent product quality and stable processes. With the Visco-P inline viscometer, Promix offers a solution for continuously monitoring the melt directly within the production process. The system measures the actual viscosity under real processing conditions directly in the melt stream, without a bypass and without material loss. The maintenance-free measuring module reliably homogenizes the melt and prevents clogging, deposits, or material degradation. This makes the system particularly suitable for recycled materials, filled compounds, and shear-sensitive materials.

"At Fakuma, Promix will demonstrate the automatic control of the intrinsic viscosity (IV) value during PET extrusion. If the measured IV value falls below the specified setpoint, the system automatically controls the dosing of an IV enhancer until the desired melt quality is restored. The same principle can also be applied, for example, in PP recycling through the metered addition of suitable chain extenders. Additional trend analyses, statistical functions, and reporting features enable comprehensive documentation of process data. User-definable thresholds automatically trigger warning messages in the event of deviations and assist the plant operator in quickly optimizing the process. The Visco-P is compatible with all common extruder types and most thermoplastic materials and can be easily integrated into existing systems. All standard communication interfaces are available for integration into modern production environments and Industry 4.0 concepts", the company concluded.

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VECTOR: THE NEW GENERATION OF VISMEC SINGLE-PHASE LOADERS

At Fakuma 2026 Vismec will present Vector, its new generation of single-phase loaders, developed to improve reliability, thermal management and filtration efficiency while reducing maintenance requirements and ensuring more consistent performance over time.

With Vector, Vismec introduces a new generation of single-phase loaders designed to improve reliability, operational continuity and ease of use in plastics material handling. Rather than adding a single new feature, the project is the result of a comprehensive redesign focused on the factors that most significantly affect performance and maintenance over time: airflow contamination, heat build-up, motor wear, progressive loss of filter efficiency and protection of the conveyed material.

"One of Vector's key innovations is the complete separation between the conveying airflow and the circuit dedicated to cooling the motor and electronics. The two airflows operate through independent ducts, preventing mutual interference and cross-contamination while ensuring more stable thermal management. A timed auxiliary cooling system continues to operate after the motor has stopped, helping remove residual heat and reducing repeated thermal stress on critical components", the company explained.

Filtration has also been re-engineered. The Airblast system uses a high-pressure-gradient pneumatic pulse to mechanically shake the filter basket and remove dust more uniformly across the entire filter surface. Compared with conventional direct blow-off systems, this approach helps maintain consistent suction performance while reducing compressed-air consumption.

On versions equipped with a brushed universal motor, Vector also features programmable Soft-Start technology, configured according to the motor's specific current-draw profile. By controlling the start-up current ramp, the system reduces electrical and mechanical stress without introducing excessive motor heating. Extra-long brushes, designed for approximately 950 operating hours, eliminate the intermediate brush replacement required by the conventional reference configuration, reducing maintenance operations and associated downtime. Brushless versions are also available for applications requiring extended operating life and reduced servicing.

The receiver body is manufactured entirely from stainless steel. By eliminating painted or coated surfaces exposed to continuous abrasion from plastic granules, the design reduces the risk of foreign particles contaminating the conveyed material while providing high mechanical resistance, easy cleaning and long-term durability.

Additional features include two internal sound-absorbing, flame-retardant panels, a 3.5-inch capacitive touchscreen, a status and alarm light ring and 360-degree orientation for greater installation flexibility and more intuitive operation.

"At launch, Vector is available in 5-, 10- and 16-litre capacities depending on motor technology, with both 230 V and 110 V configurations.

Beyond immediate performance, Vector has been developed around a broader objective: preserving efficiency throughout the machine's entire life cycle. Reduced maintenance, lower compressed-air consumption, fewer replacement parts and improved protection of key components translate into both economic and environmental benefits.

With Vector, reliability becomes not simply an expected outcome, but a fundamental design parameter, shifting the focus from short-term performance to long-term operational consistency".

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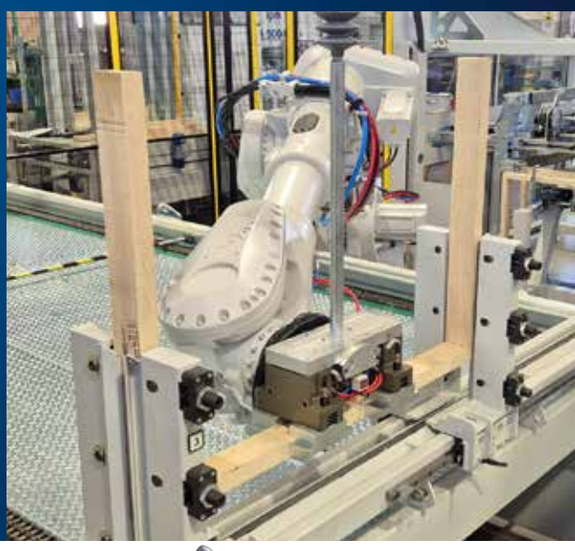

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OERLIKON HRSFLOW: HOT-RUNNER SOLUTIONS

At Fakuma 2026, Oerlikon HRSflow will present new hot-runner solutions for packaging, cosmetics, medical and automotive applications, with a focus on material efficiency, surface quality and process optimisation.

STARgate HRS™ will be presented not only for PP and r-PP applications but also for the processing of resins such as PMMA and ABS. This widens its range of applications across market segments.

Hot-runner technology for increasingly diversified applications will be at the centre of Oerlikon HRSflow's presence at Fakuma 2026, scheduled from October 12 to 16 in Friedrichshafen. At hall A1, booth A1-1211, the company will showcase developments aimed at improving injection moulding efficiency across different sectors, from packaging and cosmetics to medical technology and automotive components.

Among the main solutions on display will be the STARgate HRS™ needle-less system, now extended to additional polymers and applications, the Xp nozzle series for thick-walled transparent parts, and GLOW HRS for reducing post-processing requirements on visible automotive components. Further applications will also be demonstrated live at partner companies' booths. Following its official launch at K 2025, the STARgate HRS™ hot-runner nozzle concept, which uses a diaphragm-like mechanical system, will be presented for PP and r-PP applications addressing the requirements of the new PPWR, as well as for processing resins such as PMMA and ABS, expanding its range of applications across market segments. Compared with conventional solutions, this design enables faster colour changes and improved cooling performance, helping to reduce cycle times and increase productivity.

Matteo Badella, Global Sales Director PacMed, Consumer Goods, and Logistics at Oerlikon HRSflow, comments on this: "Less than a year after the official market launch of STARgate HRS™, we've already received many positive reports from customers who have achieved reduced part wall thicknesses, lower component weight and a significant reduction in cycle time compared with conventional production."

An advanced nozzle solution

Following the success of Luxe Pack 2026 in New York, another highlight at Fakuma 2026 will be the new Xp series of valve gate nozzles, engineered for a wide range of applications and enhanced to meet the demanding requirements of the cosmetics industry. Accurate thermal control of the nozzle, combined with a new gate seal solution, ensures optimal injection quality for thick, transparent parts with shot weights up to 70 g. The new Xp nozzle series is specifically de-

Live on-site at partner companies
The performance of Oerlikon HRSflow's hot runner systems will be demonstrated live.
Fanuc (Hall A7 – Stand A7-7304): as an example in the production of small technical parts, a Fanuc injection molding machine will produce 1.2 g parts for a cable clipper made of PA6.6-GF30. The mold used for this application features a 16-cavity hot runner system with TECHflow HRS valve gate technology and Sa series nozzles. Oerlikon HRSflow developed this system specifically for processing glass-fiber-reinforced plastics. The machine's real-time monitoring system tracks the filling behavior of the cavities and automatically adjusts the process parameters to ensure uniform filling of all cavities. In addition to Fanuc, another partner company is Cavity Eye, a specialist in cavity pressure measurement in injection molding tools.
Haitian (Hall B1 – Stand B1-1205): At the company's booth, a Haitian injection molding machine will be demonstrated in live operation, producing a lighting trunk bar as an example of a high-quality automotive application. The FLEXflow HRS valve gate technology's servo-driven flexibility enables direct injection of transparent materials and optimizes warpage control.
Wittman (Hall B1 – Stand B1-1204): The production of a PP pen cap for self-drug delivery is another example of a medical application of Oerlikon's HRSflow MULTIflow HRS™ technology. The solution on display is an eight-cavity mold equipped with V-Series nozzles featuring a torpedo tip, which ensures a stable and reliable process.

signed for thick-walled injection-molded parts, made from (r-)PET and recyclable copolyesters such as PETG, PCTA, and PCTG with further materials to be tested.
At the show, Oerlikon HRSflow will showcase an impressive application example in the form of multiple cosmetic jars with different challenging shapes, made from Eastman's PET Cristal One™ Renew IM812, featuring a crystal-clear appearance and a flawless surface. Using this material ensures a high level of sustainability because its recycled content, as determined by mass balance, can be as high as 100%. Additionally, this r-PET enables the injection molding of parts with wall thicknesses of up to 12 mm.
These projects were developed in cooperation with Cromes, a leading mold maker for the cosmetics industry, and Technicaps, a premium converter that integrates this innovation into high-end, refillable packaging solutions.

Precision components for medical technology
Another highlight will be the use of r-PET in medical applications. One key example is a precision, direct-gated, Luer-lock component manufactured by using LNP™ ELCRIN™ W1000JiQ. This next-generation medical-grade PBT from Sabic is derived from chemically recycled PET and supplied by Guztec Polymers. The part will also be produced using PEEK technopolymer for demanding applications.
The related multi-cavity mold is equipped with an Oerlikon HRSflow TECHflow HRS valve gate line, which, thanks to its innovative, external nozzle end rings, offers increased wear resistance when processing abrasive, reinforced thermoplastics, including those with flame-retardant additives, that combine a narrow processing window with high processing temperatures. A uniform temperature profile ensures a wider processing window combined with high dimensional stability and easy machine restart of the Luer-Lock connectors.
The mold is manufactured by C.P. Stampi and equipped with a moulding devup automatic unscrewing system for the precise demolding of the Luer-Lock internal threads.

High-quality automotive parts straight from the mold
The automotive industry, among others, demands reduced post-processing steps to increase process efficiency. To address this challenge, Oerlikon HRSflow launched Glow HRS, a compact solution for direct injection molding of high-quality parts that prevents halos and enables superior surface aesthetics. This technology will be showcased at the exhibition.
Additionally, a scratch-resistant bumper will be presented, that combines polyurethane (PUR) coating and decorative film technology in a single, efficient process, reducing both production time and investment costs compared to the two-stage process. This is also made possible by the optimal configuration of the Oerlikon HRSflow system. It was developed specifically for the seamless integration of both technologies and features nine conical needle-valve nozzles. Project partners include Borealis, Cannon, DNP, Engel, Inevo, and the Inabata Group.

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STARgate HRS™: The hot-runner nozzle concept uses a mechanical system that operates like a diaphragm.

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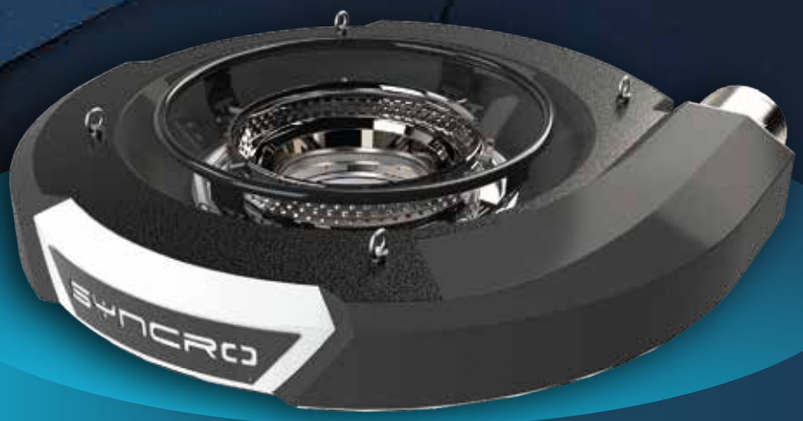

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NETSTAL: ALL-ELECTRIC ELION FOR CLOSURE PRODUCTION

With the Elion 3200 CAP, Netstal is presenting an all-electric high-performance solution to produce beverage closures for the first time. The machine will produce 26 mm closures on a 72-cavity mold in a cycle time of 1.8 seconds.

The Elion 3200 CAP celebrates its premiere at Fakuma. With the new all-electric configuration, Netstal is expanding the Elion series with a powerful and energy-efficient solution for the high-performance production of beverage closures. The combination of the newly developed clamping unit with 3,200 kN and the new electric injection unit 2000 is designed for short cycle times, high process stability, maximum availability and energy efficiency. True to the principle of "technology follows application", customers will be able to choose between hybrid and all-electric configurations in the clamping force range of 2,200 to 4,200 kN in the future.

At Fakuma, Netstal will be showing the new Elion 3200 CAP in an application to produce beverage closures. The all-electric injection molding machine from Netstal, together with the 72-cavity mold from Z-MOULDS and the hot runner system from MHT, forms the basis for highly productive production of 26 mm HDPE closures. The shot weight is 72g. With a cycle time of 1.8 seconds, the production line impressively demonstrates the performance of the entire system. The material is provided by TotalEnergies. Piovan takes care of the material preparation. The downstream equipment with cooling conveyor, bunker and optical quality inspection comes from IMDvista. The chiller is provided by ef cooling.

"Our new all-electric solution achieves the high dynamics required for closure production. At the same time, our customers benefit from high energy efficiency, process stability and availability, and thus from clear competitive advantages", says Renzo Davatz, CEO at Netstal.

Optimized clamping unit increases availability

The optimized geometry of the toggle lever enables the shortest dry cycle times, and the optimized force application ensures greater stiffness of the clamping plate. This increases stability and contributes to a long service life of the electric clamping unit. Ease of maintenance was another development focus. The newly designed protective cover can also be installed quickly and has smooth, easy-to-clean surfaces. Depending on your needs, the ejector can be chosen to be electric or hydraulic. Automatic grease lubrication is available as an option. It lubricates the linear guides of the clamping unit and the injection unit as well as the ejector guide of the clamping unit automatically and regularly during operation. This reduces maintenance interruptions and extends the service life of the guides.

Electric injection with high precision and dynamics

The completely newly developed electric injection unit 2000 offers numerous customer advantages. The screw stroke is 260 mm; depending on the screw diameter, the unit achieves an injection pressure of up to 2,400 bar. The optimally coordinated injection dynamics enable short injection times and open up a wide range of applications in closure and packaging production as well as in medical technology. Synchronously controlled injection spindles ensure particularly symmetrical load distribution. This reduces mechanical stress and contributes to a long service life of the injection unit. As an exclusive feature of Netstal technology, the pressure changeover during injection is force-dependent and works independent of the material properties. The result is highest precision and shot weight consistency even with very fast cycle times.

Energy-efficient, user-friendly and networkable

The Elion has also been further optimized in terms of its energy efficiency. The electric injection and the highly efficient servo drives reduce energy requirements and thus energy costs as well as the associated CO_2 emissions. Intelligent load distribution and an optimized feed-in concept enable further energy savings of up to 5 percent. This relieves the grid and increases its resilience to short-term power outages and grid fluctuations.

The Axos 9 controller combines a high degree of flexibility in application development with safe and intuitive operation in everyday production. Separate touchscreens and haptic controls support the programming and operation of the machine. The integrated Smart Operation feature guides operators through predefined procedures, reducing the risk of input errors. Standardized interfaces based on OPC UA enable efficient networking with higher-level control systems and peripheral components. Thanks to HTML5 integration, even complex system components can be integrated into the machine control system.

Electric or hybrid: the application is decisive

"For us, electric and hybrid drive concepts are not competing technologies, but complementary technologies. The decisive factor is which solution best meets the requirements of the respective application, both technically and economically. That's why we will continue to offer our customers both technologies in the future", explains Davatz.

Netstal is currently gradually converting the Elion series to a new platform. Since 2025, clamping units with 1,200 and 1,750 kN as well as the electric injection units 270 and 530 have been available. This is followed by the clamping units with 3,200 and 4,200 kN as well as the electric injection unit 2000. A clamping unit with 2,200 kN and the new 940 electric injection unit are planned for the summer of 2027. The tried-and-tested hybrid injection units from 450 to 4200 will remain part of the portfolio. Up to a clamping force of 4,200 kN, the Elion can be configured hybrid or fully electric.

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SUMITOMO (SHI) DEMAG: ALL-ELECTRIC FUTURE SOLUTIONS

At Fakuma 2026, Sumitomo (SHI) Demag will present a series of all-electric injection molding applications focused on packaging, transparent components and medical technology, with particular attention to process integration, temperature control, repeatability and energy efficiency.

At Fakuma 2026, Sumitomo (SHI) Demag will focus on the integration of injection molding, temperature control, cooling, mold technology and materials, presenting two all-electric applications developed together with technotrans. The demonstrations, at Hall B1, Booth 1103, will include the production of beverage closures on an IntElect S 280 and transparent precision components on an IntElect S 75. Additional applications in medical technology will also be presented at the booths of partner companies.

As injection molding processes become increasingly complex, coordination between the different technologies involved is taking on a growing role in determining process efficiency and product quality. "Successful projects today depend on close collaboration between specialized technology partners", says Anatol Sattel, CSO of Sumitomo (SHI) Demag. "At Fakuma, we will demonstrate how the optimal coordination of all process components can simultaneously improve productivity, quality and sustainability".

IntElect S for beverage closures

At the joint booth, Sumitomo (SHI) Demag will produce beverage closures on an IntElect S 280 using a 48-cavity mold from HTW. The application is designed to show the use of the company's all-electric drive technology in a high-output packaging process, with particular attention to repeatability and energy consumption.

The production cell combines the injection molding machine with a series of complementary technologies. technotrans will provide mold and machine cooling through a compact air-cooled weco 85 chiller using propane (R290) as a natural refrigerant, together with a high-pressure pump. Enesty will manage the cooling circuits with its Orca Plus water management system, while Eisbär will supply the systems for closure cooling and mold-area dehumidification.

The material will be supplied by TotalEnergies and has already been used in previous Sumitomo (SHI) Demag trade fair applications.

The setup is intended to illustrate how the coordination of machine, mold, cooling, temperature control and material can contribute to maintaining stable production conditions in high-volume applications.

Transparent components and optical quality

On an IntElect 75, Sumitomo (SHI) Demag will demonstrate the production of a transparent polycarbonate (PC) card box. The application focuses on controlling internal stresses in the molded part through variothermal mold temperature control developed together with technotrans, Contura and CycleTemp.

This aspect is particularly relevant when processing transparent plastics, where optical quality can be affected even when dimensional requirements are met. Internal stresses may lead to birefringence, haze or optical distortion, making temperature management throughout the molding cycle a key parameter.

In the presented setup, variothermal temperature control is combined with optimized cooling to reduce stress within the component and improve optical properties while maintaining stable process conditions. The approach is relevant to applications such as automotive displays, lighting components, optical covers and medical products, where transparency and surface quality are critical requirements.

Part removal is handled by Sumitomo (SHI) Demag's SAM-C robot, featuring a compact design and software developed for injection molding applications with low-code programming. All components in the production cell are centrally controlled via the injection molding machine using OPC UA.

Medical applications at partner booths

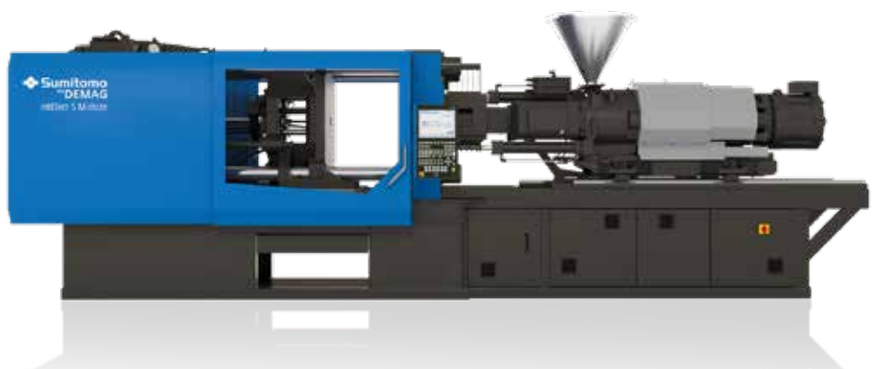
Sumitomo (SHI) Demag will also be represented at several partner booths with applications for the medical sector.

At the micro automation booth (Hall A5, Booth A5-5117), an IntElect S 130 will produce polypropylene (PP) closures using a 96-cavity mold. The application focuses on process stability and repeatability in high-cavitation production.

At the Nexus Molds booth (Hall A4, Booth A4-4228), an IntElect 130 LSR will manufacture a medical valve from liquid silicone rubber (LSR), highlighting the use of all-electric injection molding technology for precision silicone components.

Together, the two applications cover different production requirements in the medical sector, from high-volume disposable components to more complex LSR parts.

sumitomo-shi-demag.eu



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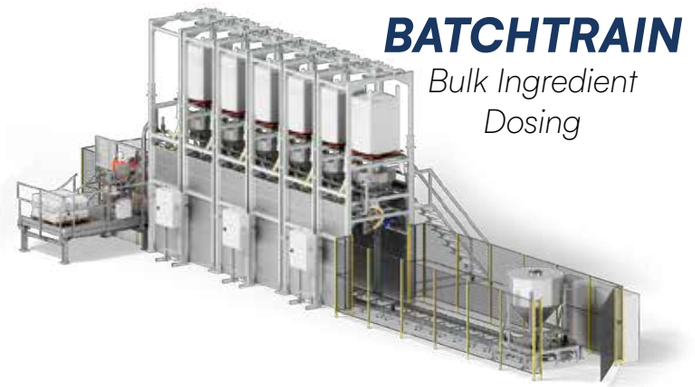

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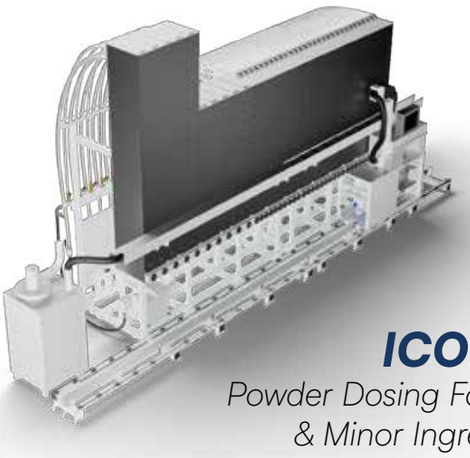

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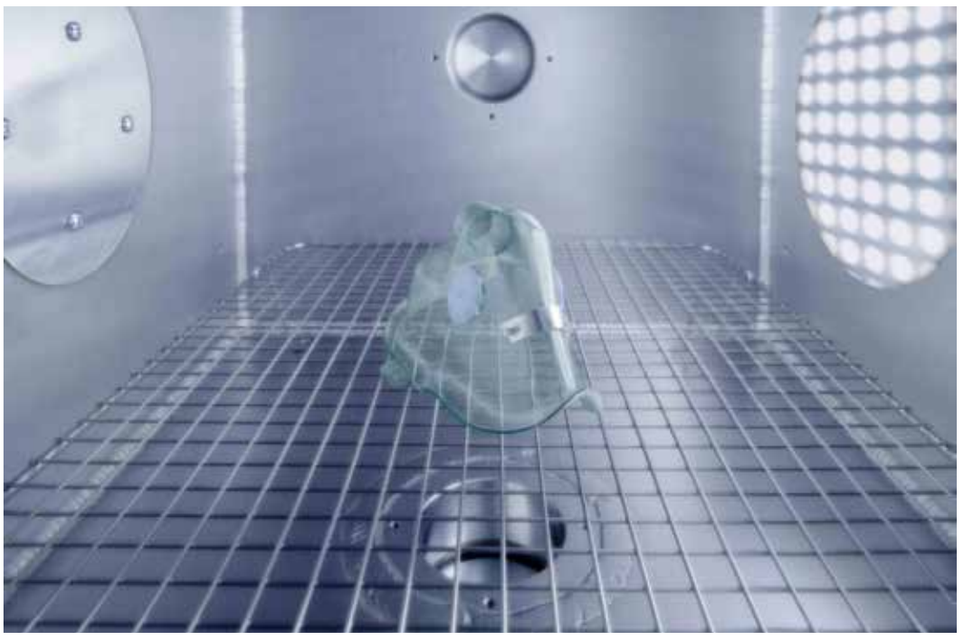
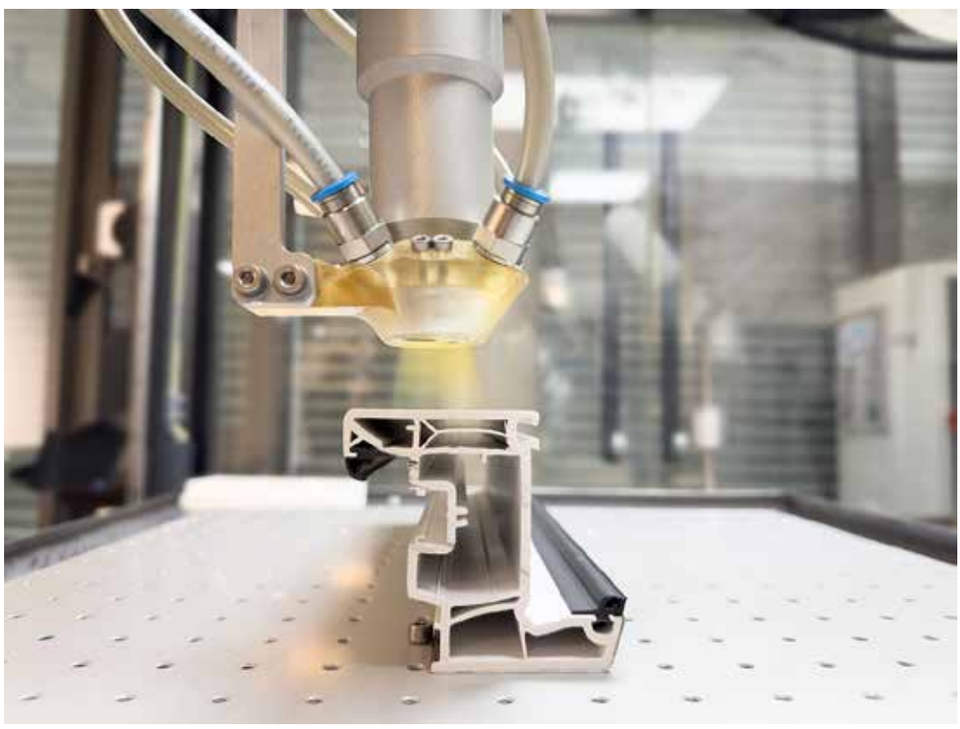
PLASMA TECHNOLOGY: SURFACE FINISH DETERMINES PROCESS SUCCESS

At Fakuma 2026, taking place from October 12 to 16 in Friedrichshafen, Plasmatreat will present its plasma surface treatment technologies in Hall A1, Booth 1320.



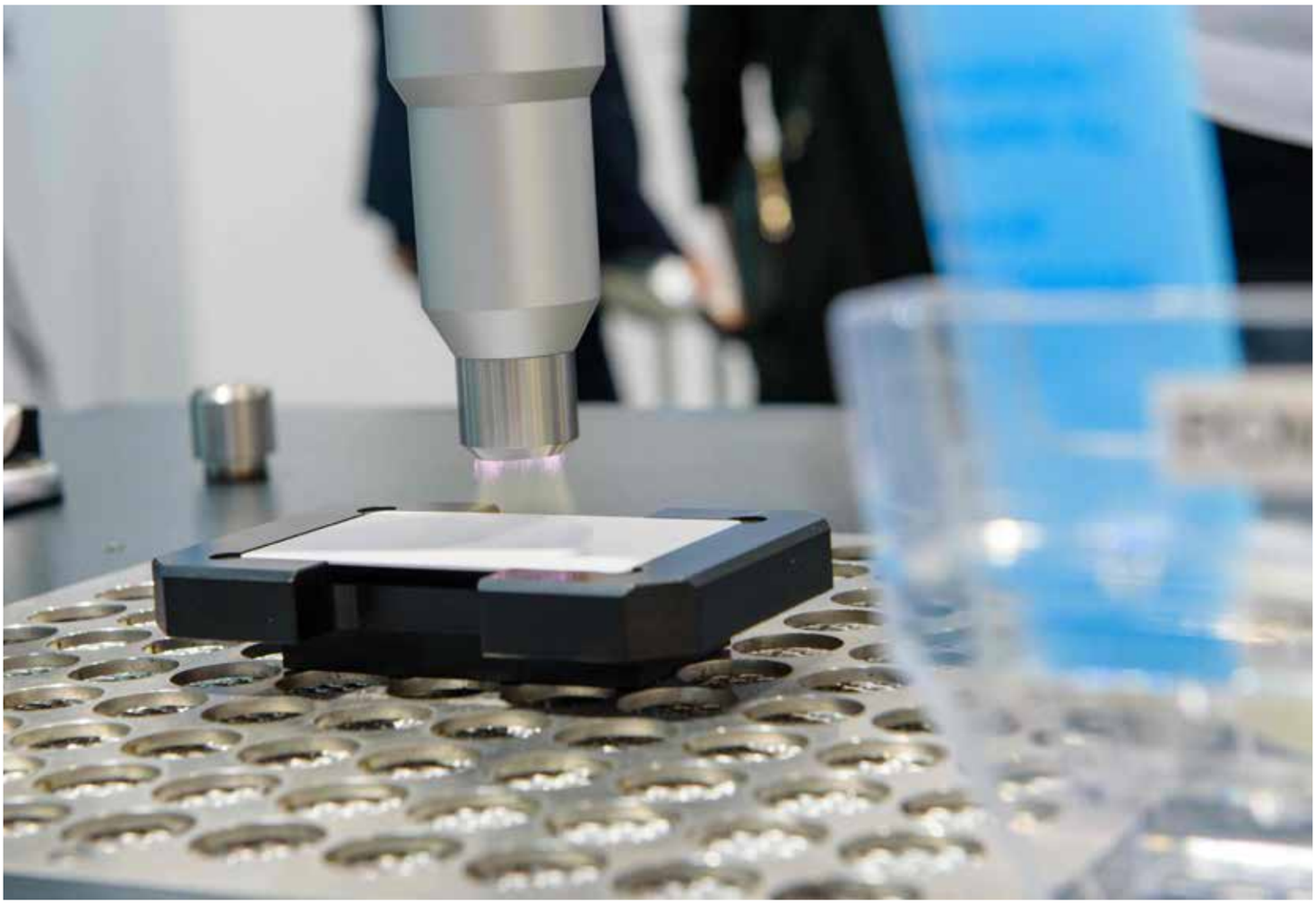
In many applications, the natural surface properties of plastics may not be sufficient to support stable production processes. Limited adhesion can create issues in bonding, printing, painting, coating or injection moulding, particularly as manufacturing requirements increasingly focus on process consistency, flexibility and efficiency.
Plasma surface treatment can be used to activate, clean or functionalise plastic surfaces, modifying their surface properties in preparation for subsequent production steps. "The requirements for plastic surfaces are becoming increasingly specific. With our broad technology portfolio, we can address a variety of challenges and select the most cost-effective process for each application", says Norman Haas, Sales Manager for Germany at Plasmatreat.

Plasma treatment for plastics applications
At Fakuma Plasmatreat will present a range of technologies for applications across the plastics processing chain.



The company will show examples of how plasma treatment can be integrated into production processes to support reproducible surface preparation. Its technology portfolio includes both atmospheric-pressure and low-pressure plasma systems, covering applications that range from individual pretreatment operations to automated series production.
The selection of the process depends on the material, component geometry, production environment and requirements of the subsequent processing step.

Openair-Plasma and Aurora-Plasma
One area of the presentation will be Plasmatreat's Openair-Plasma technology, developed for automated, in-line surface treatment directly within the production process. Applications on display will include plasma activation to modify adhesion properties, together with the new RD1004C plasma jet.



The rotary jet is designed to apply coatings of adhesion promoters to larger plastic surfaces or profiles, including window profiles, before bonding processes.
The atmospheric-pressure plasma portfolio also comprises different jet heads, plasma jets, generators and system accessories. Depending on the configuration, the technology can therefore be integrated into applications ranging from relatively simple pretreatment tasks to fully automated, continuous production lines operating around the clock.
Plasmatreat will also present a system from its new Aurora-Plasma portfolio for the first time at Fakuma. The system operates under low-pressure conditions, using 2.45 GHz microwave excitation inside a vacuum process chamber.
This configuration allows the treatment of complex three-dimensional geometries and is intended for applications including medical technology, lightweight construction and electronics. Different process gases and gas combinations can be selected according to the required cleaning, plasma etching or activation process, taking into account the material, component geometry and application.
Among the possible applications is the batch treatment of components made from high-performance polymers such as PEEK, PTFE, FEP and PEBA. By increasing surface energy, plasma treatment can improve the conditions for subsequent application of coatings, adhesives and lubricant systems, while avoiding thermal or mechanical treatment of sensitive component geometries.
Process control is another aspect of the systems presented by Plasmatreat. The company's PCU, or Plasma Control Unit, monitors and regulates relevant process parameters and is designed to identify deviations during plasma treatment.
The system can be used with both Openair-Plasma and Aurora-Plasma technologies to support consistent treatment conditions and provide process data for monitoring and documentation within industrial production workflows.

Live Demonstrations and Component Testing

The Plasmatreat booth will also include live plasma demonstrations. Visitors will be able to bring their own components or material samples and assess them on site together with the company's application specialists.
The demonstrations will show the effect of plasma treatment on different surfaces, including changes in the wettability of various plastic materials. Different analytical methods will also be used to assess and visualise the effects of the treatment.
This will provide examples of how plasma processes can be evaluated in relation to specific materials and production requirements.

Applications with Recycled Plastics

The increasing use of recycled plastics also introduces additional variables into downstream processing. Differences in material composition and surface characteristics can affect operations such as printing, bonding and coating.
Plasma treatment can be used to activate and prepare these surfaces before subsequent process steps. In some applications it can also provide an alternative to chemical or mechanical pretreatment methods, with potential effects on process stability and resource consumption.

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NOVALCA AND NOVAPOLIMERI: MEASURING THE IMPACT OF RECYCLED COMPOUNDS

A new Life Cycle Assessment on selected REC compounds shows reductions of up to 62% in CO2-equivalent emissions, adding measurable environmental data to material selection and engineering plastics development.

The thermoplastics industry is undergoing significant changes. Performance alone is no longer enough: manufacturers are increasingly required to combine technical reliability, efficiency and safety with sustainability, while also providing measurable information on the environmental impact of the materials they use.
For Novalca and Novapolimeri, these aspects have progressively become part of their development strategy. Advanced engineering compounds and tailor-made solutions are increasingly considered alongside circular economy principles and the measurement of environmental performance.
Novalca is an Italian manufacturer of thermoplastic compounds with experience in the development of customized materials for technical applications. Alongside Novalca, Novapolimeri, its official distribution centre for North-East Italy, provides technical and commercial support, stock availability and a direct connection with the producer, contributing to the development of tailor-made solutions from the early stages of a project.

SUSTAINABILITY THAT CAN BE MEASURED

One of the developments introduced in 2026 is the completion of a Life Cycle Assessment (LCA) study commissioned by Novalca and carried out according to ISO 14067:2018 by an accredited body. The objective is to obtain measurable and verifiable information on the environmental impact associated with the use of recycled raw materials.
The study focuses on the carbon footprint of representative REC thermoplastic compounds and adopts a cradle-to-gate approach, covering the life cycle of the material from the extraction and production of raw materials through to the compound leaving the Novalca production plant.
Depending on the formulation and recycled content, the REC compounds analysed in the study showed reductions in greenhouse gas emissions compared with their prime counterparts. The most significant result concerns Novakral® REC R70, an ABS compound containing 70% post-industrial recycled material, which showed a reduction of up to 62% in CO_2-equivalent emissions compared with the corresponding prime ABS compound.
The analysis also highlights an important aspect for the plastics industry. In the compounds examined, virgin polymer raw material can account for up to 89% of the

total carbon footprint. Raw material selection can therefore have a significant influence on the environmental impact of an engineering plastic component.
The data also show how environmental considerations can be addressed from the material design stage.

REC: THE CIRCULAR ECONOMY APPLIED TO ENGINEERING COMPOUNDS

The REC, Recycled Engineering Compounds, range has been developed to combine the technical requirements of engineering plastics with the use of post-industrial recycled material.
The concept behind REC is not simply to replace virgin material with recycled content. The aim is to develop engineering compounds capable of maintaining the technical characteristics required by the application while introducing a significant proportion of post-industrial recycled material.
The range includes recycled solutions based on different polymer families, particularly ABS, PC and PC/ABS. Depending on the product and the technical or aesthetic characteristics required, recycled content can reach 70%.

The use of post-industrial material is relevant in this context. Controlled and traceable industrial sources allow Novalca to maintain consistency in incoming materials and to develop formulations in which mechanical, thermal and processing performance can be balanced with environmental objectives.
The company's tailor-made approach also applies to these formulations. Recycled content, formulation and production technology can be evaluated together with the customer to identify a balance between performance, cost and environmental impact.
The objective is therefore to introduce recycled content while maintaining the technical requirements of the final application.
This approach also extends to the Novalca and Novapolimeri product portfolio through solutions designed to reduce resource consumption and waste. The use of recycled engineering compounds can contribute to recovering polymer resources and extending their use within the production cycle.

QUALITY, SAFETY AND MATERIAL CONTROL

Environmental performance has to be considered together with product quality and safety.
For engineering plastics, material consistency and process reliability are particularly important in applications where components are subject to mechanical, thermal, chemical or fire-safety requirements. Novalca's R&D and laboratory activities therefore support the development and validation of new compounds.
The company operates specialized laboratories for the development of new materials, incoming-material controls, production-process monitoring, finished-product testing and research and development. The collaboration between Novalca and Novapolimeri allows this technical support to be extended to customers from material selection through to application development.
Quality controls can include parameters such as colour, Izod impact resistance, melt flow index, Vicat thermal resistance and flammability according to UL 94, depending on the requirements of the material and application.
Safety and traceability are also part of the development process. The availability of controlled, documented and traceable materials is increasingly relevant in applications subject to regulatory and product-safety requirements.
Environmental management is another area covered by the two companies' activities. Novapolimeri holds ISO 9001 and ISO 14001 certifications for quality and environmental management, with monitoring covering aspects including energy consumption, emissions and resource management.

NOVAPOLIMERI: TECHNICAL SUPPORT CLOSE TO THE CUSTOMER

The relationship between Novalca and Novapolimeri is based on a complementary division of activities.
Novalca focuses on the production and development of thermoplastic compounds, including customized formulations for complex applications. Novapolimeri acts as an official distribution centre for Novalca in North-East Italy, combining product availability with technical and commercial support.
Its portfolio covers a broad range of engineering thermoplastics, including ABS, PC, PC/ABS, PC/ASA, ASA, PA 6, PA 66, POM, PMMA, PBT, PP and specialized blends, as well as recycled engineering compounds and masterbatches.
In addition to distribution, Novapolimeri works with customers on project development, material selection and process optimization, supported by Novalca's technical expertise and laboratory capabilities.
This cooperation also applies when sustainability requirements become part of the material specification. In these cases, the issue is not simply to identify a recycled grade, but to find a formulation suited to the application while maintaining the required mechanical, thermal, aesthetic and processing performance.

LOOKING AHEAD

"The developments presented in 2026 are part of the companies' ongoing work on engineering plastics and recycled materials. Participation in industry events such as MECSPE and PLAST has provided opportunities for Novalca and Novapolimeri to discuss these topics with customers and partners, while Fakuma will provide a further international setting for presenting the latest developments", the company explains.
The companies intend to continue working on research, customized materials and quality control, alongside the measurement of environmental performance.
The LCA study provides quantitative data on the effects associated with the use of recycled raw materials. Its results allow the carbon footprint of different engineering compounds to be measured and compared, adding an environmental parameter to material-selection decisions.
At the same time, recycled content represents only one aspect of the environmental performance of a material. Other factors include sourcing, production processes, energy consumption, waste, product quality, safety and traceability.

novapolimeri.it
novalca.it

CMS INTRODUCES EIDOS HP

At Fakuma, CMS Plastic Technology will present EIDOS HP, a new thermoforming platform combining standard thermoforming, pressure forming and twin-sheet forming. The company will also showcase its CNC, sawing, waterjet and digital solutions for plastics processing.

CMS Plastic Technology develops CNC machining centres, thermoforming machines, beam saws and waterjet cutting systems for plastics processing, with applications in sectors including automotive, aerospace, earthmoving equipment, caravans, buses, railways, signage and bathtub manufacturing.
At Fakuma (Hall A1, Stand A1-1422), the company will focus in particular on Eidos HP, a new thermoforming machine designed to integrate three processes within a single platform: standard thermoforming, pressure forming and twin-sheet forming.
The machine has been developed to extend the range of applications that can be handled on the same system, from conventional thermoforming to pressure forming for components requiring more defined surface details, as well as the production of structural twin-sheet parts.

More than 100 tons of clamping force
One of the main technical features of Eidos HP is a clamping force of more than 100 tons. According to CMS, this is over 16 times higher than that of a standard thermoforming machine of the same size, referring to the maximum force achievable on the EIDOS 3020 compared with the HP version.
The force can be continuously adjusted from zero to the maximum value, allowing the machine to be adapted to different moulds and process requirements. The system also automatically manages the interlocking system and platen alignment.
The higher clamping force is particularly relevant in pressure-forming applications, where mould stability and precision have a direct influence on the quality and repeatability of the finished component.

Faster setup and changeovers
CMS also reports setup times up to five times faster than those recorded with machines featuring a fixed platen and an additional twin-

sheet frame requiring manual setup.
Automatic setup functions are intended to reduce the time needed to reach the required process parameters during machine preparation and production changeovers, while also limiting trials, material scrap and dependence on operator experience.

Three processes on one platform
Eidos HP allows users to switch between standard thermoforming, pressure forming and twin-sheet forming while retaining the forming area, cycle times and production flexibility of the Eidos platform.
Pressure forming extends the machine's capabilities in applications requiring defined surfaces, textures, sharp edges and fine details, including large-format components.
Twin-sheet forming, traditionally associated with more specialised setups, is also integrated into the same platform with a higher degree of automation. The process can be used for the production of structural components while reducing the number of manual setup operations.
The new model therefore extends the EIDOS family by bringing together different thermoforming processes within the same machine architecture.

A broader plastics processing portfolio
Eidos HP is part of a wider range of technologies developed by CMS Plastic Technology for plastics processing.
Alongside thermoforming systems, the company offers 3- and 5-axis CNC machining centres for applications ranging from nesting technical parts to trimming thermoformed components.
The portfolio also includes 5-axis CNC machines with a Z-axis passage from 500 mm, designed for high-speed machining and applications requiring large working areas and customised machine configurations.
For cutting operations, CMS offers beam saws for plastic, acrylic and synthetic materials, as well as horizontal-belt sawing machines designed to operate downstream of thermoforming processes. Among these is the t-maxi, developed specifically for this type of application.
Waterjet cutting systems complete the range, allowing CMS to cover both the forming stage and subsequent machining and cutting operations.

Digital tools for machine and process management
At Fakuma, CMS Plastic Technology will also present its digital solutions for machine and production process management.
IoT Solution is designed for machine data monitoring and analysis, providing information that can be used to evaluate production performance.
Digital Control Room supports remote and proactive assistance activities, while CMS Smartive is dedicated to the monitoring and optimisation of energy consumption.
The range also includes CMS Active, an interface developed to simplify machine management and provide operators with direct access to production information and machine functions.
Together, these digital tools extend the machine portfolio with solutions for data collection, connectivity, process monitoring and energy management.

cms.it

HAITIAN FOCUSES ON INJECTION MOULDING AND AUTOMATION

At Fakuma 2026 Haitian International will present two live applications for automotive and packaging, alongside developments in automation, digital integration and its European organisation.

At Fakuma 2026 Haitian International will showcase two injection moulding applications at its booth in Hall B1, covering the automotive and packaging sectors. The exhibits will combine injection moulding machines with automation, temperature control, inspection and digital solutions, while additional Haitian machines will be operating at partner booths.

For the automotive sector, a Haitian Jupiter Series JU7500V will produce a 254 g rear trunk lens in PMMA. The single-cavity application, featuring a mould and FLEXflow HRS technology from Oerlikon, will run with a cycle time of approximately 65 seconds.

The servo-hydraulic two-platen machine will be combined with temperature control and an integrated Haitian robotic cell, providing an example of an automated production setup for automotive components.

For high-volume packaging, a Zhafir Zeres Fast Series ZE3000F will produce 24 HDPE tethered caps with a cycle time of less than three seconds, using a mould supplied by HTW.

The electric machine will be combined with a CapWatcher Compact system from INTRAVIS for automated handling and quality inspection. The Zeres machine will also be digitally connected to the Osphim cloud platform for data visualisation and process optimisation.

Automation and flexible integration

Alongside the two applications, Haitian will present developments in its European automation activities. Together with sister company Haitian Smart Solutions, the group has expanded its automation portfolio, which ranges from standard pick-and-place systems to individually engineered solutions for more complex production requirements.

The approach is based on scalable integration, allowing the level of automation to be adapted to different production environments and investment requirements.

Open interfaces are also part of the system architecture, enabling the integration of third-party equipment where required. This allows processors to combine Haitian machines and automation with other technologies already installed within the production line.

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X-RITE BRINGS SPECTURA TO PLASTICS COLOR CONTROL

At Fakuma 2026, X-Rite will introduce Spectura, a connected color management platform combining handheld measurement, software workflows, temperature compensation and instrument performance management for plastics quality control.

Color control in plastics production is becoming more complex as manufacturers work with a growing number of materials, suppliers, production sites and quality requirements. Variations in resin lots, pigments, additives, recycled content, processing conditions and part geometry can all affect the final appearance of molded, extruded or compounded plastic products. Even when the formulation remains unchanged, factors such as texture, gloss, translucency, wall thickness and sample temperature can influence how color is measured and evaluated. For quality and production teams, this can result in repeated measurements, disputed results, delayed approvals, supplier disagreements and scrap or rework when color differences are detected late in the process. Against this background, X-Rite has developed Spectura™, a connected color management solution designed to bring measurement, quality control and workflow management into a more integrated process.

The need for more consistent color decisions

As supply chains become more complex, plastics manufacturers increasingly need to coordinate material suppliers, production sites and quality teams while also managing the additional variability introduced by recycled materials.

At the same time, customers are requesting tighter tolerances and shorter delivery times, while quality departments are expected to reduce waste, improve efficiency and support more sustainable production processes. In many companies, color standards are approved in the laboratory using benchtop instruments but are then verified on the production floor with handheld devices. When the results from the two instrument types do not agree closely enough, questionable measurements often have to be sent back to the laboratory for validation, slowing the approval process and reducing confidence in production-floor decisions. The issue is therefore not simply the measurement of a color value, but the ability to obtain consistent and reliable results across different instruments, operators, locations and supply-chain partners.

Introducing Spectura

Spectura combines handheld color measurement with connected software, workflow functions and instrument performance management. Rather than operating only as a standalone handheld spectrophotometer, the system is designed as part of a connected environment linking measurement data, quality-control workflows and instrument optimisation tools.

The platform is intended to support the inspection process from incoming materials through to final product approval. Operators can evaluate samples directly on the production floor, while quality managers can access results in real time through connected software workflows. This makes it possible to identify potential deviations earlier and respond before larger volumes of off-color material are produced. Spectura has also been developed to work within existing color-management programs, allowing manufacturers to introduce new measurement capabilities while maintaining consistency with established standards, quality procedures and previously collected color data.

Designed for plastics applications

Quality teams may need to inspect resin pellets, color plaques, molded parts, films, sheets, profiles, pipes, textured surfaces, curved components or translucent materials, each of which presents different measurement requirements. Spectura supports multiple measurement configurations with different aperture sizes and camera-assisted targeting technology, helping operators identify and measure the intended area of the sample more consistently. Application-specific configurations can improve repeatability between users and inspection points, particularly when measuring films, translucent packaging, small molded features and complex geometries. Temperature variation is another issue in plastics production. Samples are often measured at different stages of cooling, and this can create color differences linked to temperature rather than to the production process itself. In some applications, these differences can be significant enough to trigger unnecessary investigations or repeated testing if measurement conditions are not taken into account. Spectura therefore includes sample temperature measurement and thermochromic correction functions, designed to help distinguish actual color shifts from temperature-related changes. This can reduce unnecessary retesting and support more consistent evaluations when production conditions vary.

Connecting measurement to quality control

When Spectura is used together with X-Rite Color iQC software, measurement data can be compared with approved digital standards and tolerances within a consistent workflow. Results can be shared, reviewed, documented and compared across operators, shifts, production sites and suppliers. In addition to color data, manufacturers can also record supporting information such as sample images and temperature data, providing additional context for quality investigations, supplier discussions and troubleshooting. During film, sheet or extrusion production, for example, operators can compare measurements with approved standards directly at or near the production line and detect color drift before additional material is produced. The workflow can also be integrated with NetProfiler, X-Rite's cloud-based instrument optimisation and profiling technology, which is designed to maintain agreement between instruments operating at different locations.

From measurement to process control

More consistent measurement data can reduce the need for repeated inspections and limit delays linked to approvals or supplier disputes. Earlier detection of color deviations can also reduce scrap, rework and production interruptions, while standardised workflows can improve alignment between laboratories, production plants and external partners.

Spectura at Fakuma 2026

X-Rite will introduce Spectura to the plastics industry at Fakuma 2026, where the system will be demonstrated in applications involving different part geometries, supplier variability, temperature effects and production-floor quality control. The presentation will show how measurement data, digital standards, workflow management and instrument performance monitoring can be integrated within the same color-quality process.

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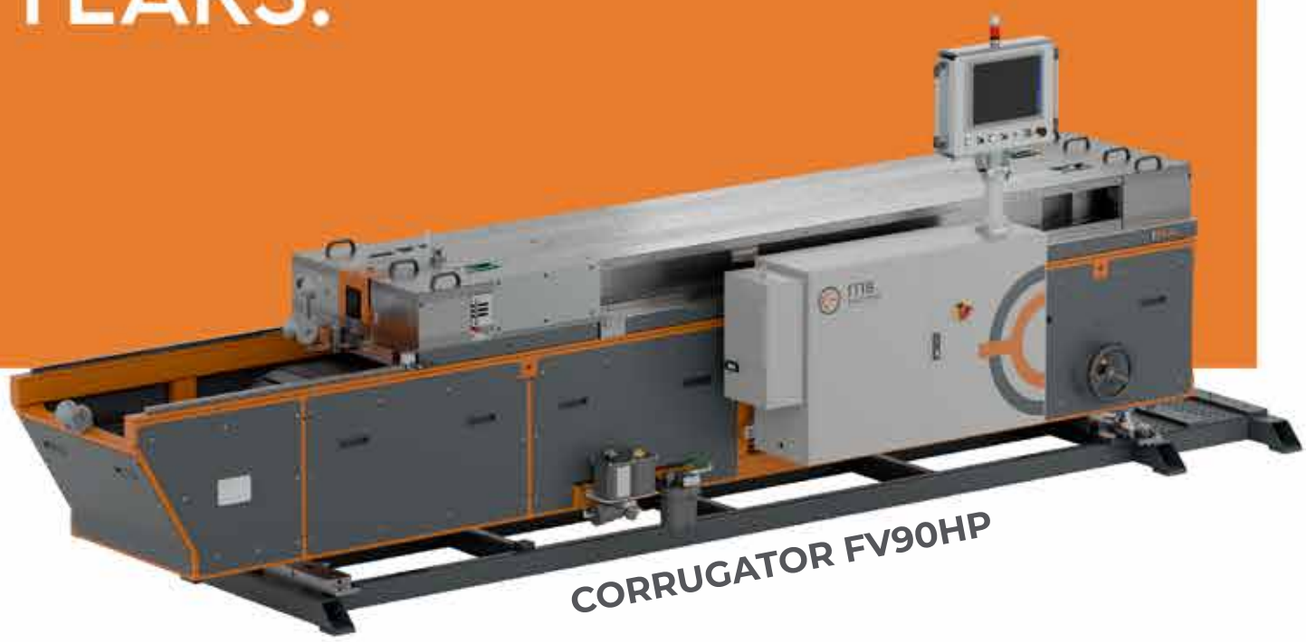

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PLASTIC SYSTEMS DWH: CONTINUOUS ROTOR DRYING FOR STABLE MOISTURE CONTROL

Plastic Systems, part of Pegaso Industries Group, introduces the DWH series of desiccant wheel dryers for polymer processing. Available in four models, the range combines continuous rotor operation, Dew Point values down to –40 °C, automated airflow management and a compact monoblock architecture designed to support stable drying conditions and simplified integration.

Plastic Systems, a company of the Pegaso Industries Group, introduces the new DWH series, a range of desiccant wheel dryers developed for polymer drying applications where moisture control, process continuity and energy consumption are key operating parameters. The DWH family comprises four models, DWH25, DWH50, DWH80 and DWH120, based on a compact architecture and a series of design solutions intended to improve process air quality, reduce energy requirements and simplify installation and maintenance.

Stable Dew Point down to –40 °C

A key feature of the DWH series is the use of a continuously operating desiccant rotor, which enables the system to maintain a Dew Point of down to –40 °C with high stability. Unlike tower dryers, where dehumidification relies on alternating adsorption and regeneration phases of the desiccant beds, the DWH rotor rotates slowly and continuously. This means that a regenerated section of the rotor is always available for process air treatment. The continuous operating principle is designed to maintain stable process air conditions and consistent residual moisture levels in the material, even when environmental conditions vary. For processors, this can support a more repeatable drying process and more consistent material conditions during production.

An architecture designed for efficiency and reliability

One of the main design features of the DWH is the vertical configuration of the rotor unit. This layout optimises mass distribution, reduces vibrations and simplifies the process air path, while also supporting more uniform thermal behaviour. The rotor unit is preassembled on a dedicated bench before installation on the machine. This allows functional checks to be performed during assembly, reducing installation and maintenance time and limiting the risk of alignment errors. The rotor shaft is directly bolted to the upper and lower heads in order to increase assembly rigidity and improve coaxiality. This solution is intended to reduce the risk of misalignment over time and limit bearing wear. The fans are also mounted directly on the heads. By eliminating intermediate couplings, the configuration reduces transmission losses and is designed to improve fluid-dynamic efficiency while lowering vibration and overall noise levels. Rotor motion is transmitted through a timing belt, ensuring accurate synchronisation without slippage. The system therefore avoids the use of a traditional chain-and-sprocket arrangement, reducing mechani-

IDENTITY CARD

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Website: **plasticsystems.it**

MACHINE HIGHLIGHTS

Model	Process airflow rate	Rotor unit size	Compatibility with H Series hoppers	Standard electrical power
DWH25	25 m³/h	150 × 200 mm	15, 30 and 50 litres	230 V, 50 Hz
DWH50	50 m³/h	150 × 200 mm	50, 75 and 100 litres	230 V, 50 Hz
DWH80	80 m³/h	260 × 200 mm	100, 150 and 200 litres	400 V, 50 Hz
DWH120	120 m³/h	260 × 200 mm	100, 150 and 200 litres	400 V, 50 Hz

cal wear and eliminating the need for periodic lubrication.

Thermal management and air tightness
Airflow management and temperature control are also central to the DWH design. In the DWH80 and DWH120 models, the heating chambers are equipped with coil heating elements, providing a larger heat-exchange surface. This allows a faster and more uniform thermal response, more precise temperature control and greater efficiency during the regeneration cycle. Wide-surface silicone gaskets are used to maintain sealing performance even at high temperatures and to limit air leakage. Improved sealing contributes both to energy efficiency and to the stability of the dehumidification process. The external frame is manufactured from AISI 304 stainless steel, providing corrosion resistance and easy-to-clean surfaces. This configuration is particularly suitable for environments characterised by high humidity or dusty operating conditions. The DWH also features a dedicated electrical panel compartment with increased internal volume. Improved accessibility facilitates wiring, inspection and maintenance, while the additional space supports more effective heat dissipation from the installed components.

Energy efficiency and process stability
Continuous rotor technology allows the DWH to operate at lower regeneration temperatures than those typically required by traditional systems. According to the company, this can result in potential energy savings of up to 40%, depending on operating conditions and the material being processed. Another characteristic of the system is the absence of alternating switching cycles between desiccant beds. Since the rotor operates continuously, a regenerated section is always available for process air treatment. This configuration is intended to provide greater continuity in both dehumidification and process air distribution. Stable temperature control and uniform airflow distribution throughout the hopper also help limit excessive hot or cold spots, reducing the risk of non-uniform material conditions and undesirable effects such as polymer degradation.

Consistent drying conditions
Consistent drying conditions are particularly important when processing hygroscopic materials or in applications where residual moisture must remain within narrow limits. The DWH is designed to maintain stable treatment conditions even when environmental parameters change. More uniform residual moisture levels in the granules can contribute to greater process repeatability and help reduce defects associated with inadequate drying, including microbubbles, viscosity variations and optical changes in the finished product.

How the DWH works
The DWH operating principle is based on the interaction of three main phases: process air dehumidification, rotor regeneration and purge cooling.

Process Air – Dehumidification
The process blower draws air from the material hopper and directs it towards the active section of the rotor.

The air passes through the hygroscopic desiccant material, which adsorbs the moisture contained in the air. The dehumidified air is then routed to the heating chamber and subsequently distributed back into the hopper. The slow and continuous rotation of the rotor ensures that a regenerated section is always available for process air treatment, allowing continuous operation of the drying process.

Reactivation Air – Rotor Regeneration
A separate regeneration circuit operates alongside the process air circuit. A dedicated blower draws filtered ambient air and directs it towards the heating chamber. The air is heated and passed through the section of the rotor that has previously adsorbed moisture. The elevated temperature allows the moisture accumulated in the desiccant material to be released. The hot, moisture-laden air is then discharged into the environment. As the rotor continues to rotate, the regenerated section progressively moves into the cooling position before becoming available again for process air dehumidification.

Purge – Rotor Cooling
Between regeneration and the next adsorption phase, the rotor undergoes a purge cooling stage, during which a dedicated blower supplies temperature-controlled air through the rotor. This airflow dissipates the heat accumulated during regeneration and brings the desiccant material back to suitable operating conditions before it re-enters the process air circuit. Controlled cooling reduces thermal stress on the rotor material and contributes to maintaining consistent performance over time.

Automatic control and customisable recipes
The DWH is managed through a 7-inch touchscreen interface, allowing the operator to select the material type and the required hourly production rate. The system automatically regulates airflow according to preconfigured parameters, adapting dryer operation to the requirements of the material. For special applications, dedicated recipes can also be configured, storing specific airflow and cycle parameters. This makes it possible to manage materials with different characteristics, including formulations containing glass fibre, additives or polymers that are particularly sensitive to process conditions. Automated airflow management reduces the need for manual adjustments and makes treatment conditions easier to reproduce from one production run to another.

Compact monoblock architecture
The monoblock architecture of the desiccant wheel system reduces the overall footprint and simplifies integration into existing production plants. The compact layout and reduced number of components compared with tower dryers also facilitate installation and operation. The DWH requires neither compressed air nor cooling water, eliminating the need for dedicated pneumatic or hydraulic circuits and reducing the number of components subject to wear. Maintenance requirements are also simplified. The absence of replaceable molecular sieves and switching valves reduces the number of periodic interventions and contributes to greater operational continuity.

Production continuity as a design objective
With the new DWH series, Plastic Systems combines continuous rotor operation, Dew Point values down to –40 °C, controlled airflow and temperature management, reduced regeneration requirements and simplified maintenance within a compact monoblock architecture. The system is designed to maintain stable and repeatable drying conditions over time, with particular attention to energy consumption, mechanical reliability and ease of integration into existing polymer processing lines.

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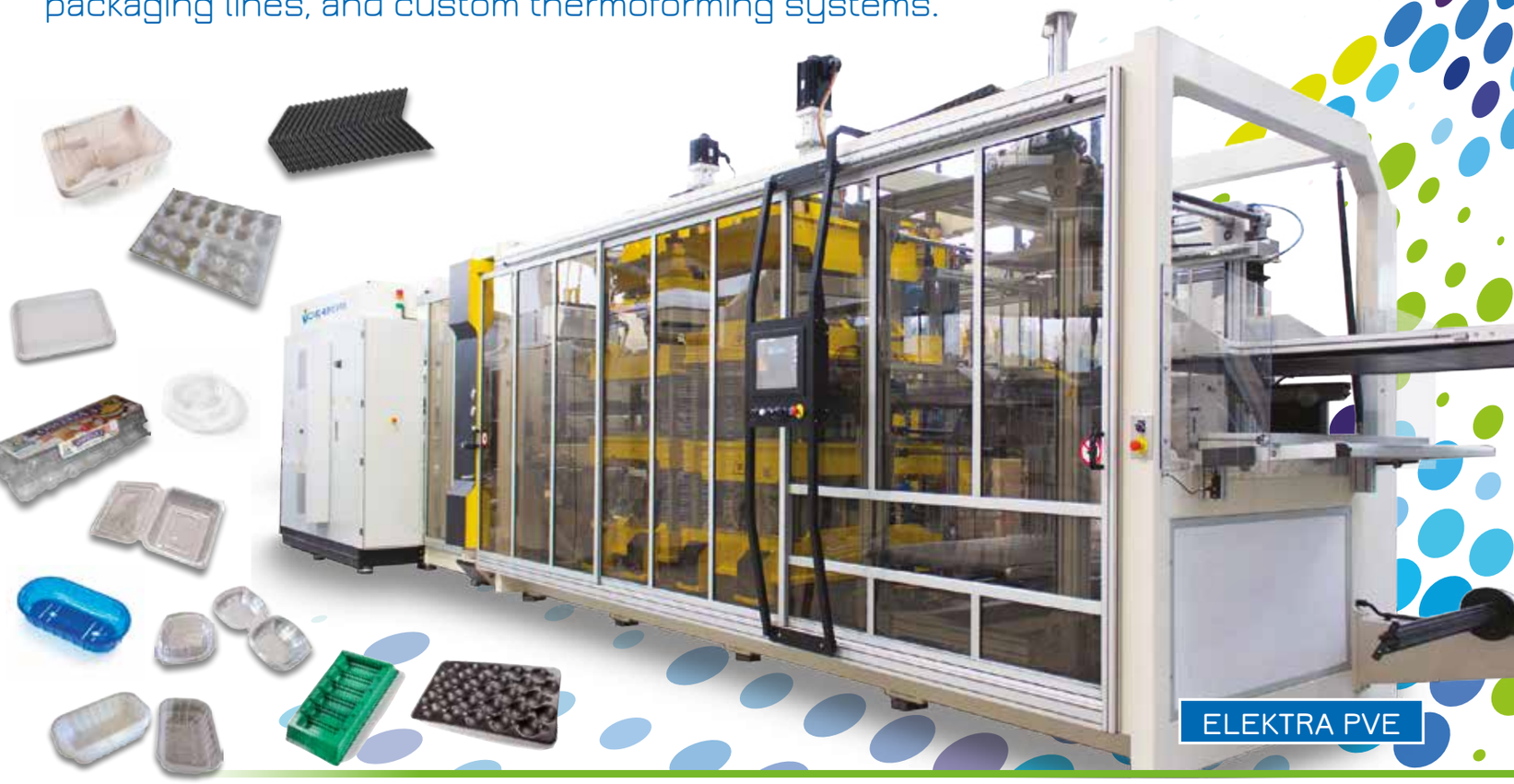

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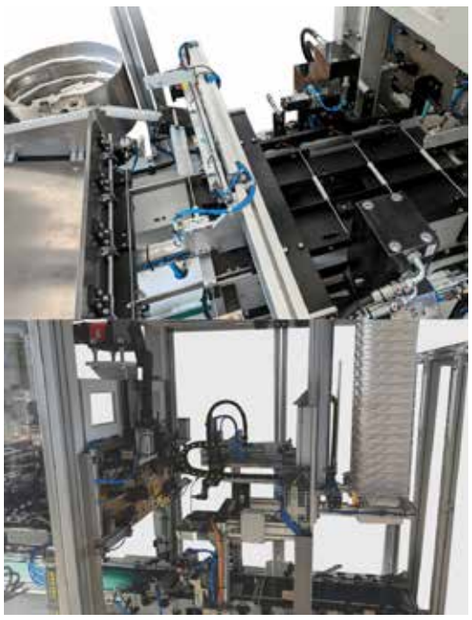
MOVING: CUSTOMISED AUTOMATION FOR HANDLE INSERTION AND END-OF-LINE PROCESSES

At Fakuma 2026, Moving will present its approach to customised automation for plastics processing, with a focus on handle-insertion systems, assembly solutions and palletising technologies developed around individual production requirements.



For nearly 30 years, Moving has developed customised automation systems for industrial production, with handle-insertion machines today representing the company's core business. The range also includes assembly systems and palletising and depalletising solutions, designed around the requirements of individual production lines rather than as standard catalogue products. Based in Gessate, near Milan, where the company recently relocated from its historic site in Pessano con Bornago, Moving operates in a specialised segment of industrial automation with solutions developed mainly for plastics processing and packaging applications. The company's activities began in the 1990s as an engineering and design firm working for third parties, supporting manufacturers that needed to update assembly and production equipment. This project-based activity gradually shaped an engineering approach focused on specific production requirements. A turning point came with the supply of automation systems to a plastics moulding company belonging to a major German group. Moving was initially involved in designing a warehouse for components destined for quality control, before receiving requests for increasingly advanced automation solutions. From this development came the company's first handle-insertion machine for plastic buckets, marking the beginning of a specialisation that has remained central to its activity. Today, Moving supplies complete systems for handle application, labelling, bucket stacking and quality control. More than 200 machines have been sold worldwide, with systems designed to work with plastic or metal handles on buckets of different shapes and sizes, from small containers to large industrial drums.

From handle insertion to complete automation

Handle-insertion machines, particularly those equipped with handle-forming systems, require precise mechanical control, repeatability and the ability to adapt to different materials and formats while maintaining production speed. Over time, Moving has extended its expertise to assembly, packaging and palletising applications. Current systems can integrate six-axis robots, machine vision, AI-based technologies and software for predictive maintenance, as well as interfaces with major business management systems. These functions allow production data and machine performance to be monitored while also supporting maintenance

planning. The company designs, builds and tests its systems in-house. Through its internal workshop, approximately 80% of the components are manufactured directly by Moving, reducing dependence on external suppliers and allowing faster availability of spare parts and replacement components.

Automatic handle forming and insertion

One of the most recent developments is an automatic system for forming and inserting handles starting from straight, pre-cut metal bars. The bars are fed by a loader with a capacity of up to 800 units. The cycle includes knob insertion, pin forming and final shaping of the handle according to customer specifications. The forming heads are machined from a single monolithic block and operate with high-power hydraulic or pneumatic cylinders capable of processing bars with different diameters. The system was developed to address the variability associated with pre-formed handles, which may present irregular geometries that can interfere with automated handling and insertion. A die and counter-die system is used to obtain a repeatable handle shape and to limit spring-back and internal stress in the metal. Once formed, the handle is inserted into the bucket. Before insertion, the container is centred using a patented system. The buckets are then stacked according to the required quantity and automatically unloaded, ready for the next stage of the customer's packaging line.

Customisation at machine and line level

Each Moving system is developed according to the specific requirements of the application, from mechanical design and software to individual components and complete production-cell layouts. The company's automation systems can be customised both in hardware and software, depending on the type of bucket, handle, production rate and downstream operations involved. The design approach also takes into account maintenance requirements and format changes. Components are arranged to facilitate access, while machines can be reconfigured for different bucket sizes or handle types with limited downtime.

A new production site in Gessate

From September 1, 2026, Moving operates from its new headquarters in Via Monza, Gessate, Milan. The new facility covers approximately 900 square metres and provides additional space for production, assembly and machine testing. It also includes areas intended to host customers during technical inspections and pre-delivery testing. The relocation is intended to support an increase in production capacity and provide a more structured environment for machine assembly and validation activities.

An international market for customised systems

Moving continues to operate primarily on project-based automation, with systems developed around the production requirements of individual customers. Its current portfolio combines handle insertion, assembly, packaging, palletising and software integration, with applications supplied to customers in different international markets. The company's development therefore remains centred on customised automation, with engineering, manufacturing and testing activities managed largely in-house and with particular attention to flexibility, maintenance accessibility and integration with existing production lines.

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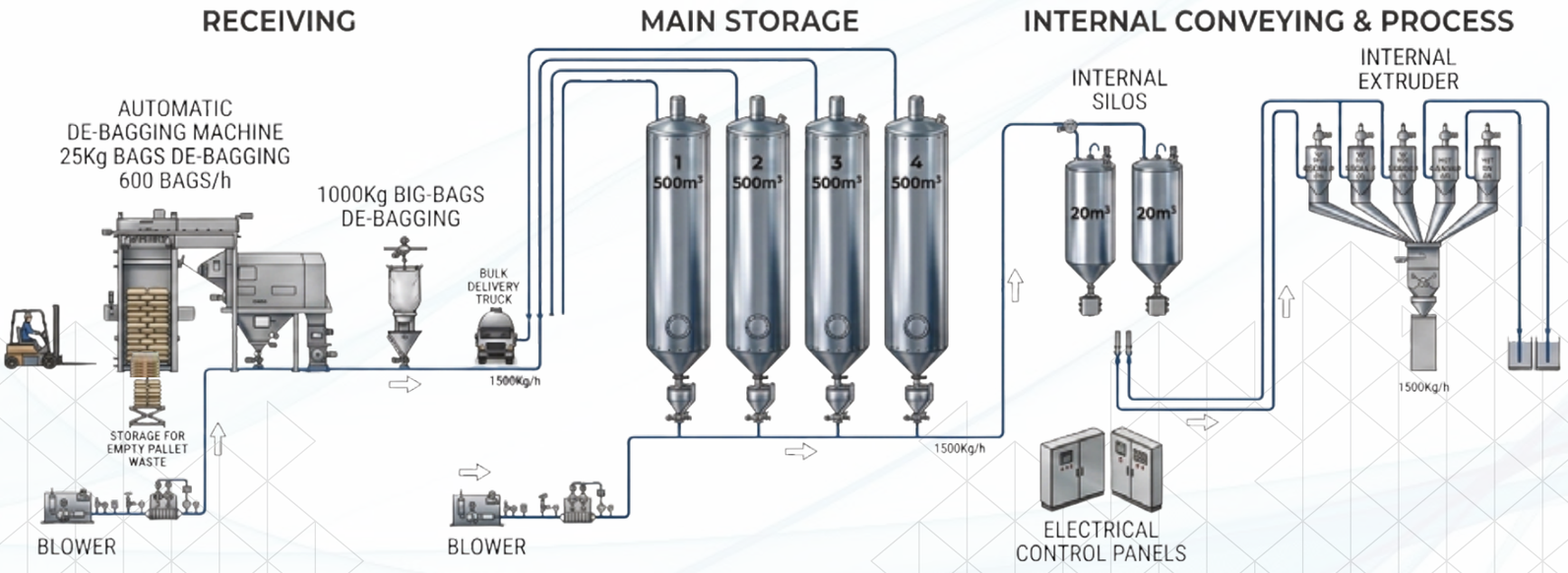

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MARIS TARGETS XLPE AND XLPO RECYCLING

Using co-rotating twin-screw extrusion, the Maris process is designed to reduce crosslink density in XLPE and XLPO waste, restoring melt processability while limiting degradation of the polymer backbone.

In the contemporary landscape of ecological transition and circular economy, the management of plastic waste represents one of the most complex technological and industrial challenges. While the recycling of thermoplastic polymers is now a well-established global reality, the scenario changes radically when dealing with thermosetting or highly cross-linked materials. Among these, cross-linked polyethylene (XLPE) and cross-linked polyolefins (XLPO) occupy a prominent position due to their extensive use in strategic sectors such as high-voltage electrical cable insulation, fluid transport piping, and the production of expanded foams for packaging and thermal insulation. The distinctive feature that gives these materials their performance during use, namely the presence of a three-dimensional network of covalent chemical bonds, or crosslinks, linking the polymer chains, becomes a major obstacle at the end of their service life. By definition, XLPE and XLPO waste are infusible and insoluble. Under the action of heat, unlike common thermoplastics, they do not melt but maintain their structure until reaching the thermal degradation or pyrolysis temperature. The lack of viscous flow makes their reprocessing difficult using traditional mechanical recycling methods, leading to a significant amount of industrial and post-consumer waste being sent to landfill, waste-to-energy recovery or low-value downcycling.

To overcome this intrinsic material limitation, technological development has focused on the concept of "decrosslinking", which involves the preferential cleavage of crosslinking bonds while preserving, as much as possible, the integrity of the polymer backbone. Within this context fits the solution developed by Maris, based on the use of co-rotating twin-screw extruders (TSE). The Maris process applies a thermomechanical approach to transform bulky industrial waste and expanded foams into processable secondary raw materials, reintroducing cross-linked polymers into the manufacturing chain in pellet form. The recycling process begins with scrap conditioning via shredding and size reduction operations. The waste materials, which often present as expanded foams or solid compact formats, are thus converted into an irregular granulate that is easy to handle and meter. The technological core of the entire process

lies in the specific configuration of the MARIS twin-screw extruder. Rather than acting as a simple mechanical melting and conveying unit, the extruder serves as a continuous thermomechanical reactor. Within this environment, the combined action of temperature, shear stress and residence time promotes a significant reduction in crosslink density.

The screw geometry setup and the temperature profile are optimised to maximise the breakdown of crosslink networks while mitigating polymer chain degradation. A fundamental aspect of the process is the distinction between polymer decrosslinking and polymer degradation. In the former case, the crosslinking bonds that form the three-dimensional network of the material are preferentially cleaved. In the latter case, scission occurs along the main polymer backbone, resulting in a drop in molecular weight and a degradation of mechanical properties.

The target of the thermomechanical treatment is therefore to maximise crosslink cleavage while minimising matrix degradation, achieving a balance between processability and performance retention. Analytical data collected downstream of the Maris decrosslinking process confirm the effectiveness of the treatment. The primary parameter used to quantify the crosslinking level of a polymer is the gel content, which expresses the weight percentage of the insoluble fraction.

The input XLPE materials typically exhibit a gel content ranging between 78% and 84%, indicative of a high crosslink density and a heavily developed three-dimensional network. After treatment within the properly configured twin-screw extruder, the gel content is reduced to values between 3% and 25%, highlighting a significant reduction in crosslink density. This residual fraction does not impair processability and can also contribute to maintaining certain mechanical and elastic properties.

In parallel, another important process parameter is the restoration of rheological properties, generally measured via the Melt Flow Index (MFI). Following the decrosslinking treatment, the material exhibits melt viscosity and processability comparable to those of virgin, non-cross-linked polyethylene.

Specifically, the process enables the recovery of 90% to 94% of the reference material's MFI value. This means that the regenerated pellet possesses adequate hot-melt fluidity for subsequent converting operations, such as extrusion, injection moulding and fibre spinning.

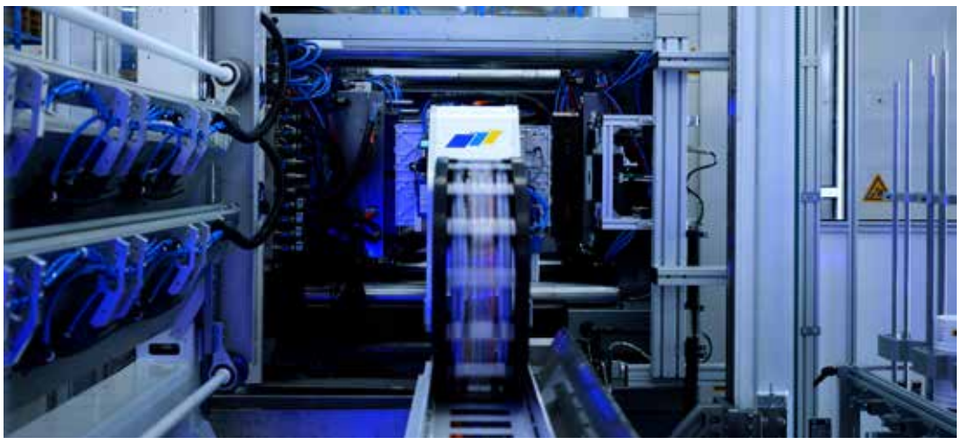
The final semi-finished output consists of recycled processable granules. These pellets can be used as secondary raw material and are suitable for substituting significant shares of virgin polymer across a range of industrial applications.

The Maris twin-screw extrusion technology therefore shows how controlled thermomechanical processing can address some of the traditional limitations associated with recycling cross-linked materials, converting thermoset-like waste into reprocessable material suitable for industrial reuse.

mariscorp.com

CAMPETELLA ROBOTIC CENTER: A LEGACY OF INNOVATION IN IML AUTOMATION

Modula food pack: the new benchmark in high-cavity IML automation.



In the highly competitive segment of in-mold labeling (IML) for food packaging, where hygiene standards, cycle times and process reliability are critical, automation suppliers are increasingly required to deliver not only performance but also consistency and ease of integration. In this context, Campetella Robotic Center has established itself as a provider of advanced IML solutions, with a portfolio ranging from high-speed side-entry robots to fully integrated automated lines. The company is particularly active in high-cavity, short-cycle applications, where process stability and repeatability are essential. Its approach is based on standardized yet configurable systems, designed to combine technological sophistication with practical usability, a combination that has contributed to its adoption by major food packaging manufacturers across Europe, the Americas and other markets. "The Modula FP is the latest expression of this legacy: a machine that embodies Campetella's commitment to innovation, sustainability, and user-centered design. To be unveiled at K-Show 2025, the Modula FP is a side-entry IML (In-Mold Labeling) robot designed for food packaging rigid containers. But it's more than a machine, it's a modular, intelligent, and user-centered automation platform that redefines what's possible in IML applications", the company said.

Across advanced economies, the food packaging industry is entering a new phase, driven by efficiency targets and tighter sustainability requirements. Northern Europe has been at the forefront of this shift, with single-scrap systems already widely adopted and increasingly setting the benchmark for the sector. Other markets are now moving in the same direction. Within this context, the Modula FP developed by Campetella Robotic Center positions itself as a solution aligned with these evolving standards, combining compact design with process optimization. IML applications based on 8-cavity molds and integrated single scrap removal are rapidly becoming the reference model. The objective is clear: increase productivity while reducing material waste and associated costs. Traditional systems based on total scrap removal, where an entire shot is rejected due to a single defective part, are progressively being phased out, as they generate unnecessary waste and inefficiencies. By contrast, the Modula FP introduces a selective scrap removal approach, rejecting only the non-compliant item while preserving the rest of the production cycle. The result is a measurable reduction in material losses and improved process efficiency, particularly in high-output environments. Alongside process innovation, the development of the system reflects a broader focus on usability. The machine was designed through a user-centered approach, involving operators, technicians and production managers from the early stages. Iterative testing and validation contributed to defining a configuration aimed at simplifying operation and improving ergonomics. The outcome is a system designed not only for performance, but also for ease of use and operational reliability, with solutions tailored to real production conditions, from the layout of the label feeding system to the integration of vision control technologies.

High-Cavity Performance and Flexibility

The Modula FP is designed for injection molding machines in the 300 to 550 ton range and supports 6 to 8 cavity single-face molds, positioning it within the segment of high-output IML applications for food packaging. The system can handle different container geometries, including round, oval and polygonal tubs, as well as formats with either high or flat collars. It is compatible with the most common horizontal mold pitches, typically 220, 250 and 300 mm, allowing it to be integrated into a wide range of existing production configurations. In terms of labeling, the machine is designed to manage several application types within the same platform. These include wrap-around labels, combined wrap-around and bottom solutions, three- or five-sided configurations, and flat labels. This range reflects the variability of formats currently required by the food packaging sector. The modular structure of the IML kit also introduces a simplified approach to tooling changes. When switching production between items with the same cavity pitch, only a limited number of components need to be replaced. This reduces downtime and helps contain tooling costs, factors that are increasingly relevant in short production runs and frequent product changeovers. From a performance standpoint, the system operates with cycle times of up to 4.0 seconds and an intervention time of up to 0.9 seconds, aligning with the requirements of high-cavity production environments where consistency and repeatability remain critical.

Modular configuration and system integration

A central aspect of the Modula FP is its modular architecture, which allows the same IML robot to be configured according to different levels of downstream automation. In its basic setup, the system is paired with a conveyor belt for part, a solution typically adopted in plants where boxing operations are still handled manually or where automation is limited. The more advanced configuration предусматривает the integration of an automated boxing unit, enabling a continuous process from label insertion to final packaging. This dual setup allows manufacturers to adapt the system to current production needs while maintaining the option to upgrade at a later stage, without changing the core equipment. At the same time, the use of a common robotic platform simplifies maintenance, operator training and spare parts management.

Label magazine: operational continuity and safety

Another relevant element of the system concerns

IDENTITY CARD

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Email: info@campetella.it
Website: **www.campetella.com**

MODULA FOOD PACK: KEY FEATURES	
IMM range	300 – 550 T
Nr. of cavities range	6 – 8 cav. single face
Processable products	Round, oval or polygonal containers; tubs
Mold pitch (horizontal)	Typical 220, 250, 300 mm
Product dimension limits	Dmax: 120 mm / Hmax: 150 mm
Label type	Wrap-around; wrap-around + bottom; 3/5 sided; flat
Label insertion side	Fixed platen / Moving platen
Cycle time	≥ 4.0 s
Intervention time	≥ 0.9 s

the design of the label magazine, a component that has a direct impact on both productivity and operator safety. In the Modula FP, this unit has been developed with a doorless configuration, allowing labels to be refilled during operation without interrupting the production cycle. The system integrates a set of safety features that include sensors, a dedicated control unit and continuous monitoring of operator interaction. This architecture is intended to reduce the risk of accidents during refilling operations and is designed to meet certification requirements from regulatory bodies. From an operational standpoint, the label magazine can accommodate stacks up to 350 mm in height, ensuring several hours of autonomy and limiting the frequency of manual intervention. This contributes to more stable production flows, particularly in high-output environments where unplanned stops can have a significant impact on overall efficiency.

Hygienic Handling from Start to Finish

In food packaging, hygiene is non-negotiable. The Modula FP ensures that products are always handled "open side down", preventing contamination at every stage of the process. The servo-driven upstacker features independent stacking columns for each cavity: this ensures traceability and easy analysis of which cavity is generating non-compliant parts. Once a stack is complete, it is seamlessly transferred into the boxing unit or conveyor belt, maintaining cleanliness and consistency throughout the process. In case of boxing unit, a vacuum-assisted bagging system that ensures the plastic liner fits perfectly inside the box, maintaining hygiene and presentation quality.

Compact Footprint

In modern production environments, space is a premium. The Modula FP was engineered with this in mind. Despite its high performance and advanced features, it boasts one of the most compact footprints in its category. Even in its advanced configuration with the boxing unit, the system remains remarkably space-efficient, generally fitting within the overall dimensions of the IMM in the direction of the injection unit.

Vision system and scrap management

Quality control is handled through an integrated vision system developed in partnership with Mevisco. The solution is available in configurations with two or five cameras and is designed to perform multiple checks, including inspection of the inner surface, control of the split line and a full 360-degree analysis of the product. After take-out, containers are aligned in a single row and pass through an in-line inspection system operating on the fly. In the event of a defect, the non-compliant item is automatically separated through a single scrap removal mechanism, which includes a chute and a conveyor directing the rejected part into a dedicated collection box. This configuration allows quality control to be carried out without interrupting production flow, while at the same time limiting material waste by isolating only the defective unit.

Automated boxing unit

The automated boxing unit represents the final stage of the process and has been designed with a focus on compactness and operational continuity. Despite integrating several functions, the system is developed to occupy limited floor space, a factor that can be relevant in plants with layout constraints. The unit uses a Cartesian top-entry robot to pick up completed stacks and place them into carton boxes through a guiding grid. The handling of empty and filled boxes is managed through a multi-level conveyor system, which organizes loading and unloading operations within the same footprint. A vacuum-assisted bagging system is also integrated to position the plastic liner inside the box, ensuring correct placement and maintaining hygiene standards required in food packaging. In terms of autonomy, the system can store multiple empty carton boxes, allowing it to operate for extended periods without operator intervention. Combined with the capacity of the label feeding system, this contributes to longer continuous production runs and a reduction in manual handling. Rather than functioning as a separate module, the boxing unit is integrated into the overall system logic, extending the automation chain from labeling to final packaging while maintaining consistency in process control.

Energy efficiency and process sustainability

Energy consumption is an increasingly relevant parameter in the design of automation systems for food packaging. In this respect, the Modula FP developed by Campetella Robotic Center has been engineered in line with the principles of ISO 50001, with a focus on reducing overall resource usage. The system relies on electric drives for primary movements, limiting the use of pneumatic components. Air consumption is further reduced through the integration of vacuum pumps, while pneumatic cylinders are activated only intermittently during the cycle. Together, these solutions contribute to lower energy demand and a reduced environmental footprint, without affecting process speed or product quality.

Patent applications and technology development

The Modula FP is also the subject of several patent applications, covering key elements of the system architecture. Among the areas involved are the label magazine, designed with a doorless configuration and integrated safety sensors; the servo-driven upstacker, developed for handling and traceability in high-cavity IML applications; and the automated boxing unit, which combines compact layout with a vacuum-assisted bagging system. These filings reflect ongoing development activity around the platform and indicate a focus on protecting specific design solutions introduced with the system.

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MIXRON MFC: TWO INDEPENDENT MIXING STATIONS IN A SINGLE MACHINE

With the MFC Container Mixer, Mixron combines two fully autonomous mixing stations within a single monobloc structure.

In compounding, masterbatch production and powder coatings formulation departments, productivity is increasingly linked not only to cycle time per batch, but also to factors such as floor space, retooling downtime, colour-changeover speed and operator safety. As batch sizes become more fragmented and recipe variability increases, the mixing cycle itself is often only one part of the overall production time. Container handling, clamping, unloading, cleaning and preparation for the following batch can have a significant impact on departmental efficiency. Container mixing technology has long been used for applications involving frequent recipe changes and strict contamination requirements. By separating loading and transport operations from the actual mixing process, container mixers can simplify internal material handling and reduce the need for cleaning between batches. Increasing production capacity, however, conventionally means installing an additional mixer, with a corresponding increase in floor space, electrical and pneumatic connections, investment and maintenance requirements. With the MFC Container Mixer, Mixron has adopted a different mechanical architecture, integrating two independent mixing heads into a single supporting structure.

Two independent mixing stations in one frame

The main construction feature of the Mixron MFC is the integration of two fully autonomous mixing stations within a single monobloc frame. The two mixing lines are mechanically, pneumatically and process-independent, allowing a single machine structure to perform the work of two separate mixers. For equivalent throughput, the configuration reduces the required floor area by approximately 50 per cent compared with two conventional standalone machines. This can be particularly relevant in plants where the mixing department must share available space with extrusion lines, storage areas or other production equipment. The two-head architecture also changes the way production cycles can be organised. In a conventional single-head configuration, the mixer remains idle during operations such as container handling, clamping, unloading and preparation of the next recipe. With the MFC, the operating cycles of the two stations can instead be staggered. While one head performs the high-speed mixing cycle independently, the second station can be prepared by loading material or positioning the container for the following batch. In this way, preparation activities can take place while the other station remains in production. The monobloc configuration also simplifies the plant infrastructure associated with the machine. The two workstations share a single supporting structure, allowing the electrical architecture and service connections to be rationalised. A single main power cabinet is combined with simplified pneumatic routing and dust-extraction manifolds, with the aim of reducing both installation requirements and subsequent operating and

maintenance costs.

Batch flexibility and contamination prevention

Traditional mixing systems can become less flexible when production volumes vary significantly between recipes. Some machines operate within relatively narrow fill-level ranges and require specific loading conditions to maintain correct material fluidisation. This can become an issue when producing samples, small specialty batches or formulations with high additive and pigment contents, where the use of oversized equipment may increase energy consumption or make it more difficult to achieve the required dispersion. The Mixron MFC allows the two workstations to be configured independently. The mixing heads can accommodate containers of different sizes and can be equipped with tools featuring geometries selected according to the type of powder being processed. Within the same machine footprint, one station can therefore be configured for larger production batches while the second is used for smaller volumes or more complex formulations. According to Mixron, the system is designed to maintain homogeneous and repeatable dispersion across different batch sizes, reducing the variation between pilot production and serial manufacturing. The complete separation of the circuits and control systems of the two stations also addresses cross-contamination between different formulations. Materials with very different colours or chemical characteristics can be processed simultaneously on the two adjacent heads. A highly loaded black masterbatch, for example, can be mixed on one side while a transparent or clear compound is processed on the other, without shared process components between the two stations.

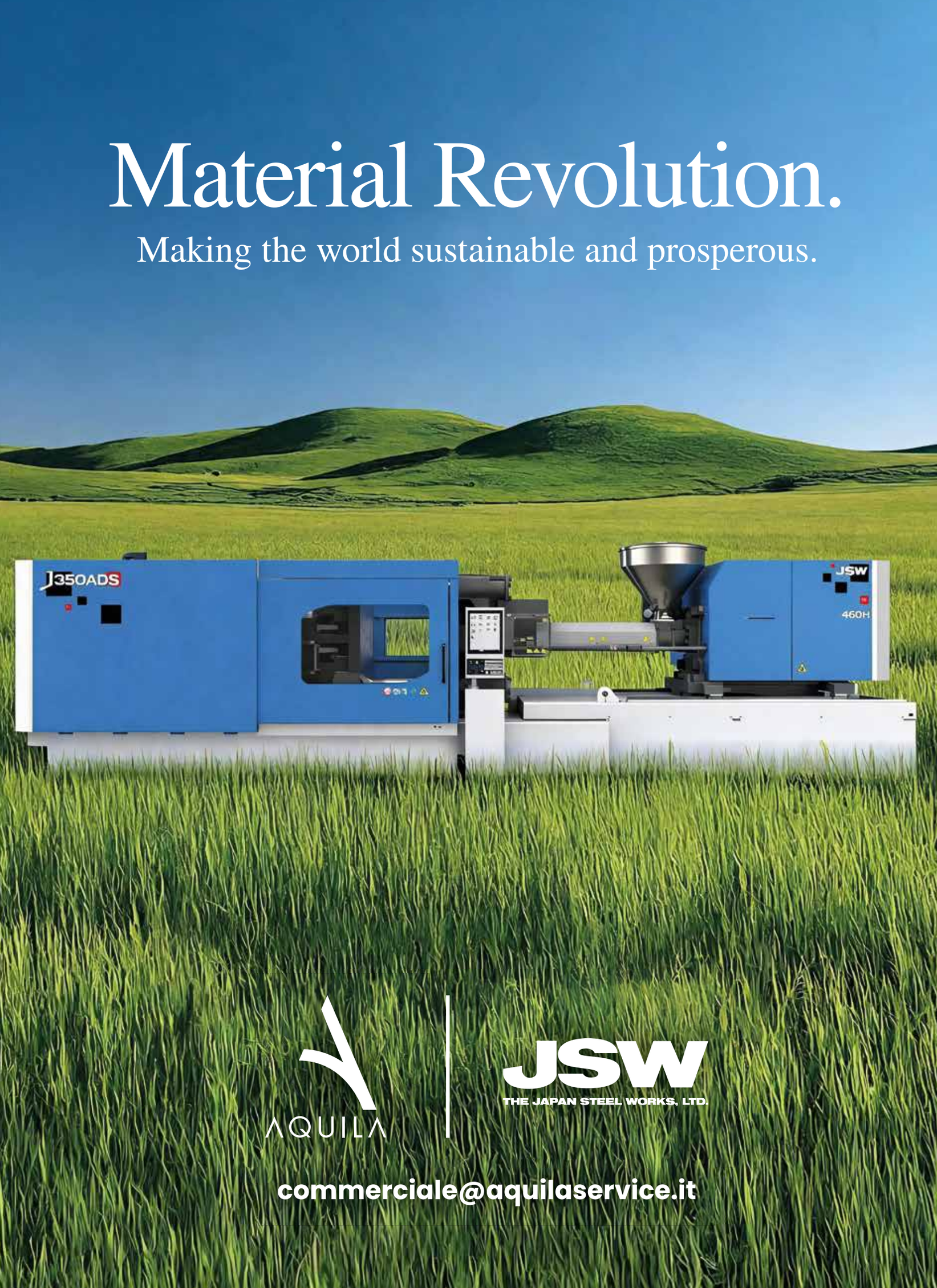
Cleaning and maintenance at floor level

Operator access was another area considered in the development of the MFC, particularly during cleaning, recipe changeover and maintenance operations. In conventional container mixers, mixing heads are typically installed at a fixed height. Cleaning the head and mixing tools can therefore require operators to use platforms, mezzanines or portable ladders, especially on medium- and large-size machines. The MFC is equipped with a vertical movement system that allows the mixing heads to be lowered during cleaning, changeover or maintenance. The working height and tilt angle can be customised and stored according to the application. This allows residue removal, vacuum cleaning and seal inspection to be carried out from floor level, reducing the need for work at height and improving access to the mixing tools. The same configuration is intended to shorten colour-change operations, as the mixing head and tools are more easily accessible for cleaning. Routine and extraordinary maintenance activities, including rotor inspection and the replacement of sealing assemblies, can also be performed with the head lowered to floor level, without requiring dismantling operations at height.

A different layout for container mixing

The MFC Container Mixer combines two independent mixing processes within a single machine structure, addressing production capacity through parallel operation rather than through the installation of a second standalone mixer. The result is a system designed to reduce the space required by the mixing department, allow preparation and mixing operations to overlap and simplify access during cleaning and maintenance. At the same time, the independent configuration of the two stations makes it possible to handle different batch sizes, formulations and processing requirements within the same machine.

mixron.it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RODOLFO COMERIO: NEW HORIZONS

Rodolfo Comerio is expanding its activities in the converting sector with laminating and embossing lines for a wide range of industrial applications, combining process control, automation and surface finishing technologies.

Founded in 1878, Rodolfo Comerio develops and manufactures equipment for the processing of rubber and plastics, with a technological portfolio that today includes both calendering and converting solutions for a wide range of industrial applications.
Alongside its historical activities, the company has recently been strengthening its organization and international sales network, with the aim of supporting a broader range of markets and applications. This process includes the introduction of new managerial and technical roles, the expansion of the sales structure and the creation of a dedicated Proposal Office focused on technical analysis and proposal engineering.
The company has also expanded its international commercial network through new agency agreements covering Belgium, Luxembourg, the United Kingdom, Slovakia, the Czech Republic, India, China, Taiwan, South Korea and Mexico. This development is accompanied by a regular presence at international exhibitions, including K 2025 and Plast 2026, with further participation already scheduled at RubberTech 2026, Tire 2027, ICE 2027, Chinaplas 2027 and NPE 2027.

A significant part of this development concerns the converting sector. In addition to its established expertise in calendering, Rodolfo Comerio is extending its range of laminating and embossing lines for films intended for different industrial applications.
Research and testing activities are supported by the Comerio Calendering Technology Center (CCTC), where trials are carried out in cooperation with customers and partners to assess materials, processes and new technological solutions before their industrial implementation.

Laminating and Embossing: Technologies for High-Performance Production

In industrial converting processes, the quality of the final product depends on the interaction between equipment design, process technology and parameter control. In this context, laminating and embossing lines play an important role in the production of materials requiring specific surface properties, decorative finishes and con-

sistent production performance.
The objective is not simply to supply a machine, but to develop a solution tailored to the application, capable of ensuring surface quality, product uniformity, accurate control of process parameters and operational reliability.
Rodolfo Comerio technologies are used in several industrial sectors, including automotive, decorative panels, construction materials, medical packaging, furniture, technical textiles and food-related applications. The lamination lines can process different materials, including PVC, PVC-PE, PE-PA, PP, PVC-PMMA and PVC-PET, as well as combinations of different substrates. The lines can be configured for working widths ranging from 1,000 to 2,500 mm and operating speeds exceeding 150 m/min, depending on the application and production requirements.
Particular attention is paid to embossing, which can provide materials with specific aesthetic and functional surface characteristics. Mechanical precision and process control make it possible to reproduce textures, surface effects and finishes with a high degree of repeatability, contributing to both the technical and visual characteristics of the final product.
Among the technologies developed for this purpose is the patented Embossing-in-Register (EIR) system. Designed in particular for multilayer decorative films, the system synchronizes the printed pattern with the embossed structure, maintaining alignment and process repeatability even at high production speeds. The result is a surface in which the visual pattern corresponds closely with the tactile structure of the material.
The lines can also integrate advanced automation systems, digital controls and process monitoring technologies. These solutions allow production parameters to be managed with greater precision, while supporting process continuity, repeatability and energy management. Production data can also be collected and analyzed as part of increasingly digital manufacturing environments and Industry 4.0 architectures.
The combination of laminating, embossing, automation and process control therefore allows the production line to be configured according to the material, surface requirements and productivity targets of each application.

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GENERALPLASTIK: INTEGRATED TECHNOLOGIES FOR AUTOMOTIVE PLASTIC COMPONENTS

From mould design to injection moulding, painting and assembly, Generalplastik develops integrated solutions for highly complex plastic components supplied to major automotive manufacturers and Tier-1 suppliers.

In the automotive sector, competitiveness no longer depends solely on the ability to manufacture high-quality plastic components, but also on managing the entire production process in an integrated way. Reducing the number of suppliers involved, speeding up project development and ensuring high quality standards are increasingly important requirements for vehicle manufacturers and Tier-1 suppliers.
This is the context in which Generalplastik operates. Founded in Italy in 1977, the company specialises in the development and production of complex plastic components for the automotive industry. It acts as a single partner across the entire production chain, offering services ranging from design and mould making to injection moulding, painting, surface treatment, assembly and quality control.

An integrated approach to production
One of the company's main strengths is its ability to bring together within the same organisation skills that are often distributed among several different suppliers. This makes it possible to simplify the supply chain, shorten new product development times and ensure greater quality consistency throughout the different project stages.
Generalplastik manufactures moulds, injection moulds thermoplastic materials and carries out painting operations for components with high aesthetic requirements, as well as complex assembly, surface treatments and traceability systems for advanced automotive components.

Technologies for complex components
The company operates 34 hydraulic, hybrid and electric injection moulding machines, with clamping forces ranging from 7 to 1,400 tonnes. These are complemented by production lines designed to provide a high degree of automation, process control and consistent quality.
Available technologies include gas-assisted injection moulding (GAIM), co-moulding and insert moulding, enabling the production of components with complex geometries, reduced weight, improved surface finish and integrated functions.
The company's expertise also covers the development of lightweight components for vehicle interiors and exteriors, structural seat systems, multi-material technologies and mould design for applications with a high level of technical complexity.

Painting and high-value finishing processes
Alongside injection moulding, Generalplastik has developed specific expertise in aesthetic finishing operations.
Through its subsidiary GP S.r.l., the company operates a painting department with two systems. The first is a manual line with 400 low-chain positions and three water-curtain spray booths. The second is a robotic line equipped with CO2 cleaning and deionisation, with ABB robots and a painting robot fitted with three spray heads.
The systems are used for the production of interior and exterior vehicle components and can handle both solvent-based and water-based coating cycles, as well as wet-on-wet processes. An in-house laboratory supports quality control activities.
Recent developments include a new wet-on-wet process that reduces flash-off times by 90% and primer thickness by 30%, together with the implementation and development of processes dedicated to the painting of carbon-fibre components.
The company's capabilities also include complex assembly, ultrasonic welding, pad printing, surface treatments and flocking processes, particularly for aesthetic components used in premium vehicle interiors. Generalplastik also highlights the possibility of using products declared PFAS-free in flocking applications.

Quality and sustainability
The production organisation is supported by a structured quality control system covering all stages of the process, from design through to delivery. Checks include dimensional inspection, colour measurement using spectrophotometers, functional tests, adhesion and chemical resistance testing,

together with traceability systems and data integration designed to meet automotive industry requirements.
In terms of sustainability, Generalplastik has invested in photovoltaic energy generation, which covers approximately 70% of its production energy requirements, and operates under an ISO 14001-certified environmental management system.
The company also holds ISO 9001 and IATF 16949 certifications, as well as TISAX, the automotive industry's reference standard for information security.
With almost fifty years of experience, Generalplastik continues to develop an industrial model based on integrated expertise, process quality and long-term cooperation with vehicle manufacturers and Tier-1 suppliers, positioning itself as a technology partner for the production of complex plastic components for next-generation vehicles.

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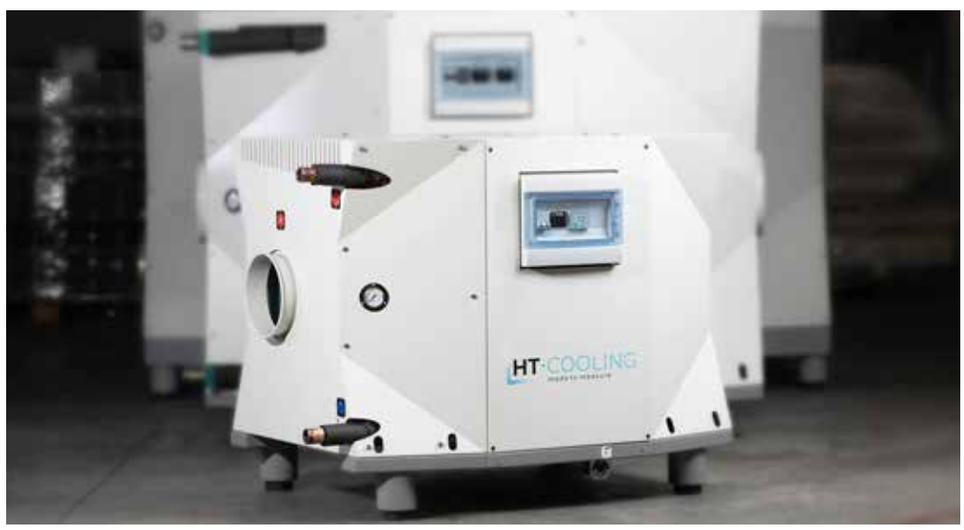
F-GAS: NEW REQUIREMENTS FOR INDUSTRIAL COOLING

HT-Cooling is adapting its process cooling technologies to the new F-Gas framework, with chiller ranges using lower-GWP refrigerants and solutions developed for different installation and capacity requirements.

2026 represents an important step for the industrial cooling sector. With the implementation of the European F-Gas Regulation (EU) 2024/573, manufacturers and users are having to reconsider system design, refrigerant selection and long-term investment planning.
The regulation aims to progressively reduce the use of fluorinated gases with high GWP (Global Warming Potential), supporting the European climate targets for 2030 and 2050. The changes also affect the plastics processing industry, where cooling systems play a direct role in process efficiency and production continuity.
The new framework introduces increasingly stringent limits on refrigerants, together with additional requirements concerning system monitoring, traceability and management. For companies investing in new equipment, refrigerant choice and system architecture therefore have to be evaluated with a longer-term perspective.



Anticipating the regulatory change

HT-Cooling says that the development of its latest product ranges began before the new F-Gas requirements came into force, with the aim of reducing the environmental impact of refrigerants while maintaining the safety, efficiency and operational continuity required by industrial applications.
The company's approach considers the cooling system as a whole, taking into account refrigerant selection, installation requirements, energy efficiency, safety and maintenance.

A COMPLETE RANGE FOR PROCESS COOLING

Alongside its chiller ranges, HT-Cooling offers dry coolers and adiabatic coolers for industrial process cooling. The adiabatic units are equipped with a proprietary control system that manages water consumption according to operating conditions and actual process requirements.
The portfolio also includes customised pumping units and process air cooling coils for industrial applications.
HT-Cooling plans to continue developing its range in 2027, with a focus on international markets. The company will also participate in NPE 2027, presenting its cooling technologies for the North and Central American plastics markets.

Two new chiller ranges

This approach is reflected in two recent chiller ranges developed by HT-Cooling. The CS-BZ series, presented at K 2025 in Düsseldorf, covers cooling capacities from 25 to 110 kW and uses R513A refrigerant, with a GWP of 631. The units are designed for indoor installation and for applications requiring this range of cooling capacities. At Plast 2026 in Milan, HT-Cooling expanded the range with the CS-PE series, developed for capacities from 110 to 300 kW. These units use R454B refrigerant, with a GWP of 467, and are designed for

outdoor installation.
The CS-PE range is available with either plate or shell-and-tube evaporators, allowing the configuration to be selected according to the application.

From the chiller to the cooling system

The changing regulatory framework also affects the criteria used to select industrial cooling equipment. Cooling capacity alone is not necessarily sufficient to define the most appropriate system. Process conditions, energy requirements, installation environment and expected operating life also need to be considered.
HT-Cooling works with machine manufacturers, system integrators and plastics processors on customised cooling systems developed around individual production requirements.
The objective is to integrate equipment and system design according to the process rather than selecting the chiller as an isolated component, taking into account performance, reliability and operating costs throughout the system's life cycle.

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BOY: COMPACT AUTOMATION ACROSS THE INJECTION MOULDING RANGE

At Fakuma 2026, Boy will present seven exhibits in its new machine design, with a particular focus on compact automation, electromechanical injection moulding and micro-moulding applications. The line-up will include the new LR 5 Compact handling system, LSR and medical applications, as well as automated solutions designed to minimise production footprint.

From October 12 to 16 Boy will present all seven exhibits in its new design for the first time. Following the electromechanical models, the company's servo-hydraulic injection moulding machines have now also been updated with the new appearance. At Hall A7, Booth 7101, Boy will showcase a representative selection from its product portfolio, while three additional injection moulding machines will be operating at partner booths. Overall, four automated exhibits will demonstrate different approaches to integrating handling and peripheral equipment while keeping the required production footprint to a minimum.

LR 5 Compact: automation within the machine footprint

One of the main developments on display will be the new LR 5 Compact linear handling system. In this configuration, the LR 5 Compact and conveyor belt are installed completely beneath the protective cover of the Boy 35 Electric, eliminating the need for an additional safety enclosure and, consequently, for the EM67 and EM78 interfaces. Compared with a machine equipped with an external protective enclosure, the footprint is reduced from approximately 5.2 to 3.1 m², while the required ceiling height is only 2.6 m. The complete unit also remains transportable. The LR 5 Compact is controlled via the Procan Alpha® 6 machine control system and is fully integrated into the machine architecture. This simplifies process set-up and allows data and error management to be handled through the same system. The absence of Euromap interfaces and a separate handling controller also reduces the number of additional components required. During the production of screw caps, Boy will additionally present its new "electromechanical unscrewing" option.

The Electric Barista returns

The trade fair presentation will also include the Electric Barista, an application combining injection moulding, robotics and coffee preparation. A Boy 50 Electric will produce cups from NAS® 30 ECO, while a collaborative robot will serve freshly prepared espresso using the moulded components. The Boy 100 Electric, the largest electromechanical injection moulding machine in the display, will instead be used for an LSR application. The machine will produce foldable funnels, which will be placed onto a conveyor belt with the support of an integrated LR 5 linear handling system. Boy's electromechanical machines are designed for applications requiring precise injection, dynamic machine movements and reduced cycle times through parallel motion. The series also features high positioning accuracy and a lubricant-free mould mounting area, while maintaining a compact machine layout within the respective clamping-force classes.

Focus on micro-injection moulding

Micro-injection moulding will be another focus of Boy's Fakuma presentation. Two Boy XS E machines, each with a clamping force of 100 kN, will operate side by side to produce very small medical components. One machine will process LSR, while the second will use a medical-grade PLA, Resomer® LR 704 S. Both machines are equipped with a full-size 8 mm screw operating according to the first-in, first-out principle. The application is intended to demonstrate the processing of micro-parts with dimensions that make them barely visible to the naked eye, while maintaining a conventional screw-based injection concept.

Vertical insert moulding in a compact layout

A Boy 35 E VV vertical insert moulding machine equipped with automation will produce tool star handles with HEX 3, 4 and 5 geometries. The application uses a flexible separation system supplied by Variobotic, positioned directly on the machine frame in order to minimise the required floor space.

Boy 20 E PRO for a simple moulding application

The Fakuma exhibits will be completed by the Boy 20 E Pro, which will produce small "battery beer crates", injection-moulded plastic containers designed as storage boxes for batteries. The Boy 20 E Pro represents the entry-level model in the range and uses a reduced equipment configuration together with the Procan Alpha® 4 control system. The machine nevertheless uses the same servo-motor drive technology adopted across Boy's E-Series, maintaining the same basic approach to energy efficiency despite the simplified configuration.

dr-boy.de

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MAIN TECH LINCE DEPALLETIZERS: "THE PALLET FEEDS THE PROCESS, NOT THE OPERATOR"

Main Tech's Lince range automates the handling and emptying of 25 kg bags, combining different levels of throughput, automation and traceability for plastics and other process industries.

Handling bagged raw materials is still a largely manual operation in many plastics processing plants. Bags are lifted from pallets, opened and emptied one after another, often throughout an entire shift. It is a simple operation only in appearance, as repetitive handling, discontinuous material flow, dust generation and limited process traceability can all affect plant efficiency.
Main Tech addresses this stage of the process with Lince, its range of automatic depalletizers with integrated bag splitting systems. Designed for 25 kg bags, the machines automate pallet unloading, bag opening, material discharge and empty bag removal, with different configurations according to required throughput and level of automation.
The range includes three models, from the compact RSAL4000 to the fully automated RSAC15000, alongside the RSAR robotic system. Together, they are intended for applications in plastics, chemicals, food and pharmaceuticals where bagged materials must be transferred into the production process in a controlled and continuous way.

A COMPANY BUILT AROUND THE PROCESS

Main Tech designs and manufactures systems for the handling and treatment of granular and powdered materials for the plastics, chemical, food and pharmaceutical industries. In plastics, its applications include compounding, rubber production, PVC, film and filament extrusion, rotational moulding, blow and injection moulding, recycling and PET treatment.
Different processes require different approaches to material handling, depending on material behaviour, dust and contamination risks, production rates and the existing plant layout. Main Tech therefore develops its systems around the specific application rather than adopting a standard configuration.
"We do not deliver a product off the shelf: we co-design the solution together with the people who will actually use it", the company explains. The Lince range follows this approach.

THE COST OF MANUAL BAG EMPTYING

In many plants, raw materials still arrive in 25 kg bags that are opened and emptied manually. This operation affects ergonomics, productivity and process consistency, while also increasing the risk of dust dispersion and residual material waste.
Manual handling can also limit traceability, as information on the number of bags emptied, material type and timing is not automatically recorded.

IDENTITY CARD

Model: LINCE
Qualification: Automatic depalletizer
Manufacturer: Main Tech Srl
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Phone: +39 049 7968480
info@maintechsrl.com
www.maintechsrl.com

MACHINE HIGHLIGHTS

LINCE MODEL	CAPACITY (25 kg bags/h)
RSAL4000	200
RSAC9000	450
RSAC15000	600

INCE: ONE FAMILY, THREE SIZES

Lince is Main Tech's range of automatic systems for handling 25 kg bags directly from full pallets. The equipment picks up the bags, cuts them, discharges the material and removes the empty packaging in a continuous cycle.

The material can be transferred to silos or other storage containers, or directly to downstream processing equipment.

The range comprises three models, differentiated by throughput and pallet handling automation.

RSAL4000 is the light version, with a capacity of up to 200 bags/h. It is the most compact model in the range and features front access for pallet loading by manual pallet truck. It is designed for installations where available space is limited or where fully automatic pallet handling is not required.

RSAC9000 has a rated capacity of 350 to 450 bags/h and incorporates a motorised pallet lifter. The pallet is progressively raised towards the gripping unit, allowing bags to be handled layer by layer.

RSAC15000 reaches up to 600 bags/h and adds automatic pallet feeding. An in-line system moves full pallets towards the machine using motorised chain conveyors and can maintain a buffer of pallets awaiting processing. Empty pallets are handled by an automatic stacker.

This configuration reduces the need for operator intervention during continuous operation.

HOW THE CYCLE WORKS

The operating principle is common to the three models. The cycle begins with bag pick-up. A vertically moving plate fitted with a pneumatic gripping system and galvanised steel claws lifts an entire layer of bags. On the RSAC9000 and RSAC15000, the gripping system consists of a trolley-mounted unit equipped with multiple mechanical hooks. The individually patented claws are pneumatically actuated and move along dedicated precision guides. According to Main Tech, the geometry of the hooks allows the system to handle both plastic and paper bags.

Once the layer has been lifted, the trolley locks the gripping plate and moves it horizontally above the cutting unit and collection hopper.

The bags are opened using rotating HSS blades with a diamond knife edge, driven by an electric gearmotor. A pneumatically operated vibrating grid then shakes the opened bags to assist complete material discharge into the hopper below.

The hopper is manufactured from painted steel and equipped with a maximum material level sensor. This allows the bag emptying cycle to remain synchronised with the downstream conveying system.

At the end of the cycle, the empty bags are automatically discharged from the rear of the machine through a dedicated chute and can subsequently be sent to a compactor or granule recovery system.

On the RSAC15000, automation also covers pallet handling upstream and downstream of the machine, with automatic feeding of full pallets and stacking of empty ones.

SAFETY BUILT INTO THE LAYOUT

The pallet positioning area is enclosed by side guards and accessed through a gate equipped with safety closing devices.

On versions fitted with a pallet lifter, safety sensors are installed along the entrance portal, while the lifting mechanism incorporates a mechanical braking system.

The transmission uses maintenance-free

toothed belts driven by an inverter-controlled gearmotor.
The layout is designed to keep the operator outside the areas where lifting and bag opening take place, with these operations carried out inside the protected machine enclosure.

PLC CONTROL, HISTORY AND TRACEABILITY

The operating cycle is managed by a PLC with a graphic touch-screen HMI. The interface controls the working sequence and displays machine status and alarm diagnostics. It also records production information, including the number of bags emptied, date and material type.
These data extend the role of the depalletizer

beyond material handling. Information on the amount and type of material entering the process can be compared with production data, supporting batch management, consumption monitoring and traceability.
An optional barcode reader can also be integrated for material lot identification.

CONFIGURING THE LINE

The base machines can be equipped with a number of optional modules according to the application. For handling empty bags, Main Tech offers a compactor and a rotating drum sieve designed to recover granules remaining inside the packaging before disposal.
On the downstream side, compressor units equipped with rotary dosing valves can be used to transfer material into pressurised silos. Diverter valves automatically select the destination silo, while a decoding system associates the material being emptied with the correct storage unit.
A regenerative inverter unit is also available to recover energy during braking of the pallet lifter. This option is intended particularly for higher-capacity models, where lifting cycles are repeated continuously.

For applications in the food, pharmaceutical and chemical sectors requiring specific hygiene or material compatibility standards, LINCE is also available in a full stainless steel version.

ROBOTIC DEPALLETIZING: THE RSAR

Alongside the Lince range, Main Tech also manufactures robotic depalletizing systems. The RSAR is an automatic system for depalletizing and controlled bag emptying, developed for applications requiring repeatability, autonomy and flexibility in handling different materials.
The system uses a gantry structure manufactured from high-strength electrowelded steel. Movement is provided by precision gearboxes and brushless servomotors.
It can be configured with up to three pallet stations, identified as RSAR1001, RSAR1002 and RSAR1003. This configuration allows pallet replacement operations to take place while the system continues working.
The RSAR handles standard 25 kg bags in both plastic and paper.
One of its features is a bag mapping system, which identifies the position of individual bags even when pallet formation is not completely regular.
The system also uses an integrated pneumatically operated gripping hand. Servo-driven bag rotation is available as an option, allowing the configuration to be adapted to different bulk materials.
Accessible surfaces and simplified geometries are intended to facilitate cleaning and sanitisation and to limit cross-contamination risks.
The electrical cabinet is installed at floor level to simplify diagnostics and maintenance operations.
The system is designed for integration into existing production plants, allowing robotic depalletizing to be added without necessarily changing the entire downstream process.

FOUR SECTORS, ONE HANDLING REQUIREMENT

Lince systems can be used in different industries wherever bagged raw materials have to be continuously transferred into a production process.
In plastics processing, they can feed polymers and granules to extruders, storage systems and other process equipment.
In the chemical industry, applications include the handling of additives and other raw materials supplied in bags.
For food production, the same principles can be applied to powdered ingredients where controlled material handling and cleanliness are required.
Pharmaceutical applications place additional emphasis on controlled handling, traceability and contamination management.
Across these sectors, the common objective is to provide a constant and traceable material flow while reducing manual handling of 25 kg bags.

A MODULAR APPROACH

The Lince family comprises three depalletizer sizes, complemented by the RSAR robotic system and a range of modules for bag handling, material recovery, conveying, storage and traceability.
The final configuration therefore depends on factors such as the material being processed, required throughput, available layout, level of automation and downstream equipment.
Starting from these parameters, Main Tech adapts the bag emptying and depalletizing system to the requirements of the individual production line.
Automating this stage of material handling can reduce repetitive manual operations while providing a more consistent flow of material and additional production data for process control.

maintechsrl.com

SYENSQO AND BUCCI COMPOSITES PARTNER TO ACCELERATE AUTOMOTIVE COMPOSITE MANUFACTURING

The agreement covers the deployment of Syensqo's Double Diaphragm Forming technology and the joint qualification of innovative materials for OEM part production.

Syensqo, a global supplier of advanced materials and chemical solutions, has announced a partnership with Bucci Composites, a company specialising in the design and manufacture of structural composite parts. The agreement includes a licence for Syensqo's Double Diaphragm Forming (DDF) technology and aims to support the development of automotive composite manufacturing through the joint qualification of innovative material solutions with key OEMs.

DDF is Syensqo's advanced composite forming technology. It enables a highly automated, single-step process designed to deliver high-quality, repeatable parts while significantly reducing cycle times. The technology also helps reduce total cost of ownership by simplifying logistics, improving part accuracy and optimising capital investment through integration with existing manufacturing infrastructure.

Building on decades of collaboration between the two companies, Bucci Composites will combine its expertise in composite manufacturing with DDF technology to qualify Syensqo's innovative resin systems tailored for automotive applications.

"Licensing Syensqo's DDF technology and working together on material qualification allows us to strengthen our capabilities and address OEMs' increasing need for higher-volume production of structural parts, bodywork components, battery enclosures and many other applications," said Andrea Bedeschi, Managing Director at Bucci Composites.

Gaurav Unni, Global Sales Leader Automotive Composites at Syensqo, added: "This agreement highlights the value of combining our proprietary DDF technology with advanced prepreg systems to enable faster, more cost-efficient composite manufacturing."

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SIPOL BRINGS HOT-MELT THREAD PRODUCTION TO POLAND FOR THE FOOTWEAR INDUSTRY

With its new Częstochowa plant, established together with Yamako, Sipol is bringing hot-melt adhesive production closer to the main footwear manufacturing hubs in Central and Eastern Europe. The facility replicates the production lines used at the Mortara site and manufactures, among other products, Technipol® materials for lasting applications.

Sipol, a Tecnogi Group company specialising in the polymerisation of high-performance copolyesters and copolyamides, announced at Lineapelle 2026 that its new plant in Częstochowa, Poland, became operational in August 2026. The announcement was made during the Milan trade fair, a major international event for the leather and footwear components supply chain, where Sipol exhibited within the Tecnogi booth.

The new site is the result of a joint venture between Sipol and Yamako, the long-standing distributor of Sipol and Tecnogi products in Central and Eastern Europe. Yamako has extensive knowledge of both the product range and the regional market, making the expansion into Poland a natural development of an established partnership rather than an entry into an entirely new market. The facility houses extrusion lines for hot-melt adhesive threads used in lasting operations in footwear manufacturing.

In recent years, European footwear production has progressively shifted towards Poland, Romania and the Balkans. With the opening of the Częstochowa facility, Sipol is bringing its production capacity closer to these manufacturing hubs, reducing delivery times and strengthening security of supply for local distributors and footwear manufacturers at a time when supply reliability has become an increasingly important competitive factor.

"Sipol is one of the very few companies worldwide to be vertically integrated from polymerisation through to thread extrusion," the company notes. This vertical integration is central to Sipol's positioning: by combining the sale of adhesive thread through its global distributor network with the supply of polymers to thread manufacturers worldwide, the company has established a significant technological presence in the footwear lasting sector in terms of both know-how and market share.

"The Częstochowa plant fully replicates the production lines installed at the Mortara site, ensuring the same quality standards for the range's main products".

These include Technipol® 170 copolyesters, a thermoplastic adhesive used for toe-lasting operations, and Technipol® PA 167 copolyamides, the latter containing more than 80% raw materials from non-edible renewable sources, an increasingly relevant feature for brands pursuing sustainability targets. Sipol's production is also free from organotin compounds and complies with major international standards and requirements, including REACH, RoHS and RSL.

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