Exclusive interviews: Arc, Beatson Clark, Borosil, Gerresheimer, Guardian, HNG Float, O-I, Piramal, Vitrum / Empire and Wiegand-Glas



Modular Concept Redundant System

BATCH AND CULLET TREATMENT SYSTEMS FOR THE GLASS INDUSTRY

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This selection of exhibitors ordered and provided their stand photos in this gallery.

For a full list of exhibitors, visit www.glasstec-online.com

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Marabu screen and pad printing inks for glass.

Marabu unveiled a series of innovations at glasstec, including the Ultra Glass UVGL range of inks, which create a silvery sheen that turns drinking glasses, bottles and flat glass into real eye-catchers. The second development was a thick film or tactile coating that when used to decorate drinking glasses, turns them into something distinctive, with tactile effects. Other Marabu highlights included high gloss metal effects created by hot stamping in conjunction with Ultra Glass UVGL primers, plus an innovative basis top coat for in-line foiling.

The print-ready high-gloss silver from Marabu's Ultra Glass UVGL range is coated with a high transparency, silicone-free UVGL-WV base coat. The silver ink further expands the range's broad colour spectrum and lends an exclusive look and feel to container glass, such as drinking glasses, bottles and flasks and to flat glass products such as mirrors or cupboard doors.

The UVGL ink range's two-component system is versatile and gives rise to strong tactile effects. Designs are pre-applied to container or flat glass by screen printing, then exactly overprinted with a thick film coating and cured with UV light.

Cold-foil transfer, also known as in-line foiling, is a recent innovation and an alternative to traditional finishing processes. Transferring a high gloss foil to container glass prepares the substrate for the application of Marabu's decorative top coatings, available in many shades. In the second (in-line) process step, top coatings are applied by UV screen printing. The result is sparkling metallic finishes in exceptionally vibrant colours.

In recognition of hot stamping's continuing popularity, Marabu showcased some of the dazzling effects it can create in combination with UV inks. The required image or text is screen printed onto the glass surface with Ultra Glass UVGL primer, serving as a type of cliche for the hot foil. The foil is transferred onto the pre-printed ink film, either through roll-on stamping or vertical stamping; the foil only adheres to the areas that were primed with UVGL. The result is a high gloss gold and silver finish.

Also presented was Marabu's Mara Glass MGL solvent-based screen printing ink and the Tampa Glass TPGL pad printing ink. MGL is ideal for high gloss results on flat glass. Durable TPGL ink is suitable for a variety of tasks and performs especially well on rounded objects such as small glass jars for cosmetics.

Marpak and Talos displayed protective packaging for glass manufacturers. Solutions ranged from bottle lines to conveyors, through to packaging machines and polythene protection. Talos introduced the TX1002 transport simulator.

A leading supplier of suspended refractory systems and related furnace equipment, **Merkle International** supplies suspended backwalls, tin bath roofs and other furnace components, as well as blanket batch chargers.

Mersen offered proven solutions for hot glass handling. Under the Cerberite brand, the company has developed a complete range of systems and solutions dedicated to hollow glass production lines.

Metavil has operated in the glass moulds and accessories market since 1977 and presented solutions to challenges set by visitors.

Metra designs and produces moulds. The range on offer at glasstec extended from the design of glass products, including calculating capacities and glass weight, to a complete customised mould apparatus, including engineering, programming and start-up assistance.

Motim Fused Cast Refractories was present at glasstec as a leading producer of fused cast AZS and alumina refractories and refractory castables. In the glass industry, Motim's blocks are used in all melting furnace types;- container, float, tableware and special glass.

MSK Covertech Group

presented the latest generation of its MSK Paratech model. The secret of this shrink hood applicator's success is its simplicity and maintenancefriendliness. Following revision, the machine is now more efficient and is equipped with maintenance-free, hygienic toothed-belt technology. The latest drive technology ensures optimised acceleration and braking operations, which permits optimum dynamics during the hood covering process. For simplified replacement of the welding bar, the machine now has a quick-change mechanism with plug-in connections. >



Simplified replacement of the welding bar on the MSK Paratech shrink hood applicator is possible thanks to specially developed plug-in connections.



The latest generation MSK Paratech shrink hood applicator.

FOCUS ON GERMANY

GW: How important is the expertise of the employees at Thailheim?

We have a team of experts working across Europe. They have extensive knowledge of glass and applications, which is shared with customers everywhere. If we look at the Thalheim team, one of the key developments to which the Thalheim team contributed is a new solution, Guardian System TEA (TEA standing for 'True Edge Application'), showcased at glasstec 2016. Guardian System TEA is a new technology developed with Ferro that reduces the time required for edge enameling of Guardian heat treatable sputtered coated glass and improves the overall final optical appearance of glass units.

GW: How is the Thalheim plant now positioned to take forward Guardian's future activities in Germany? Are any further upgrades already planned for the plant?

We constantly evaluate long-term projections and we invest where we think we can create value for customers, society and Guardian. Our view is optimistic for the next five years and we will invest where demand is growing. A series of recent investment decisions to take steps that will permit modernisation of Thalheim's glass furnace will ensure its competitiveness for decades to come.

GW: How would you describe the environmental performance at Thalheim?

Compliance with applicable environmental laws, as well as working on the implementation of processes that may help to reduce emissions is always our goal.

GW: How do the German activities link with Guardian's other European operations in Hungary, Luxembourg, Poland, Russia, Spain and the UK?

All our plants work together closely in order to share expertise, adopt best practices and optimise resources. We add value for our customers by providing the very best solution.

GW: Are there any 'success stories' from Thalheim that you are particularly proud of?

The energy team at Thalheim took on the challenge to implement a change that required a cross-functional approach, considering new mental models and taking a more holistic view of energy use plant-wide. The team introduced an energy monitoring system to provide real-time feedback of the power usage by the different consumers in the plant and worked in close co-operation with production and maintenance departments to systematically avoid power peaks. For each potential energy saving measure, the team conducted a careful assessment of potential risks to ensure the best possible conditions for implementation. The energy team's actions resulted in significant energy savings.

ExtraClear is a registered trademark.

FURTHER INFORMATION:

Guardian Europe Sàrl, Luxembourg web: www.guardian.lu



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