

SMI'S NEW CUTTING EDGE SOLUTION

ENERGY EFFICIENCY AND ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY PLAY A KEY ROLE IN THE INVESTMENT CHOICES OF EVERY COMPANY.

Yesterday as today, SMI has been the reference point for many food and beverage manufacturers that want to invest in efficient, sustainable and increasingly compact bottling and packaging solutions.

Packaging has been playing a key role in the marketing strategies of all companies of the industry and has increasingly been the focus of attention of a series of European directives that promote the use of renewable materials.

At Drinktec trade fair, SMI will present the new EBS KL ERGON compact stretch-blow moulder for production requirements up to 2,500 bottles/hour per cavity. The new compact blow moulder by SMI is a cutting-edge technical solution that stands out in the reference market for a wide range of advantages: the preform heating section (heating tunnel) is integrated with the stretch-blow moulding section (carousel) into a single, very compact module that makes the system suitable for the installation even in small bottling lines.

The main features of the new range are:

The structure that embeds the heating tunnel and the carousel is equipped with slightly rounded safety doors, which increase the space inside the machine in order to perform cleaning and maintenance operations easily and safely.

The stretch-blow moulding carousel is equipped with motorized stretch rods, whose functioning, controlled by electronic drives, does not require pneumatic cams; this solution ensures a precise management of the stretch rod path and an accurate control of its position, as a well as a considerable energy saving.

Thanks to the cam-free technology it is possible to modify the stretch speed without mechanical interventions (replacement of cams), as the servomotor automatically adjusts according to the production speed (up to 2.4 m/s). This solution reduces the machine vibrations and the adjustments to be performed in case of format changeover.

Mechanical, electrical and pneumatic connections are located in a single area inside the machine frame, where the connections of the utilities are optimally positioned.

Tthe machine can be easily transported in a container, thus saving on transport costs.

The compactness simplifies the installation and set-up operations, that are performed in about two days of work, ensuring a great quality-price ratio.

The stretch-blow moulding system uses high-performance valves with low dead volumes (-50%), that reduce the pre-blowing and blowing times, with advantages in terms of machine performance and quality of the bottles produced.

The mechanical unit of the mould is equipped with its own motorization, that performs with the utmost precision the up/down-motion of the mould bottom and the opening and closing operations of the mould holder unit; innovative solution with advantages in terms of greater precision, lower maintenance, fewer vibration, greater silence and long life of the plant.

New motion system of the grippers, based on preform/bottle grippers without springs equipped with desmodromic cams; this new technical solution optimises the spaces and reduces the diameter in which the grippers move with subsequent lower wear and higher precision in the management of the blow moulder.

Use of plastic bearings that reduce the wear and the vibrations to which the grippers are subject and do not require lubrication.

The adjustment of the blowing pressure according to the bottle format is automatic with undoubted advantages compared to the solutions with manual adjustment on the linear blowers.

Air recovery single-stage system installed as a standard device.

Plant managed by Motornet System® automation and control system that ensures the constant maintenance of optimal working parameters during the whole production cycle and the direct modification of the machine parameters, easy format changeover operations and possibility to temporarily disable one or more moulds in case of need.

Simple and intuitive Posyc® operator interface.

The machine is equipped with an energy consumption counter that allows to detect the electric consumption of the heating tunnel only or of the whole blower and to compare the consumption of different recipes.

The preform heating section and the stretch-blow moulding section are integrated in a single module and stands out for several advantages:

The compact design ensures high speeds despite the reduced space.

The preform feeding system is equipped with adjustments by means of position numeric counters, that speed up the format changeover operations.

Staggered position of the spindles which allows to adopt optimised chain pitches according to the preform diameter and to shorten the heating tunnel length, thus reducing the number of preforms inside the heating tunnel, as well as the waste and the consumption.

The preform gripping spindle unit is equipped with a new system of diffusers, without spheres and with gasket, for the heat dissipation, which allows to significantly reduce the component wear.

The infrared lamp units for heating the preforms in transit are equipped with thermo-reflective panels made of highly energy efficient ceramic material, placed on the lamp front and rear. This solution ensures a high reflection of the heat generated by a more uniform distribution of the heat over the entire surface of the preform.

New ventilation system of the heating tunnel equipped with high-capacity centrifugal fans, that take fresh air from the bottom and channel it to preform body and neck. This system reduces the temperature of the preform neck with advantages in terms of thickness optimization and elimination of the ovalization and deformation of the preform neck and ring.

EBS KL range: the advantages at a glance, reduced size, easy and fast format changeover, lower maintenance, considerable energy saving, saving on transport costs (a container is enough), fast and economic installation and start up, better blowing quality, easy and intuitive management, predictive maintenance and greater precision in the operations.

VP - Commercial

Embion, a leader in the development of upcycled food production byproducts from previously undervalued and underutilised food and beverage processing streams, has strengthened its commercial division with the appointment of Dr. Frederic Narbel as Vice President – Commercial.

The role will see Fred drive and together with the team, execute the commercial strategy in line with the established long-term goals of the business. The appointment comes as Embion has embarked on the roll-out of its catalytic platform technology and feed material Prembion™, which support the company's transition from an R&D to a commercial organisation.

George Savoglidis, Embion CEO and co-founder, commented on the

appointment, "Embion keeps investing into our most valuable asset: our people. We are continually expanding our team and gearing up to deliver on a global scale positive impact for humankind and the planet and we are delighted to welcome Fred to our team. He brings with him a wealth of knowledge along with a stellar record in growing sales in the highly dynamic and innovative field of functional ingredients."