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**It's Home-Coming
for PlastIndia**

PLASTICS TODAY

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UFlex-Asepto to set up the World's Fastest & India's First U-Shape Paper Straw Line for its Aseptic Liquid Cartons

Goes green with the initiative of U-shape paper straw line at Sanand, Gujarat
New product line to address the challenge of restrictions on use of plastic straws



UFlex Asepto, sets up world's fastest & India's first U-Shape paper straw line for aseptic liquid packages.

Noida, April 19, 2022: UFlex Limited, India's largest flexible packaging material solution and polymer science company, has announced its initiative to bring a

sustainable change to its fold by setting up India's first U-shaped paper straw manufacturing line for its aseptic liquid packaging business. The manufacturing line is being set up at its existing

aseptic liquid packaging plant in Sanand, Gujarat.

By becoming India's first and world's fastest-speed line Ushaped paper straw manufacturing company, UFlex

through its aseptic liquid packaging brand Asepto continues its efforts to create a sustainable and clean environment. The paper straw manufacturing line will boast of fully automated Dutch technology, offering a production capacity of approximately 2.4 billion straws annually.

The sizes available in U-Shape paper straws will be 145mm and 165mm that will be attached to and utilized for portion packs for juices and other beverages. UFlex paper straws will be food grade, moisture-resistant and made from sustainably sourced papers, which are 100% recyclable.

On the launch of the new line, Ashwani Kumar Sharma, President & CEO, Aseptic Liquid Packaging Business, UFlex Ltd, said, "In the wake of prohibitions on use of single use plastic coming into force across the world, including Indian government upholding its decision to not exempt some plastic straws from the impending ban, this move by UFlex is not just significant but also timely. With the launch of U-shaped paper straws, we are ready to change the dynamics of the industry. We are constantly looking for strategic ways to improve the environmental performance of our products and create avenues for superior, convenient, and sustainable packaging. The line's installation for ready-to-drink aseptic liquid packaging at our Sanand facility is a great example of our company's commitment toward

creating better and safer products for our future generations."

"After the successful installation and commissioning, we aim to attain 100 million straw production in the first month and raise it to 200 million in the next couple of months. We aim to produce 2.4 billion straws annually. The aesthetics and quality of the product are at par with global standards," he further added.

UFlex-Asepto is importing the machinery and equipment from Tembo Paper B.V, which is a leading European company and next generation Dutch Technology, around the globe. On the announcement, Pierre Mousson, Managing Director, Tembo Paper B.V. commented, "We are delighted to be partnering with UFlexAsepto to put up India's first high-volume U-Shape paper straw line. With global restrictions on single-use plastics changing, a long-term solution is urgently required. By combining our significant knowledge and strengths, we are enthusiastic to work together to promote and execute sustainable solutions. In the long run, this cooperation would carve out a significant position in the Indian market for mutual business success."

Ashok Chaturvedi, Chairman and Managing Director, UFlex Ltd. remarked, "Sustainability is one of the foundation pillars at UFlex, and we are witnessing that our aseptic liquid packaging industry is progressively moving towards more environment friendly initiatives. Therefore,

our emphasis is strongly on ensuring long-term viability of the entire value chain. The paper straws have created a huge impact in the global markets, and we are expecting the Indian market to mirror similar sentiments. As a responsible packaging solutions corporation, we are committed to support our beverage customers globally, and fulfil consumer and regulatory needs by increasing the environmental performance of their packaging while reducing their carbon footprint. This is another step toward achieving our mega goal to go green."

In FY2021, UFlex had earlier announced doubling of its aseptic liquid packaging capacity to 7bn packs per annum in Sanand and the project which is near completion is undergoing trial runs currently. The latest paper-straw line initiative by UFlex will catapult aseptic liquid packaging industry into a different league altogether and will go on to add yet another sustainable edge to UFlex' business approach.

About Asepto

Asepto is the Liquid Packaging brand from the house of UFlex Limited. It is the first Indian manufacturer of aseptic liquid packaging material with a state-of-the-art facility in the industrial hub of Sanand in Gujarat. Its offering is designed to deliver user convenience, easy opening and optimal shelf life to products like juices, non-aerated alcoholic beverages and highly perishable liquid consumables like milk and other dairy products.

The facility is equipped with

latest top of the line converting machines capable of manufacturing truly world class aseptic packs for its customers.

UFlex Chemicals Introduce Zero Liquid Discharge Technology at its Noida Facility for Water & Environmental Protection Saving 20 kilolitre of water everyday

15 March 2022, Noida, India: Driven by the aim to attain water sustainability and reduce its consumption and pollution, the Chemicals production unit of UFlex situated in Noida is now a Zero Liquid Discharge (ZLD) facility. ZLD is a strategic waste water management system that ensures that there is no discharge of industrial wastewater into the environment, which is why UFlex has proactively adopted this technology to significantly reduce their freshwater consumption by recognizing the importance of wastewater purification and recycling. The Chemicals plant that has adopted ZLD technology has started saving close to 20 kilolitres of water/day.

UFlex' Chemicals business develops eco-friendly, sustainable and food-safe compliant inks, adhesives, coatings and biodegradable packaging solutions such as primers, barrier, gloss and heat-seal coatings which are ecologically conscious with a lower carbon footprint. While UFlex has been making a conscious effort to bring down the use of water while developing these solutions, with the implementation of ZLD



technique the plant has ensured that no liquid waste is eliminated and its maximizes water usage efficiency.

The zero liquid discharge Chemical plant uses a 100% supply of effluent treated water of Sewage treatment plant (STP) as well as Effluent treatment plant (ETP). It is subsequently treated through the combination of technologies like Membrane Bio-Reactor (MBR), Reverse osmosis (RO), and Agitated Thin Film Dryer (AFTD). The permeate good quality water which is the final product derived is thus re-used in boiler feed, cooling tower makeup water, and fume hoods; without being discharged into the municipal sewer thereby putting the discarded water back to use. The rejected water is converted in to solid waste residue via evaporation process which is in turn discarded as hazardous waste (as per the regulatory norms).

Expressing his delight on this new development, Rajesh

Bhasin, Joint President, Chemicals Business at UFlex commented, "At UFlex Chemicals, we are proud to announce that our Noida Production has achieved the status of a Zero Liquid Discharge facility. We have adopted this technology to contribute positively to the environment by considerably reusing and recycling waste water in order to save groundwater consumption and is a big move for us in reducing our overall water consumption and ensuring that wastewater does not get discarded into the environment. We are working hard to follow the circular economy model at our facility and systematically implement means that are environmentally conscious so that we can conserve our natural resources for the future. Progressing further, we look forward to implementing the ZLD technology in our other production facilities as well, in order to contribute towards a sustainable future." ■