# India's Premier Magazine for Modern Packaging

**FSSAI TO INTROE** 'FRONT-OF-PACKAG LABEL' IN INDIA



Interview with Dinesh Mungi of B&R Industrial Automation



Interview with Jens Bauer of BillerudKorsnäs



Interview with Sanjay Gupta of DS Group



REVEALS NEW PRODUCTS AND SOLUTIONS

## UFlex commissions BOPET films plant in Nigeria

Flex, India's largest multinational and a global leader in polymer sciences, has commissioned its BOPET film manufacturing plant in the Ogun State of Nigeria with a production capacity of 45,000 TPA. Spread over 37 acres, the plant houses a first-of-its-kind 10.6-meter wide BOPET film line in Africa and also has two metallizers with a total production of 15000 TPA. The plant that created over 200 direct jobs, is set to cater to the packaging film demand coming from the fast-growing economy of Nigeria, ECOWAS (Western Africa) and the USA.

In Q2 2021, UFlex also added a fleet of new value-added products and solutions to its portfolio.

### FLEXIBLE PACKAGING BUSINESS

High-barrier mono-material recyclable bag for snack packaging for KIMS — UFlex has developed a mono-

material bag for Danish brand KIMS for its snacks packaging segment for the European market. UFlex claims that the 'high-barrier packaging' is made of mono-material under polypropylene extreme and bears recyclable 'logo 5' mark enabling easy recycling in the existing polypropylene recycling streams while ensuring that the snack packed remains fresh as ever. The snack packs are being used by KIMS to pack food products such as chips, wafers etc.

MOPE-based mono-polymer recyclable bag for large quantity rice packaging for EBRO — UFlex has developed a new MOPE/PE recyclable structure with registered matt coating and special PE mono-polymer-based laminate film for EBRO rice brand Peacock. In the company's view, the newly developed structure possesses similar mechanical and other properties allowing easy recyclability of PE in conventional extruder and easy run on existing packaging line with minor adjustments. According to UFlex, the new structure has cleared

all tests related to handling, post filling of the pack content, and has successfully fulfilled required barrier properties throughout the defined shelf life of the packed rice thus positioning itself as a suitable packaging application for large quantities.

50% higher barrier PET film structure for Asal Coin Parota—Frozen and refrigerated food needs a special barrier structure to pack the food content such that it doesn't lose it integrity even months after opening it. Customizing the requirement for the brand Milky Mist, UFlex says it has developed a three-side sealed pouch packaging structure to pack Asal Coin Parota through use of a special high barrier PET film that increases the barrier properties by 50% under ambient conditions and allowing the parota to stay fresh for a longer duration.

Value added packaging in two sizes for Fidele Pet Food — UFlex has developed two packaging sizes of 3 kg and 12 kg to pack pet food for the brand Fidele. The packaging structure comprises of specialized Matt finished PET polyester and its pocket slider allows reclose-ability thereby adding to consumer's convenience. The side gusset handle in the 3 kg variant helps easy carrying and pouring whereas the 12 kg variant comes with bottom pinch pasting allowing multi-dimensional display thus helping the brand to leverage as much branding opportunity as it can and make it stand out on the retail shelves.

Transparent high-barrier laminate sachet to pack dairy whitener for Namaste India Foods - To enhance the

ease attached with use of dairy whitener, UFlex has manufactured a transparent high-barrier laminate to pack 26 gms of Gold Standard Dairy Whitener for Namaste India Foods. The packaging structure allows the brand owner to showcase the product through a see-through window and at the same time provide the barrier required for packaged dairy whitener.

### PACKAGING FILMS BUSINESS

Flex Films USA launched its patented BOPET high barrier film F-UHB-M, designed to replace aluminum foil in flexible packaging applications. With its new

specially formulated BOPET structure, UFlex claims F-UHB-M comes with superior gas and water barrier while achieving one of the lowest oxygen and moisture barrier values (0.1 cc/ m2-day & 0.1 gm/ m2-day respectively) and industry-leading metal adhesion of 1200 gm/25 mm that aids improvement and extension of product shelf-life. In the company's view, F-UHB-M helps the converting industry to move from a 'difficult to recycle 4-ply laminate structure with aluminum foil' to a 'much simpler, easily recyclable 3-ply laminate structure comprising of F-UHB-M film' without compromising on barrier performance.

LISTS 30 ITEMS TO BE SOLD WITHOUT PLASTIC PACKAGING

## France to ban plastic packaging fruit and vegetables from January 2022

rance will ban plastic packaging for nearly all fruit and vegetables from January 2022 in a bid to reduce plastic waste, the environment ministry said on 11 October 2021. Implementing a February 2020 law, the government published a list of about 30 fruits and vegetables that will have to be sold without plastic packaging from 1 January 2022. The list includes leeks, aubergines and round tomatoes as well as apples, bananas and oranges.

"We use an outrageous amount of single-use plastic in our daily lives. The circular economy law aims at cutting back the use of throwaway plastic and boost its substitution by other materials or reusable and recyclable packaging," the ministry said in a statement.

It estimated that 37% of fruit and vegetables are sold with packaging and expects that the measure will prevent more than one billion useless plastic packaging items per year.

French fruit sellers federation president Francois Roch said switching to cardboard will be difficult in such a short time. "Also, selling loose produce is complicated as many customers touch the fruit and

people do not want their fruit to be touched by other customers," she said.

The packaging ban is part of a multi-year government programme to phase out plastic. From 2021, France banned plastic straws, cups and cutlery, as well as styrofoam takeaway boxes. Cut fruits and a limited number of delicate fruits and vegetables can still be sold with plastic packaging for now but that will be phased out by end June 2026.

Plastic packaging will be banned by end June 2023 for cherry tomatoes, green beans and peaches, and by end 2024 for endives, asparagus, mushrooms, some salads and herbs as well as cherries. End June 2026, raspberries, strawberries and other delicate berries must be sold without plastic.

From 2022, public spaces must provide water fountains to reduce the use of plastic bottles; press and publicity publications must be shipped without plastic wrapping, while fast-food restaurants can no longer offer free plastic toys. From January 2023, France will also ban throwaway crockery in fast-food restaurant for meals consumed on-site.



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