

Official Magazine of Indian Flexible Packaging And Folding Carton Manufacturers Association

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Packaging A Continuous Enabler for Value Creation

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Editorial

Packaging – A Continuous Enabler for Value Creation

onsume packaging has evolved rapidly over last 50 years and has become the integral part of the consumer industry. It is impossible to imagine any consumer product without an appropriate packaging to carry it to markets and to consumers. With continuous evolution of packaging sector supported by innovations, the consume packaging has been a continuous enabler to consumer industry. It enabled the products to reach in all parts of the country and even all parts of the world. There have been continuous innovations in the areas like raw materials, converting machineries, forms and shapes, printing technologies, shelf life improvements, etc. paving the way for explosion in the consumer packaging industry.

Today, Consumer packaging is everywhere in our lives. Maximum number of consumer products are found either in plastic/ flexible packaging or carton packaging. We cannot imagine life without these packaging materials. The convenience of Flexible /Carton packaging makes them a preferred choice compared to its nearest alternative which is either paper or Aluminium. Today we see the trends like, shift to flexible packaging, enhanced functional properties, enhanced shelf appeal, improvement of aesthetic values, sustainability, intelligent packaging and so on.

Packaging is the fifth largest sector in Indian economy and is one of the highest growth sectors in the country. Most industry experts foresee continued growth in Packaging, particularly, the Flexible packaging and Carton packaging industry, fueled by: increasing consumer demands for convenient packages, an industry push for sustainable, shelf-ready product designs. A growing customer base for fast-moving consumer products in emerging countries is another factor projected to drive the global market.

Why is packaging so essential in the today's consumer driven world of brands and marketing strategies? No doubt the packaging materials have so many attributes essential for the consumer products. Greater convenience, supply chain efficiencies, enhanced branding, product security, improved shelf-life and freshness, production efficiencies to handle large volumes through mechanization of filling processes are some of the key attribute of the consumer packaging.

While designing the products one must consider important issues related to the packaging, such as, packaging legislation, safety, reliability, consume acceptance, packaging waste management and environment protection, supply-chain integration, and costs.

It is a great challenge to design an appropriate packaging for any product. The key attributes and the key issues are required to be considered while selecting and designing the consumer packaging. This requires a great amount of team work from brand owners and the suppliers.

Opportunities are great! No doubt, the packaging will continue to remain a great boon for the consumer product industry.

Vilas Dighe (Editor)





IFCA STAR AWARDS 2021

UFLEX LTD PICKS UP RECORD 18 AWARDS DURING THE AWARD CEREMONY HELD ON 3RD DECEMBER IN DELHI AT PRAGATI MAIDAN

Congratulations to all the winners

















Uflex Press Release



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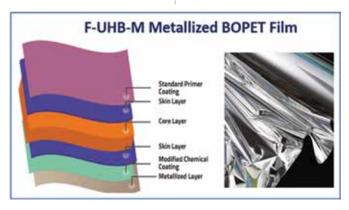
Flex Films Launches Metallic Polyester Ultra-high Barrier Film 'F-UHB-M' for Aluminium Foil Replacement

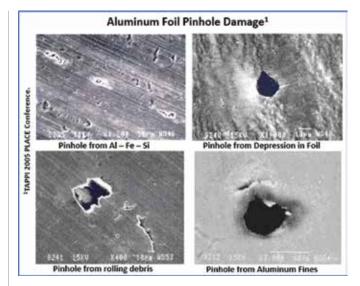
 $\tilde{~}$ A high value proposition recyclable film packed with industry leading barrier and metal bond performance, economic benefits and sustainability quotient $\tilde{~}$

{Kentucky, USA, Oct 21, 2021}- Flex Films, the global film manufacturing arm of flexible packaging giant UFlex, launched its new avant-garde patented BOPET high barrier film F-UHB-M, designed to replace aluminium foil in flexible packaging applications. To be manufactured in Flex Films Kentucky plant and supplied across the world, F-UHB-M addresses challenges of the Converting Industry that has relied for long on aluminium foil for packaging despite several of its limitations including material availability, high material cost, weak integrity, propensity for in-use pinhole formation and difficulty in recycling.

With its new specially formulated bi-axially oriented, polyester (BOPET) structure, 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/25mm that aids improvement and extension of product shelflife. Barrier performance is retained after incorporation of F-UHB-M into a multilaver laminate structure demonstrating excellent handling, machinability and resistance to pin-hole formation.

Flex Films' novel film offers a thickness of 12 microns and coating technology together with a very high optical density is compatible with a wide range of inks and adhesives, has better machinability and handling during processing, generates lesser scrap during production, comes with good flex crack resistance, has 20% increased puncture





resistance vs BOPET grades, an advanced in-line inspection mechanism in place to ensure consistency in barrier properties; and far less pinhole density than aluminium foils making it less susceptible to gases and water vapour leakages. All of these lend the new BOPET film a strong competitive edge and makes it suitable for a whole host of flexible packaging applications, particularly the ones dominated by laminate comprising of aluminium foil, placing it among the best in packaging film industry.

Besides superior barrier performance and bond strength, F-UHB-M offers multiple benefits for customers ranging from cost efficiency, higher sustainability quotient to efficient use in logistics and e-commerce. One of the biggest challenges that the packaging film industry faces today is reducing food wastage through enhanced shelf-life of food products yet reducing packaging material consumption through laminate rationalization. F-UHB-M helps Converting industry move from a 'difficult to recycle 4-ply laminate structure with aluminum foil' to a 'much simpler, easily recyclable 3-ply laminate structure with F-UHB-M film' without compromising on barrier performance, thus helping the customer achieve reduced laminate weight and

Uflex Press Release



lesser cost with minimized carbon footprint.

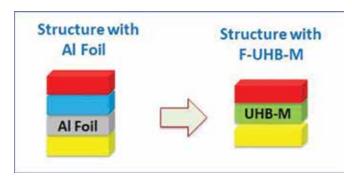
While the new high barrier film's protective oxygen and moisture barrier system helps lock in flavours and aroma of food products for longer than those of products packaged in aluminium foils, the high metal bond strength ensures no delamination making the laminate a lot more secure and packed product safe and retain quality. These advantages come in very handy for e-commerce industry for which transporting products long distances in a safe and efficient way, without any damages, to their consumers is the name of the game.

As against traditional aluminium foils, the materials cost of F-UHB-M is less impacted by price fluctuations, allowing the customer to make better cost forecasts. With a better yield per unit area, F-UHB-M will prove to be a highly costeffective film.

The film which is FDA compliant has been made to suit customer needs for applications in medical packaging; packaging for dried and powdered items like dried meats, coffee, yeast, snacks and nuts; energy drinks packaging; vacuum insulated panels; bag-in-box and many more.

Talking about the benefits of this innovation, Vijay Yadav, Business Head, FLEXFILMS (USA) Inc. said, "Gathering market intelligence, the need to find a better replacement for conventional aluminium foil was established which otherwise comes with guite a few limitations besides being highly sensitive to damages often compromising the barrier performance of packaging. While developing high barrier F-UHB-M, priority was given to upscale the barrier properties matching that of an aluminum foil to deliver the best packaging experience to our customers. Our teams have worked extensively on creating a real high value-added film with numerous benefits so that our converting partners gain from reduced manufacturing cost, much better performance and achieve economies of scale while going sustainable with their packaging, at the same time. This film will act as a gamechanger in the packaging industry, giving the industry a product like never before."

Adding to it on the new film's potential, Anantshree Chaturvedi, Vice Chairman & CEO. Flex Films said. "We are in business of offering solutions to challenges that packaging faces and one that complements evolving market needs. Customer centric innovation helps us in introducing products





Vacuum Insulating Panel

that caters to the specific requirements of our clients. The F-UHB-M film has been developed keeping in mind the enhanced safety parameters and lesser complexities that convertors want and green packaging that consumer seeks. With this film, we are accelerating our innovation strategy and delivering a solution that is sustainable and costeffective.

The film was showcased at Pack Expo 2021 in Las Vegas in September 2021 and received an overwhelming response from visitors.

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About Flex Films:

Flex Films is the global film manufacturing arm of India's largest multinational

its cumulative production capacity stands in excess of 4,65,000 TPA. The company is expanding its global footprint further with new plants in Nigeria & South of India.

Flex Films has been serving its patrons with impeccable finesse and offers various range of packaging films including Polyester (BOPET), BOPP, CPP, Metallized, Alox Coated, Holography and other high performance Specialty Films and Green films(PCR grade Asclepius and Mono-material films).

For more details, click on: https://www.flexfilm.com/







UFlex teams up with Hoffer Plastics and Mespack to launch 100% Recyclable Mono-polymer Hot-fill Pouches

 $\widetilde{}$ To be showcased at Flex Films Booth N-9115, Live demo at Mespack 4029 in the Duravant Booth @ Pack Expo 2021 in Las Vegas $\widetilde{}$

{Noida, India & Barcelona, Spain; 27 September 2021}:

Flex, India's largest multinational in flexible packaging and a global polymer sciences corporation has partnered with Mespack, an international manufacturer of flexible packaging, endof-line, and soluble pods equipment for consumerpackaged goods companies serving the world's leading brands and Hoffer Plastics, an industry leader and innovator in the custom injection molding industry, to develop a sustainable solution that will ease out the complexities of recycling attached with hot-fill pouches. To address the issue of full recyclability of pouches, the three titans have jointly developed a turnkey solution that not just enables 100% recyclability of hot-fill pouches with its new mono-polymer structure but also the spout caps thus bringing many ecologically responsible brands closer to reaching their sustainability goals.

Commonly, hot-fill pouches are used to pack ready-to-eat food segment allowing sterile packaging of a range of fresh, cooked, or semi-cooked food, iuices and drinks, and is used as an alternative to traditional industrial canning methods. The utility of hot-fill pouch has outshined the expectations of consumers due to the functionality of easy storage and direct consumption of food content after heating it within the pack itself.

> MONO-POLYMER RECYCLE READY POUCH

The newly designed **Recycle Ready Single** Material PP-based Hotfill Pouch combines the strength of OPP & CPP layered laminate structure designed by UFlex offering enhanced barrier properties, easy heat seal-ability and longer shelf life for unrefrigerated food storage; Sealed with patented closures from Hoffer Plastics' in the form of tamper evident strong seal spout caps; and Produced

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with mechanical integrity of Mespack HF-series fill and seal machine that allows efficient fill through the spout of pre-made pouches. The new design offers 100% easy recyclability of the laminate and spout cap as well within existing PP recycling streams and infrastructures. These pouches manufactured at UFlex India plant will be exported to American markets and will be majorly used for packing edible products such as baby food, food puree, pet food etc.

Thanks to Mespack technology, the HF Series is completely developed and designed to work with recyclable materials, and due to the continuous through the spout filling, up to 15% of the headspace is reduced by eliminating the wave effect.

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