Volume 19 • Issue 3 • 6 March 2025

₹200 **Fackagii** South ASIA The Magazine for Modern Packaging



Refill pack trial in Indonesia



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AIPIA Congress in Amsterdam – 23 and 24 June 2025

Holographic effects' success stories from Amazon, UFlex and Big Bull Rice!

Holographic labels have been around for a long time and are often overlooked as a first line of defence against counterfeiting. Of course, these days, there are highly sophisticated holographics and often they are used in alignment with other smart security technologies such as NFC and QR codes. However as a cost effective and easy to apply initial security measure they continue to be a highly successful anti-counterfeit measure – as three recent stories sent to AIPIA remind us.

Andrew Manly

mazon, as one of the world's largest online marketplaces, unfortunately, has also become a hub for counterfeit goods. Unscrupulous sellers use deceptive tactics to pass off fake items as the real thing, from electronics and fashion accessories to health and beauty products. For consumers, buying counterfeit goods can lead to unsafe experiences, wasted money and a loss of trust in online shopping. Holographic labels offer a powerful tool to help consumers instantly verify authenticity, says AIPIA member, 3DAG, a leading exponent of nano and holographic technology.

While Amazon has taken several steps to address this issue—such as requiring transparency programs and implementing anti-counterfeit technologies—it's still difficult for consumers to identify counterfeits by just looking at product images or reading descriptions. So holographic labels, can incorporate advanced visual and functional features that are difficult to replicate without specialized expertise. High-security holograms can feature intricate designs, microtext, and serialized codes that offer both visual confirmation and digital verification of authenticity.

Many holographic labels today are integrated with a QR code or NFC chip that provides digital verification. Scanning these codes with a smartphone connects to an official webpage that confirms the product's authenticity. Some holograms include self-destructing elements that change or destroy upon tampering attempts, making it obvious if a label has been removed or altered.

With the rise of counterfeit goods on Amazon, holographic security labels have emerged as one of the most effective tools for protecting consumers and brands. Additionally, holographic labels contribute to supply chain transparency. Integrating holograms with blockchain-based tracking makes it easy for brands to manage stock authenticity and for consumers to verify real products.

UFlex

According to Jeevaraj Pillai, director, sustainability, president, flexible packaging and new product development at UFlex, counterfeit pharmaceuticals pose a severe threat to public health, brand integrity, and regulatory frameworks. The illicit trade of fake drugs, which has grown in both scale and sophistication, demands robust countermeasures to protect consumers and secure the supply chain. Anti-



Packaging is integrated with a QR code or NFC chip that provides digital verification.

counterfeit packaging has emerged as a critical strategy to address this challenge.

In response, UFlex has developed advanced solutions, including integrating overt and covert features in packaging. Holographic films are employed at various levels of sophistication to enhance security. Overt features, visible to the naked eye, enable consumers to verify authenticity effortlessly. These include standard holographic films which is Level 1. Customized holographic films with brand-specific patterns as Level 2 and advanced holographic films with Fresnel lenses for unique, replication-resistant designs as Level 3. Covert features, on the other hand, remain hidden and require specialized tools for verification, such as micro text, hidden text, and UV ink printing that reveals details under ultraviolet light. Together, these overt and covert features provide a robust, multi-layered solution to ensure product authenticity and combat counterfeiting effectively, added Pillai.

Big Bull Rice

Big Bull Rice, a leading rice brand of the TGI group in Nigeria, recently introduced a holographic seal on its packaging as a strategic move to bolster the confidence of distributors across the country. This seal is considered a critical step in maintaining the integrity of the brand against market counterfeiting.

"Our distributors are the backbone of our business, and their trust in our products is invaluable. The launch of the holographic seal on Big Bull Rice has been a significant step in ensuring authenticity and quality, and the response from our distributors across Nigeria has been incredibly encouraging," Probal Bhattacharya, chief marketing officer, TGI Group, explained.

He stated further that the introduction of the security feature has helped to secure Big Bull Rice's position as a trusted choice among both distributors and consumers. According to him, the holographic seal is designed to be a visible assurance of quality, making it easier for distributors to verify the authenticity of each bag of rice before it reaches the market.



Big Bull Rice pouches with security features

First published on the AIPIA.info website on 17 February 2025. The forthcoming AIPIA Congress in Amsterdam will take place on 23 and 24 June 2025.



CELLAXY IN DUAL OPERATION WITH HELIOKLISCHOGRAPH SYSTEMS.

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Some things are simply made for each other – a duet in perfect harmony. The Cellaxy C500 and HelioKlischograph K500 are a great example. When used together, the C500 works optimally with the K500 and even the K5 Smart, perfectly enhancing the opportunities offered by high-performance electromechanical cylinder engraving with the features of an extremely high-performance direct laser.

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Diversifying into offset, narrow web, corrugation, décor and construction segments

UFlex Chemicals' sustainable packaging solutions at Printpack

t Printpack India 2025, UFlex Chemicals Business unveiled its latest range of UV and UV LED printing inks, designed for sheetfed, narrow web, letterpress, screen, and web offset printing applications. The company showcased its advanced UV coatings tailored for décor and construction applications, alongside a variety of water-based specialty inks and coatings with oil and grease resistance, as well as heat-sealing properties. UFlex also introduced its water-based lamination adhesives, ideal for paper bags, rigid boxes, and monocarton applications.

"With increasing environmental regulations in the packaging industry, UFlex Chemicals is committed to offering eco-friendly and sustainable solutions, including water-based and UV-LED packaging technologies," said Rajesh Srivastava, senior vice president, Chemicals Business, UFlex.

"Switching to water-based solutions helps significantly reduce solvent emissions and energy consumption. Another key initiative is our LED-based inks for offset, narrow web, and flexible packaging. LED curing not only reduces energy costs but also lowers carbon emissions compared to conventional UV lamps," he added.

As a manufacturer of inks, adhesives, and coatings, UFlex Chemicals continues to expand beyond flexible packaging into the construction, décor, offset printing, narrow web, and corrugation segments. "Sustainability remains a core focus for us, and we are working to reduce our carbon footprint through energy consumption initiatives, knowledge sharing, and eco-friendly solutions," Srivastava said.

Looking ahead, UFlex Chemicals is focused on expanding its R&D capabilities, enhancing product development, and strengthening its distribution network. "The response to our new products at Printpack India 2025 was overwhelmingly positive. This strong interest highlights the growing demand in these markets, and we are excited to explore these opportunities further," he noted.

UFlex Chemicals Business, founded in 1994 and headquartered in Noida, is a provider of flexible packaging inks, water-based, solvent-less, and solvent-based adhesives, and specialty UV-LED Coatings for sheetfed offset, letterpress, and narrow web applications, serving customers worldwide.

Its primary focus is on developing sustainable technology, customized products, IS 15495:2020 compliant food-safe toluene-free inks, and providing on-site support.

– Priyanka Tanwar

For commercial printing and packaging applications

Hubergroup launches Dynamica ink series at Printpack

ubergroup has officially launched its new ink series, Dynamica, at Printpack India, marking its global debut in the country. The innovative ink is designed for high-speed, high-production commercial printing and packaging applications. Speaking at the event, Richard Gill and Prasanta Sarkar of Hubergroup highlighted the significance of this launch. "Dynamica is a newly developed, color-intensive, and fast-setting ink series tailored for high-quality books, brochures, and catalogs," said Gill. He said extensive beta testing had





senior vice president, Chemicals Business, UFlex at Printpack India 2025