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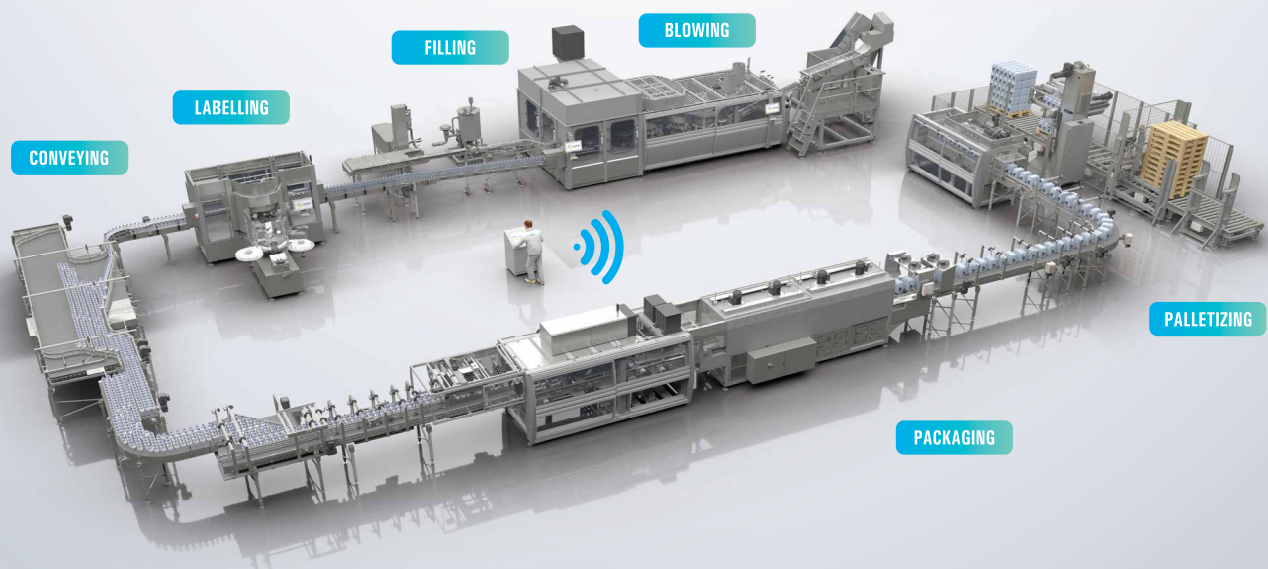
DAIRY

PACKAGING



IMPROVING YOUR PRODUCTION EFFICIENCY IS EASY WITH SMI.

OUR BOTTLING AND PACKAGING SYSTEMS BENEFIT FROM INDUSTRY 4.0 AND IOT TECHNOLOGIES, CAN PROCESS RECYCLABLE MATERIALS SUCH AS RPET AND ALLOWS FOR CONSIDERABLE ENERGY SAVINGS. FIND OUT OUR SOLUTIONS FOR PACKING A WIDE RANGE OF CONTAINERS UP TO 55,000 BOTTLES/HOUR.



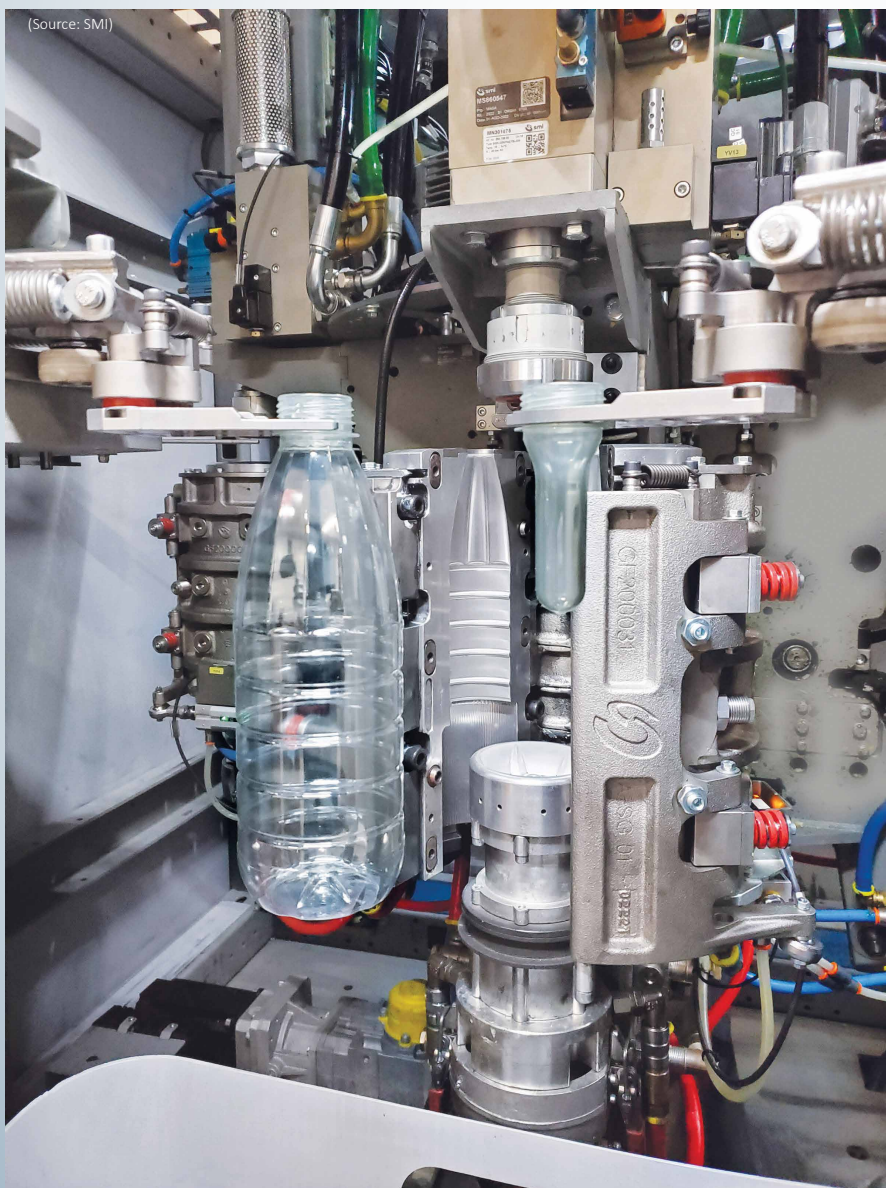
Latteria Sociale Valtellina Brings PET Production In-House

Latteria Sociale Valtellina is bringing PET bottle production in-house as part of an investment focused on logistics, packaging and environmental performance. The Italian dairy cooperative has installed an SMI EBS 4 K ERGON rotary stretch-blow moulder at its Postalesio plant to produce 0.5 L and 1 L PET bottles for milk and 0.48 L bottles for kefir. The move connects packaging production more closely with the cooperative's existing dairy operations.

Founded in 1979, Latteria Sociale Valtellina works with more than 110 barns across the provinces of Sondrio, Lecco and Como. The cooperative collects fresh mountain milk from its members and bottles



(Source: SMI)



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products at Postalesio. Its stated approach combines traditional dairy production with ongoing investment, including attention to animal welfare, local mountain territories and environmental management. For milk packaging, the company has selected PET and identifies RPET50, containing 50% recycled material, for bottle production.

The collaboration with SMI changes how the containers are supplied. Previously, finished bottles were purchased externally and transported to the dairy. With the EBS 4 K ERGON system, the company purchases PET preforms and produces the bottles on site. According to the source material, preforms occupy approximately one-twentieth of the volume of the finished container and are transported in reusable crates. Each trip can carry 497,952 preforms, compared with 38,016 blown bottles, resulting in a reported 92.4% reduction in trips for

SMI's stretch-blow molding system enables the Italian dairy cooperative to produce PET bottles on site while reducing bottle transport requirements.



the same number of pieces.

The logistics change is therefore central to the investment. By eliminating regular shipments of empty finished bottles, Latteria Sociale Valtellina has reduced transport requirements and optimized its internal supply flow. The project also gives the dairy greater control over bottle production and format management.

The SMI system incorporates Motor-Net System® automation, which maintains processing parameters during production and allows operators to

modify settings from the control panel. It also supports format changeovers and the temporary disabling of individual molds. The Posyc® interface is designed for parameter adjustments and routine and scheduled maintenance.

Operational efficiency is further addressed in the preform heating section. Integrated with the stretch-blow molding unit, it uses a horizontal conveyor and an optimized ventilation and aeration system. Heat-reflecting composite panels positioned around the infrared lamps are intended to improve heat distribution across the preform surface. For a dairy producer managing daily milk volumes, the installation demonstrates how bottle production can become part of a strategy for logistics control, packaging management and resource efficiency. ●

(Source: SMI)

