



**NEW SFP
WITHOUT
HEATING TUNNEL:
ENERGY SAVING
& FILM CONSUMPTION
CUT UP TO 40%**

EVEN MORE FUNCTIONAL AND SUSTAINABLE PACKAGING

ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY PLAYS A KEY ROLE IN THE INVESTMENT DECISIONS OF THOSE WHO CHOOSE PLANTS AND MACHINES FOR LARGE-SCALE PRODUCTION IN COMPLIANCE WITH THE STANDARDS FOR THE TERRITORY SAFEGUARD AND ENERGY SAVING.

The end-of-line solutions showcased by SMI at Interpack 2026's booth B15, Hall 13 meet these requirements.

Thanks to investments in industrial plants equipped with smart and green technology, like the packaging machines supplied by SMI, food & beverage companies will save on energy, reduce the production environmental impact and use recyclable and biodegradable packaging materials to manufacture packs in film or cardboard.

At Interpack trade fair SMI will exhibit a pick & place case packers of the ACP Ergon series and a stretch film packer of the SFP Ergon series, two secondary packaging solutions that enable to combine the need of an efficient production with that of environmental protection.

The Advantages of ACP Series

The ACP series is able to pack multiple types of containers, such as glass bottles, bags and boxes of pasta, rice and

coffee, oval containers or briks, simply by changing the gripper/suction cup. This range of machines is particularly suitable for packaging even very delicate and exclusive products such as wines, sparkling wines and liqueurs, without damaging the labels of glass bottles during the packaging process.

The ACP case packers feature a solid monobloc structure that combines all the machine functions: product separation, product insertion with top loading system, carton magazine, box sealing. The packaging process is alternate (stop & go) by means of a pick & place system capable of making RSC packs at the maximum speed of 20 packs per minute (depending on the format).

Thanks to the extreme versatility of ACP series, the products to be packed can also be stacked inside RSC boxes, that, furthermore, are very robust and resistant (high top load).

The carton magazine of the ACP range, located next to the machine, allows the loading of pre-folded cut-outs in an easy and ergonomic way.

ACP ERGON case packers are equipped with Sercos fieldbus-based MotorNet System® automation and control technology, which ensures full

compatibility with Industry 4.0 and Internet of Things (IoT) platforms within the plant.

The Advantages of SFP Series

The SFP Ergon stretch film packer combines the need of plastics reduction with that of energy saving in packaging plants. SFP packers use the stretch film instead of the shrink film for packing loose products, ensuring great energy saving, thanks to the absence of shrink tunnel equipped with electric resistances; less use of packaging material, as a 10 micron wide stretch film is used for the packaging; stable and resistant packs, thanks to the wrapping in film in a criss-cross pattern around the group of containers to be packed and reduces energy consumption thanks to motors equipped with built-in servo-drives.

SFP 30 Ergon packer meets the needs of flexibility, versatility and environmental sustainability for the packaging of packs in film only in several configurations 2 x n, by using the cold stretch film.

On the machine infeed belt, a specific system of motorised oscillating guides correctly channels the loose containers towards the pack formation area. Then, a mechanical system, composed of a synchronised press with compensation bars, group the containers in the desired format. The packs created proceed short size leading.

The use of brushless motors in the film unwinding phase ensure a precise adjustment of the tensioning. The film double cross wrapping system ensures resistant and long-lasting packs: the first reel wraps the pack clockwise, while the second one wraps it anticlockwise, thus performing a crossed wrap around the containers in transit.

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Drinks industry Slams the Welsh Government's Decision to Include Glass in the Welsh DRS

The decision by the Welsh Government to include glass in its DRS, will add further delay to introducing DRS due to the complexities of glass collection and, contrary to claims from the Welsh Government, it will require unique labels from day one of the scheme.

Branding the inclusion of glass 'a recipe for disaster', trade bodies warn consumers will see products disappear from the shelves in Wales as identifying stock for the Welsh market will become prohibitively expensive. Despite disingenuous claims from the Welsh Government that there will be no labelling obligations for the first four years of the scheme, stock will have to be identified either as 'not for sale in Wales' or 'for sale in Wales only' to avoid paying environmental charges applicable in the rest of the UK.

The Welsh Government's claim that including glass will be more environmentally friendly is also flawed – because economies of scale will be lost and glass collections may fall. Moreover non-drinks containers such as glass jars will continue to be collected at the kerbside, creating greater inefficiency and costs.

As the Trade associations representing the most affected sector, we believe the scheme should be fully aligned with the rest of the UK. The Welsh Government should now appoint a Deposit Management Organisation, as soon as possible, look again at the inclusion of single use glass, how it is funded and labelling implications.

Key concerns include: Mass market withdrawal: Up to 97% of product lines* (SKUs) could be withdrawn from the Welsh market because the burden of compliance makes trading there uneconomical.

Prohibitive labelling costs: Producers would be forced to apply unique 'Wales only' labels at the point of bottling to prevent fraud and manage distinct tax obligations, a process described as prohibitively expensive.

Economic shock to SMEs: While glass recycling rates in Wales already exceed 90%, the new scheme would impose a significant economic shock on small businesses, importers, and the hospitality sector without delivering meaningful environmental gains.

Environmental counter-productivity: We believe the scheme could jeopardise Wales' world-leading kerbside collection rates and perversely incentivise a shift from sustainable glass to less recyclable packaging formats.

Miles Beale, Chief Executive of the Wine and Spirit Trade Association, said, "While our industry is fully committed to producers paying for the waste they place on the market, including a UK-wide DRS for metal and plastic drinks containers by 2027, the Welsh Government's insistence on including glass is a recipe for disaster. It will lead to a wide range of wine and spirit products disappearing from Welsh shops and supermarkets and create a barrier to trade that simply does not need to exist. It should be blindingly obvious that the only way to ensure unhindered market access and a successful DRS is to align the scope of materials across all of the UK.

"The additional pressure on wine and spirit businesses comes at a time when tax increases and costs – many of which are a direct result of government policies – are going through the roof. Not only will this mean higher prices and reduced choice for consumers, but the blinkered move will not deliver any meaningful environmental gains".