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METPACK Conference attracts with top-class podium and cutting-edge topics

News about the production, coating and printing of metal packaging

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From May 2nd to 6th, 2023, the global metal packaging industry will meet at the world's leading trade fair METPACK at Messe Essen to learn about innovative production processes, efficient machines and the latest trends. An opportunity for professional exchange outside the exhibition halls will be provided by the international and top-class METPACK Conference on the second day of the trade fair, May 3. The podium represents well-known companies along the entire production chain of the metal packaging industry: from tinplate manufacturer Nippon Steel and surface treatment specialist Plasmatrete to can manufacturers Crown Holdings, chemical suppliers Henkel and Chrotex, and coating specialist Koenig & Bauer MetalPrint. Conference participants can look forward to a total of nine exciting presentations. Tickets are available now.

Due to the pandemic, the industry did not have a platform in Essen to exchange information on current developments for six years. Since the last METPACK 2017, the metal packaging sector has developed rapidly. The METPACK Conference offers the unique opportunity to get up to date with the latest technology in a compact and efficient way, to get in touch with experts and to receive valuable input for your own business. Start is at 9 a.m., end at around 1:30 p.m.

The conference will be opened by Dr. Daniel Abramowicz, CTO at Crown Holdings, by delivering a keynote, highlighting technical innovations in metal packaging over the last quarter century. In addition to series of incremental improvements, such as reduced spoilage during manufacturing and reducing the weight of cans, the industry has also seen a number of breakthrough innovations that have resulted in step-changes in the can's performance and economics. These more radical historical innovations, as well as some future ones, will be featured in the presentation.

Dr. Dimitrios Tsimpoukis, Managing Director of Chrotex in Greece will speak about cost optimisation in the lacquering process by taking a holistic look at the factors underlying the quality of the lacquering operations in metal can and cap manufacturing. Highlights are thrown on the interplay among requisite lacquer properties required for high-quality can manufacturing and their trade-offs, as revealed through physicochemical concepts. The possibilities for cost wise optimization of the lacquering processes in can manufacturing are presented within the framework of safeguarding quality.

Plasmatrete, a technology leader from Germany, developed a technique to optimize metal surfaces such as tinplate by dramatically increasing wettability and thus enabling the direct application of UV materials. Supported by project partners in Brazil, the can maker Brasilata and the coatings manufacturer Actega, Plasmatrete will show how inline plasma jets can significantly improve the adhesion of UV coatings.

Neil Finley, Head of Global Food Safety at Henkel (UK) and Chair of the CEPE Can Sector Group, will take on the important and ever-expanding area of migration and regulation, and talk about food contact risk assessment of BPA-NI coatings for metal packaging. This presentation will discuss the challenges in performing the risk assessment, novel approaches to demonstrate safety, and how improved supply chain

communication can support BPA-NI coatings for metal packaging.

Chromates are being removed from industrial manufacturing processes in order to further improve the health and safety conditions for workers and employees. Nippon Steel Corporation from Japan has developed a new procedure to passivate tinplate surfaces without hexavalent chromium. Their presentation will include key technical information on the Process, Product and Food Sontact Safety of EZP™ tinplate. All three aspects of this new substrate will be explained in detail with the basic principles of manufacturing, the structure of the zirconium passivation layer, the toxicological profile and much more.

Koenig & Bauer MetalPrint GmbH will speak about the challenges in developing the next generation of coating machines. Inline measuring technologies have advanced to the point that the re-coupling of data can lead to an automatic process, controlled in a closed loop.

Other interesting contributions will come from Stolle, SLAC and Enpack. Details will be announced shortly.

Visit the trade fair and conference with just one ticket

At METPACK, practice and theory are literally close together. While the exhibition halls are the venue for live demonstrations and elaborate presentations, the adjoining Congress Center West becomes a think tank with the METPACK Conference. Trade visitors can experience both – the trade fair and the conference – with a combined ticket for 285 euros. It entitles to attend both the METPACK trade fair and the METPACK Conference for two days.

10.11.2022

METPACK 2023 records excellent booking status

Nippon Steel celebrates premiere as exhibitor and participant of the METPACK Conference

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"We haven't lost any of our exhibitors due to the pandemic", says Project Manager Christina Kleinpaß, looking ahead to the upcoming METPACK 2023, the world's leading trade fair for metal packaging, and adds: "It makes me proud to experience so much encouragement and cohesion from the industry. This clearly shows that METPACK continues to set the tone." From 2 to 6 May 2023, Messe Essen will once again become the hub of the world of metal packaging for the first time since 2017. In addition to market leaders such as Soudronic, Koenig + Bauer, thyssenkrupp Rasselstein, Belvac, Tata Steel and Stolle, Metlac and first-time exhibitor Nippon Steel will also be taking part.

Altogether, Messe Essen is expecting more than 200 exhibitors from 25 countries. This means that METPACK will not only be able to confirm its position as the world's leading trade fair for the metal packaging sector, but also to expand it. With the globally operating Metlac Group from Italy, one of the world's leading coatings manufacturers will be represented at METPACK. "We are very pleased to be part of METPACK 2023. Especially the personal discussions and the exchange about new products and solutions make the trade fair. It's the perfect place for us to meet one of our most important target groups," says Pier Ugo Bocchio, founder and CEO Metlac Group, looking forward to the event.

Profitable combination of trade fair and congress

The Japanese steel giant Nippon Steel is celebrating its premiere at METPACK 2023. The company produces over 40 million tonnes of crude steel annually. "The metal packaging market is an important cornerstone of our business and METPACK is a good opportunity to make new contacts. The accompanying conference gives the trade fair the necessary professional background. All in all, METPACK is a winning combination of theory and practice", says Toshiaki Takamiya, Senior Manager at Nippon Steel, who will be one of the speakers at the METPACK Conference on 3 May in the Congress Center West. Experts will discuss current trends and innovative technical developments. Outstanding new products and improved technologies will also be honoured with the METPACK Innovation Award. The winners in the bronze, silver and gold categories will be selected by an independent jury of experts and announced on 3 May.

02.08.2021

Industry looks forward to METPACK 2023

Registration documents for exhibitors now available online

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The next METPACK is in the starting blocks: After the world's leading trade fair for metal packaging had to be cancelled in 2020 due to the pandemic, the industry is now looking forward to its innovation platform from May 2 to 6, 2023 at Messe Essen. For interested exhibitors, the registration documents are now available at www.metpack.de. Numerous international companies have already expressed their participation. Visitors can expect to see trends and new developments in all aspects of packaging, machinery and equipment for the production of cans, lids and ends, as well as systems for filling and sealing.

"It was right and responsible to skip the past METPACK. Now more than ever, the industry needs its usual high-quality platform to showcase innovations. In 2023, the metal packaging industry will finally meet again after six long years without a trade show," says a delighted Wolfgang Niemsch, Chairman of the METPACK Committee. METPACK, which is held every three years and parallel to interpack, was last held in Essen in 2017. Around 300 exhibitors from 27 countries presented their products.

"There is no substitute for face-to-face meetings"

Christina Kleinpaß, METPACK project manager, again expects a high level of internationality for the coming trade fair. "The metal packaging industry is globally organized. We are orienting ourselves to this in our planning. We expect to be able to host METPACK in two years as usual. Because the strategies to control the coronavirus are already having an effect." The mood among exhibitors is also positive all around: "We are very pleased to be exhibiting at METPACK again. After all, there is no substitute for personal meetings and direct exchanges with our customers and partners. Since the last METPACK, there have already been several innovations in our machine portfolio, and we are working on further new systems which we will then present 'live' at METPACK," announces Alain Berset, Global Sales Director at Mall + Herlan.

The importance of METPACK is also emphasized by Rolf Geide, CEO at Soudronic: "METPACK plays a very important role for us when it comes to sales of our systems and machines. We regularly make new business contacts in Essen, in addition to maintaining existing customer relationships. This often results in business, either during the trade show or afterwards. For the metal packaging industry, METPACK is the most important meeting place in the world, and this will also be the case in 2023."

Versatile supporting program

In addition to the exhibitors' range of products, METPACK offers a comprehensive supporting program on current trends and developments in the metal packaging industry. With the METPACK Innovation Award, Messe Essen honors particularly innovative products and innovations that set new standards in terms of quality and efficiency. At the METPACK Conference accompanying the trade fair, representatives from

research and industry will also discuss the trends of tomorrow. In addition, trade fair guests can expect a job forum and an exhibition of historic packaging machines.

09.02.2021

METPACK 2023 opens from 2 to 6 May

Most important meeting place for the international metal packaging industry

The next world's leading trade fair for metal packaging, METPACK, will be held at Messe Essen from May 2 to 6, 2023. After the past run was first postponed due to the effects of the Corona pandemic and then had to be cancelled, the global industry highlight is now reopening in the usual three-year cycle and parallel to interpack (May 4 to 10, 2023). In addition to packaging, the range of products presented by the more than 300 exhibitors at METPACK recently includes machinery and equipment for the production of cans, lids and bases, as well as filling and sealing systems. Interested exhibitors will soon find the application documents at www.metpack.de.

"We are confident that METPACK 2023 can take place with its usual size and internationality. On the part of the exhibitors, we have recently experienced a lot of understanding and encouragement. The message was clear: The industry needs METPACK and would rather come back to Essen today than tomorrow. Due to the interpack taking place in Düsseldorf at the same time, we are again expecting considerable synergies with the visitors," says Oliver P. Kuhrt, Managing Director of Messe Essen. METPACK is the world's most important meeting place for the metal packaging industry. The trade fair visitors are for the most part decision-makers from the global food and chemical industry.

The can of tomorrow: flexible, lightweight and smart manufactured

Since 1993, the industry has been presenting its impressive innovative strength in Essen. Messe Essen honors exhibitors of particularly outstanding and forward-looking products with the METPACK Innovation Award, the winners of which are announced during the show. Current trends will also be the subject of the METPACK Conference, at which representatives from industry and science will provide insights into the future of metal packaging. This is characterized, among other things, by more product variety, less material and networked production.