PACKAGING & CONVERTING INTELLIGENCE AWARDS 2013

And the winner is...

Welcome to the inaugural ***Packaging & Converting Intelligence* Awards**. In this issue, we announce the winners in various categories that illustrate growing packaging sector trends, innovations and priorities. Select editorial board members and a panel of industry experts made their final decisions, which underscore how competition and possibilities are growing in equal measure in the global packaging industry.

Labelling innovation of the year

WINNER: Heineken

Heineken unveiled a full-body PVC shrink sleeve label for its 4L PET kegs, providing greater label-printing impact as well as a printed thermometer on the label. The new Tapje keg, a second-generation version of their heavier metal kegs introduced in 2006, is a convenient draft-beer system, which offers an innovative cost-effective alternative to other mini kegs, and greater flexibility for consumers. The Tapje also features APPE's proprietary monoBLOXTM barrier technology with oxygen scavengers, resulting in a robust container with superior barrier performance that protects the beer's integrity.

Heineken's new full-body PVC shrink sleeve label.

Sustainability initiative of the year

WINNER: Spear Europe

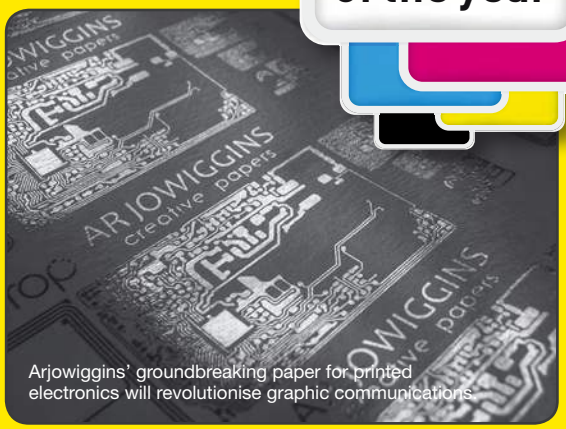
Spear Europe's Energy Usage and Reduction Initiative boasts impressive accomplishments.

For instance, advance freight-planning strategies have saved 1.9 million transportation ton-miles, reducing carbon emissions by 917t of CO_2. Also, alternative tooling technology has removed 100t of material from the supply chain and reduces carbon emissions to the tune of 786t of CO_2. Plus, travel rationalisation includes state-of-the-art video conference systems that allows Spear to reduce air travel by 15% annually and carbon emissions by 525t of CO_2. Energy reduction programmes also help the company to meet its 10% annual reduction goal and eliminate 1,500t of CO_2 annually.

Spear Europe continues to innovate in the global beer market.

WINNER:

Paper and board innovation of the year



Arjowiggins' groundbreaking paper for printed electronics will revolutionise graphic communications

Arjowiggins Creative Papers

Arjowiggins Creative Papers is collecting a raft of awards for its PowerCoat, a revolutionary paper for printed electronics – and for good reason. This unique innovation tests the boundaries of technology that will reputedly have a significant impact on the graphic communications and related industries. This groundbreaking paper enables passive and interactive circuitry to be integrated into existing printed products. The flexible paper substrata therefore facilitates the integration of a whole range of electronic functions into graphics, from embedded RFID tags to condition-sensitive sell-by dates on fresh produce. And, because of its natural roll-to-roll capability, it's also possible to produce large-area products such as sensor walls and flexible displays.

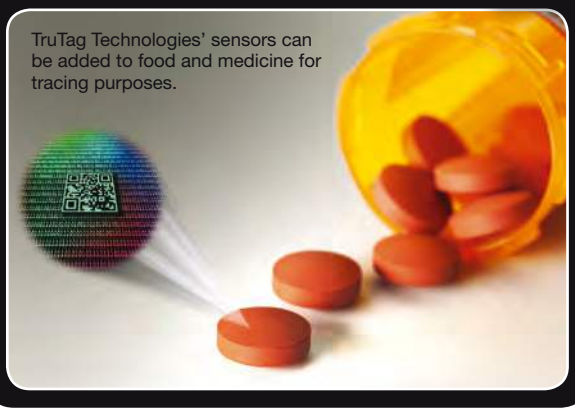
WINNER:

TruTag Technologies

TruTag Technologies has launched tiny sensors that let food firms add security features to food packaging as well as to the food itself. These sensors were designed to enable manufacturers in a wide range of industries to fight fraud and counterfeiting, which can erode a company's reputation and revenue, and save lives.

Edible sensors, recognised as safe by the US Food and Drug Administration, that can be added to food and medicine for tracing and verification are especially revolutionary. Each tag has a marking made from pure silica micro-particles, which is digitally coded by a proprietary nano-etching process.

Health and safety product of the year


TruTag Technologies' sensors can be added to food and medicine for tracing purposes.

Pharmaceutical packaging innovation of the year

WINNER:

Schreiner MediPharm

Schreiner MediPharm's Needle-Trap needle protection system, the label with an integrated needle trap, combines an injection-moulded part with a film and serves to reliably protect the needles of pre-filled syringes after the injection. Experts from FLEXcon, a company specialising in film solutions, and Schreiner MediPharm, selected the material, surface coating, adhesive and liner material according to the requirements of this special application. The user only has to bend the needle trap toward the side before performing the injection, and the process of securing the needle after the injection is completely controllable without patient contact. Furthermore, Needle-Trap allows reliable documentation of injections that have been performed.


Schreiner MediPharm's Needle-Trap multipurpose labelling system.