

March 2012

Alufoil Trophy 2012: Paper-free blister lidding foil improves sealing

A blister pack based on aluminium cold-formed bottom material with a paper-free, child resistant, peelable lidding foil has received an Alufoil Trophy 2012 in the field of Technical Innovation for its manufacturer Constantia Flexibles. Designed by Bayer Pharma for Staxyn, the pack was developed initially for the United States market and meets child-resistant and senior-friendly guidelines.

“Like most genuine innovations this is a simple, but technically very well researched product which has shown dramatic improvements in seal integrity as well as offering real benefits for sustainable production,” explained head judge Antoinette Devine, global packaging consultant for SABMiller.



Due to the paper-free make-up of the blister lidding foil the sealing temperature on the blister line is lower than for conventional alu/paper laminates. In turn this means energy consumption is reduced and, as dwell times in the sealing section can be reduced, the blister machine can operate at higher speeds.

A further advantage is improved process stability as the bubbles which could sometimes occur in the paper during sealing have been completely eliminated. Cleanroom standards may also be enhanced because of the absence of paper in the process.

The blister lidding foil used for Staxyn contains two layers of alufoil due to the excellent temperature transmission characteristics of the material, which also functions as a barrier layer. The paper-free laminate comprises: ALU15/PET12/ALU15/peelable heat seal lacquer.

“This award recognises the excellent working partnership established between supplier and customer over several years, in this case Constantia Flexibles and Bayer Pharma,” commented Elmar Maus, regional sales director at Constantia Flexibles. “The Alufoil Trophy is now internationally regarded as a major recognition of technical innovation by both the packaging industry and our clients. We are delighted Staxyn has been given such an important mark of approval.”

The pack has been tested successfully for its child resistance and senior friendliness on the American market and is due to be introduced worldwide in the near future says Bayer and Constantia.

The Alufoil Trophy is organised by the European Aluminium Foil Association. There are five categories – Consumer Convenience, Marketing + Design, Product Preservation, Resource Efficiency and Technical Innovation. Judges also award Overall Excellence. For 2012 there were 13 winners from 52 entries.

High resolution pictures can be downloaded and all winning entries can be viewed at www.alufoil.org

Further information:

Guido Aufdemkamp, Director Communication

The European Aluminium Foil Association is the international body representing companies engaged in the rolling and rewinding of alufoil and in the manufacture of alufoil containers and of all kind of flexible packaging. Its more than 100 members include companies in Western, Central and Eastern Europe.