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Aluminium foil membrane replaces traditional can ends

Canseal Pro, a direct-seal aluminium membrane for can ends, developed and manufactured by **Amcor Flexibles**, has received an Alufoil Trophy for Resource Efficiency in the 2015 competition. Thanks to the excellent barrier properties offered by aluminium foil, the membrane is currently being used in dry products that do not need heat processing after filling, as well as in other products such as condensed milk.



“This is an excellent solution in a high volume packaging product, which can have a substantial impact on the amount of material used, as well as performing well across other functions,” said Jean-Paul Duquet, global packaging eco design manager of Bel Group who headed the panel of judges which chose the winning entries. “We viewed it as a potential ‘game changer’ for this type of can product, as sealing times could be reduced and better line speeds achieved, offering resource efficiencies in these areas too,” he added.

The coextruded sealing structure of Canseal Pro is made specially for a newly developed direct sealing technology. The membrane reduces total packaging material and cost, since it is directly sealed onto a can so that no additional metal ring is needed. The product offers a safe and convenient closure of the can, with excellent seal integrity, outstanding barrier properties, easy peelability and highly efficient processability, explains the company.

“We are delighted to receive this trophy as recognition of our continuous focus to improve convenience and reduce the total packaging cost of our customers' products. Canseal Pro is another success story resulting from our strong cooperation with machine manufacturers and customers. Together with Alufix®, our range of ‘easy open’ aluminium membranes for cans, Canseal Pro further strengthens our offering in this market,” explained Sven Bauer, product development engineer at Amcor Flexibles Europe & Americas.

The sealing technology is based on inductive heating of the can body. The composition of Amcor’s polymer coating on the aluminium foil enables this kind of sealing process and reliable tightness performance. One thousand conventional steel EOE lids, for a typical 73mm diameter can, weigh around eight times more than the equivalent Canseal Pro lids, says Amcor.

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 gave an award for cross-category excellence. For 2015 there were 12 winners.

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

Further information:

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