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New wine closures offer controlled oxygen transmission rates

Stelvin® Inside is a new range of aluminium wine closures and liners from **Amtor Flexibles**, which has been awarded an Alufoil Trophy 2015 for Technical Innovation as the closures can double wine maker's Oxygen Transmission Rate (OTR) choices, giving them more tools to help craft and perfect their wine.



Each of the four new liners has a different OTR target which, through technical developments in combination with other materials that make up the liner, ensures a controlled level of oxygen dispersion allowing wine makers and consumers consistency from one bottle to the next.

Liners are highly complex and play a pivotal role in aluminium closures for wine. They guarantee absence of cork taint, consistency from one bottle to another, preservation of aromas, flavours and freshness and controlled OTR which is critical to wine ageing process.

Explaining the judges' decision Jean-Paul Duquet, global packaging eco design manager of Bel Group, who headed the panel this year, said, "A great deal of research and development has gone into the making of these closures. The absence of tin in any of the liner formulations means there are no issues about stability or recyclability. Further, they take aluminium closures into new segments of the wine market, such as aging red wines, which can only add to their popularity in the marketplace."

Nicolas Freynet, general manager of Amtor Flexible Capsules, on accepting the award commented, "Amtor Flexibles Capsules is delighted that Stelvin® Inside has been recognised by the Alufoil Trophy 2015 jury and has won such a prestigious award for Technical Innovation. It demonstrates our ability, as the pioneer of Stelvin® aluminium closures, to continue to bring breakthrough innovations to the market, which offer new benefits that help winemakers craft and perfect their wines."

All of the films used in the liners are produced by Amtor and are PVDC-Free. Two of the four new liners also contain layers of aluminium foil. OTRs are offered between 1O₂ and 7O₂.

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:

Guido Aufdemkamp, Executive Director

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.