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EUROPEAN UNION NEWS

Member states adopt carbon benchmarks for industry



Member states have agreed rules for giving out free CO₂ allowances to energy-intensive industries deemed at risk of carbon leakage. The regulation applies to the third trading period of the EU emissions trading scheme (ETS), which will begin in 2013. On 15 December, 52 product benchmarks were adopted by the climate change committee (CCC), with two more for heat and fuel. A discount factor for grey cement was dropped at the last minute. Energy-intensive industries such as cement, steel and paper, can get up to 100 per cent of their allowances free in 2013, compared with a maximum 80 per cent for other industries. Power firms will have to pay for all their allowances. The default benchmark for a sector is the average greenhouse gas emissions per unit of product of the 10 per cent most greenhouse gas efficient installations in Europe. The amount of allowances is calculated by multiplying the benchmark with production volumes. Industrial producers and consumers of electricity, however, will not receive free allocations. Decisions on partial compensation of these costs are still pending. The benchmarks are now fixed until 2020. But the number of free allowances could still go down if an international climate agreement is reached and the risk of carbon leakage is considered reduced. The European Parliament and the Council of Ministers have three months to scrutinise and approve the proposal before they can be adopted by the European Commission and become law. The final benchmarks were determined also taking into account issues such as the most efficient techniques, substitutes, alternative production processes, high efficiency cogeneration, efficient recovery of waste gases, use of biomass and capture and storage of CO₂, where such facilities are available.

Source: European Environment & Packaging Law

EFSA to hold workshop on non-plastic food contact materials



A workshop on risk assessment issues related to the non-plastic food contact materials will take place in Milan, Italy, from 9 to 10 March, 2011. This workshop will precede the finalisation of a report by European Food Safety Authority's (EFSA's) scientific co-operation working group on non-plastic food contact materials that is expected to be published in the first half of 2011. FEVE will register for the event and monitor the developments.

Source: European Environment & Packaging Law

MEPs to grill Commission on Italian waste crisis



Several MEPs from different political groups will ask the European Commission what they are doing to stop the environmental and health problems caused by the ongoing Naples waste crisis. "What measures has the Commission undertaken or will it undertake in order to ensure that the competent authorities in Italy effectively monitor the proper collection, separation or treatment of waste so that it does not damage human health and the environment and that a credible plan is presented by the regional authorities," Green MEPs Margrete Auken (Denmark) and Eva Lichtenberger (Germany) and left-wingers Bairbre de Brún (Ireland) and Willy Meyer (Spain) demand in their written question. The MEPs will ask if the EC thinks the guidelines contained in the plan presented last July by regional environment minister Giovanni Romano were

sufficient, and if not, what is lacking. "The European Court of Justice ruling of 4 March 2010 denounced Italy for failing to set up a network of installations sufficient to ensure the disposal of urban waste in a manner that did not endanger human health and the environment." Italian MEPs Mara Bizzotto and Lorenzo Fontana on behalf of the rightwing Europe of Freedom and Democracy Group will then ask about funding: notably if the Commission can specify what has been earmarked for waste management in Italy, particularly Campania, in the last 20 years - and if this money has been put to good use. In a related matter, MEPs will ask if the Commission will fine Italy if it does not prove existing landfills comply with EU law; and also if the landfill directive permits landfilling in national parks: If MEPs are justifiably angry about the situation in Italy, the Commission is too - with Potocnik already stating at the end of November, following a previous warning in October, that the Commission would fine Italy via the ECJ if it did not set up an effective waste management plan for the Campania region. Potocnik urged Campania to adopt a waste management plan that would prioritise waste reduction, reuse and recycling, ensure implementation of separate collection in the whole region and set measures for the safe disposal of the almost eight million tonnes of baled waste deposited in several storage sites in Campania.

Source: European Environment & Packaging Law

Good news on the renewable energy front



The EU will do better than the 20 per cent renewable energy target by 2020, the European Wind Energy Association (EWEA) said. "Taken together, the renewable energy action plans submitted to the EC show that the EU-27 will meet 20.7 per cent of its 2020 energy consumption from renewables," said Justin Wilkes, EWEA Policy Director. Fifteen member states plan to exceed their national target, led by Bulgaria at +2.8 per cent above its target, Spain (+2.7 per cent), Greece (+2.2 per cent), Hungary (+1.7 per cent) and Germany (+1.6 per cent). Ten member states will meet their national targets and only two - Luxembourg (-2.1 per cent) and Italy (-0.9 per cent) have told the EC that they will need to use the co-operation mechanisms to meet their national targets. The National Action Plans show that one third (34 per cent) of EU electricity demand will be supplied from renewables by 2020. Wind energy will generate 14 per cent (10 per cent onshore, 4 per cent offshore) of Europe's total electricity demand in 2020, more than any other renewable source, up from 4.2 per cent in 2009. The rest of the demand will be made up by hydro power (10.5 per cent), biomass (6.6 per cent), solar photovoltaic (2.7 per cent), CSP (0.5 per cent), geothermal (0.3 per cent) and ocean (0.1 per cent). Ireland will have the highest wind energy penetration level at 36.4 per cent of total electricity demand, followed by Denmark at 31 per cent.

Source: European Environment & Packaging Law

Plastic food contact rules extended to multi-layer packs



EU rules on plastic food contact materials have been extended to plastic layers in multi-material packaging such as drinks cartons in the latest revision of the legislation. The revision, set out in a 14 January regulation (EU No 10/2011) on plastic materials and articles intended to come into contact with food, mainly aims to tidy up the text, taking out obsolete and redundant clauses, after a series of six major amendments since the original directive was adopted in 2002. However, crucially to speed up the time it takes to apply the legislation and future amendments authorising plastic monomers and additives, the EC has adopted a directly binding regulation rather than a directive that member states take at least 12 months to write into national law. The new regulation, published in the EU's Official Journal (OJ L 12 of 15.01.2011), also covers the plastic used in multi-layered packaging. The introduction notes that the 2002 directive only applied to pure plastics and its use in gaskets as these were the main uses at that time. Since then, besides materials and articles purely made of plastics, plastics are also used in combination with other materials in so called multi-material multi-layers. The regulation will also cover printed or coated plastics, allowing the inks, adhesives and coatings to contain other substances than authorised in this plastic contact materials law. It notes that these

substances may be subject to other EU or national legislation. (Editor's note: The regulation is due to come into force in May 2011. However, given the raft current legislation it would repeal, its full introduction will be staggered with transitional arrangements from 1 May 2011 to 1 January 2016.)

Source: European Environment & Packaging Law

CONTAINER GLASS INDUSTRY

Europe

Beatson Clark's Rubic square jar takes centre stage



Last October's easyFairs show in London was the setting for the launch of Beatson Clark's new products, the Rubic square jar and the Flame bottle – and they will be back again at the NEC. The Rubic is available in 40ml, 100ml and 190ml while the Flame bottle comes in 125ml and 580ml incorporating a narrow or wide neck design. "We had very positive feedback from our new designs and are hoping to receive enough commitment to move to bulk moulds on one or more of the sizes," explains Charlotte Taylor, Beatson Clark marketing manager.

Source: Packagingnews.co.uk

Saint-Gobain still preparing Verallia IPO



PARIS, Jan 24 (Reuters) - French glassmaker Saint-Gobain is still preparing an initial public offering of its glass packaging unit, Verallia, to be ready from the second quarter, a spokeswoman for the company said on Monday. The spokeswoman declined to comment on a report in La Tribune newspaper that five investment funds -- Apollo, KKR and a consortium of Axa Private Equity, Blackstone and TPG -- were still interested in buying the unit. Shares in Saint-Gobain were 1.7 percent higher at 42.30 euros by 1031 GMT.

Source: CNBC

Growth in Glass



Inaugurated in April 2010, Verallia is the new brand for the entire glass packaging activities of the Saint-Gobain Group. Ross Davies spoke to commercial and marketing director Roberto Calibri to learn more about the youthful brand that continues to expand through its commitment to sustainable development and a solid business ethic. Read the full article:

<http://www.industryeurope.net/ViewArticleNew.aspx?taid=3324>

Source: IndustryEurope.net

The secret of family businesses



'The first generation creates the company, the second and third generation run them down'. This popular phrase is not valid for the industry group Vetropack, which this year celebrates its 100 years. The company is now managed by representatives of the fourth generation. But what are the secrets of these venerable companies still governed by the same family? How do they manage to cross the years and generations despite the harsh economic crises and unbridled quest for profit in the short term? Switzerland is a country of SMEs. According to estimates by consultant Pierre-Alain Cardinaux, responsible for Western Switzerland at Ernst & Young, over 77 000 SMEs will experience a generational change over the next five years. However, clarifies the partner of the firm, between 10 and 15% of firms survive beyond the third generation, and between 3 and 5% are still operating after four generations. The ideal situation is when the next generation is composed of only one heir - or heir - or when a child stands undoubtedly to take the reins of the company. But this is not always the case and, when thinking to pass the baton, parents often face a difficult choice, if more children are

concerned. "Now, parents are forced to choose," says Joachim Schwass, a professor at IMD in Lausanne specializes in the study of family companies. To mitigate the emotional implications associated with this decision, Joachim Schwass suggests that "an outsider involved in this decision."

Source: Archives.24heures.ch (Translated from French)

Verallia's Ecova bottles seduce more and more customers



Presented for the first time in 2009 by Saint-Gobain Emballage-Verallia, the Ecova concept – bringing together ecology and value– is having a great success. Launched onto the market as Tradition Ecova (a 465 g bottle instead of a 550 g for the "Tradition classique"), the Ecova concept is today covering 50 ranges of glass bottles. The aim is to reach up to 25% of global sales in the next 5 years. By way of reminder, the group produces nearly 25 billion bottles (and jars) (year 2009). The Ecova bottles are for all wine types: flat, sparkling and champagne. «More than one third of our clients have bought Ecova in 2010» indicates Nicolas Yatzimirsky, Director General of Verallia. In other words a volume of 280 million bottles.

Source: Emballage Digest

The Gulf

Misr Glass ready to commission container plant



Egyptian Glass Works, a platform for glass investments in the Middle East and Africa, has a 35% stake in Misr Glass Manufacturing S.A.E. (MGM), a leading manufacturer and exporter of glass containers in the Middle East and North Africa, and 51% of Sphinx Glass, a state-of-the-art, EGP 1.1-billion (USD 200 million) greenfield float glass plant in Egypt. MGM has been an important player of container glass in the wider Gulf Arab States (GCC) region and, over the years, has emerged as the region's leading manufacturer of glass containers, investing approximately USD 54.5 million to upgrade its technology base and expand capacity. Misr Glass Manufacturing is currently constructing another plant (United Glass Company container-glass facility), which will add 110,000 tons per annum of additional capacity. The first phase of the project is expected to be commissioned in 2011, with the second phase to follow in 2012. Besides easing the demand supply mismatch, this new capacity will create more competition among the GCC based container glass manufacturers. "Such aggressive expansion in Egypt is another clear indication that the container industry in the Middle East and Maghreb region is one of the most globally strategic," says Derek Burston, exhibition manager, Gulf Glass 2011.

Source: Glassonline.com

USA

Environmentally conscious wineries choose Verallia's ECO series TM wine bottles



Since introducing the first eco-conceived wine bottle in North America just two short years ago, Verallia has sold over 180 million ECO SeriesTM bottles. Although the primary intent of the ECO SeriesTM bottle was to provide customers with a high quality bottle with less overall impact on the environment, over 300 environmentally conscious wineries are capitalizing on the sustainability characteristics of the bottle and widely-accepted marketing appeal the bottle has with consumers. "We have had an overwhelming response to the ECO SeriesTM from our wine customers, both large and small," said Bob Parise, Vice President, Sales and Marketing, Wine Sector for Verallia North America. "In 2009, we introduced the bottle as part of a company-wide sustainability initiative. Although we knew the wine industry already had a deep commitment to the environment, we learned very quickly the industry has

a keen ability to market that commitment to environmentally conscious consumers." Finding great success in marketing wine in the ECO Series™ bottle, Eight Arms Cellars in Suisun Valley, Calif. is set to bottle all of its wines in Verallia's ECO Series™ bottles in 2011. Eight Arms is a small winery known for its Syrah wines and lives by its brand "Go Green, Drink Red". After using the ECO Series™ Evolution bottle for packaging "The Tentacle" wine last spring, Eight Arms experienced an overwhelming response from consumers selling out of the product in less than 60 days. "I first chose the ECO Series™ bottle for The Tentacle Syrah last spring because the bottles are more carbon friendly and made locally with recycled glass," said Boltin.

Source: Winebusiness.com

Latin America

Vitro and Casa Pedro Domecq-Pernod Ricard join efforts for recycling



For the purpose of joining forces and supporting environmental protection Vitro signed an agreement with Casa Pedro Domecq-Pernod Ricard to promote glass recycling in their general offices located in Cuajimalpa in Mexico's Federal District. Javier Leal, PROMAPI manager, explains that three deposit containers were installed for collecting discarded containers, one for each colour of glass (clear, green and amber). "Once the glass containers are collected in the special deposit containers, Vitro picks them up and delivers them to the recycle processing plant and in the end reimburses, in kind, the total kilos of glass recollected," he points out. For its part, Casa Pedro Domecq, which belongs to Grupo Pernod Ricard one of the world leaders in wines and liquors, is responsible for internally spreading information regarding the project through informing its personnel of the benefits of glass as a container as well as the benefits of recycling glass containers. This programme is only one example of the over 250 recycle programmes that Vitro undertakes together with schools, associations, municipalities, customers, restaurants, bars and hotels which form part of Vitro's Permanent Recycling Program; the overall total results can be found in its annual report – Report on Sustainable Development – 2009.

Source: Glassonline.com

Asia

HNG focuses on Middle East and North Africa Region expansion potential



Glass bottles maker Hindusthan National Glass & Industries (HNG) said it will invest Rs 2,500 crore in the next three years to expand its facilities, including setting up of a new plant. "We will invest Rs 2,500 crore on various expansions which includes greenfield as well as brownfield facilities, in the next three years," HNG Vice Chairman and managing director Mukul Somany said. On the acquisition front, the company said it is eyeing facilities in Eastern Europe and MENA (Middle East and North Africa) region. "We have earmarked Rs 500 crore for acquisitions. We are focusing mainly on Eastern Europe and MENA regions," he said. The company, which has a capacity to produce 2,875 metric tons per day (mtpd) of glass, aims to increase it to about 6,000 mtpd in the next four and a half years. As part of the expansion plan, the firm today has announced deals worth Rs 250 crore with various international companies such as Switzerland-based Emhart Glass and Germany's Horn Glass for various equipment. "These deals are part of HNG's strategy to follow a very aggressive growth plan which would act as a catalyst in doubling its existing capacity," Somany said.

Source: Glassonline.com

Milk in Glass



Owens-Illinois has released results of new consumer research that shows Australian consumers would seriously consider buying their milk in glass bottles if it was back on the shelves. The research commissioned by O-I and conducted by Ipsos Australia showed 50% of all white milk buyers and 51% of flavoured milk buyers found the concept of milk packaged in glass bottles appealing. The study also revealed 42% of white milk buyers and 28% of flavoured milk buyers believed milk would taste better in glass versus other packaging types. O-I conducted the research to examine the habits of Australian milk buyers and the attitudes of consumers towards milk packaged in glass bottles. Availability of milk in glass is currently limited but O-I believes it is on the verge of a comeback.

Source: Foodprocessing.com.au

FLACONNAGE

New name for British Fragrance Association



The British Fragrance Association has changed its name to bring it into line with other international organisations. The new name, IFRA United Kingdom (International Fragrance Association United Kingdom) takes effect immediately. In other news, the association has announced Tony Dallimore of Phoenix Fragrances as chairman of its executive committee. Seven Scent's Neil Weaver has also been appointed vice chairman.

Source: Cosmeticsbusiness.com

Piramal Glass Q3 net profit up 135%



Piramal Glass Limited, a manufacturer of flaconnage (glass containers) for Cosmetics & Perfumery (C&P), Specialty Foods & Beverages (F&B) and Pharmaceuticals industry reported its best quarter ever while announcing its third quarter (Q3) of FY2011 results. PGL reported a consolidated net profit of Rs. 266mn – a growth of 135%. The key contributors to this are consolidated sales of Rs.3.11bn – a growth of 10.2% and EBITDA of Rs. 784mn – an increase by 31.3%. The EBITDA Margin for the same quarter improved to 25.3% - an improvement of 410 bps. Ajay Piramal, Chairman, Piramal Group said, "It is indeed heartening to see Piramal Glass achieve its best quarter ever. A PAT and EBITDA rise of 135% and 31.3% respectively bear testimony to this. We are witnessing a shift in the global glass packaging ecosystem. Emerging economies are expected to drive the global glass industry. Global majors are shifting their packaging to India and PGL is geared up to respond to this."

Source: Indiainfoline.com

Good Christmas trade boosts start to Douglas Holdings' New Year

Douglas Holding AG, which owns the German Douglas Perfumery chain, has reported a 3.7% climb in net sales to €3.3bn in the 2009/10 fiscal year, which was 2% higher than its projected sales target, indicating that these strong sales were in part down to healthy holiday spending by consumers. Dr Henning Kreke, president and CEO of Douglas Holding AG comments: "We have once again achieved our targets for this fiscal year. At €131.2m, our EBT was just above our target range of between €120-€130m, with the EBT margin standing at 4% just as in the previous financial year." The group, which is present throughout Europe, performed particularly well in its home country of Germany with the domestic market showing an individual sales increase of up to 4.7%, with

the Douglas Perfumery chain there increasing its market share. Kreke continues: "On the whole we are thoroughly pleased with the performance delivered during the past year, given the ongoing financial crisis still being perceived in several countries. The fact that we once again surpassed our targets is largely owed to our 24,000 employees. I would like to take this opportunity to express my heartfelt gratitude to each and every one of them."

Source: Cosmeticsbusiness.com

Glass jars become a Quadpack best-seller



Quadpack, one of Europe's fastest-growing independent packaging groups, is pleased to announce that its glass jars product range has become a Quadpack best-seller. Quadpack product manager Marta Albanell, who has 21 years of experience in glass manufacturing, is not surprised: "Glass has many benefits over plastic for cosmetics packaging. It has a higher perceived value, it is environmentally friendly and perhaps most importantly it is 100% product compatible. Coupled with our knowledge of the skincare sector and our ability to deliver in high volumes at competitive prices, glass is sure to be a winner." Glass also has multiple decoration options; it can be spray-coated, flux-printed, frosted, hot-stamped and silk-screened. Quadpack is able to provide bespoke glass packaging solutions as well as a variety of standard sizes and formats, ideal for supermarkets or high-street chemists who need affordable, off-the-shelf products for house skincare or cosmetics ranges. Our standard jar selection offers multiple options for caps (including PP and matt or brilliant aluminium), shapes (including egg-shaped), and sizes (5ml-50ml). Quadpack already delivers a range of standard and bespoke glass products to a number of filling companies, distributors and pharmaceutical and cosmetics companies. Current indications are that the upward trend for glass product sales is set to continue for the foreseeable future.

Source: Packaging-gateway.com

Elizabeth Arden announces Q2 expectations exceeded

Global beauty company Elizabeth Arden has announced that, based on its preliminary results, it expects to exceed its second quarter earnings guidance. For the second fiscal quarter ended 31 December 2010, the company expects net sales will be at or above the high end of its previously issued guidance of \$393m (€302.7m) to \$403m (€310.4m). It also stated expectations that earnings per diluted share will exceed prior guidance of \$0.90 (€0.69) to \$1.00 (€0.77) that was issued on 4 November 2010. Following this announcement, Elizabeth Arden intends to release the full results for its second fiscal quarter and comment on its full fiscal year 2011 guidance on 3 February 2011. Following a strong first fiscal quarter, the company said it was raising its annual net sales guidance for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2011 to a net sales increase of 3.5 percent to 4.5 percent, as compared to the prior fiscal year. After a net sales increase in the first quarter, the beauty brand claimed the performance of its brands and progress of its global marketing initiatives had a positive impact "Sales of Elizabeth Arden branded skin care products rose by 12 percent in the first quarter, and sales of our fragrance business grew by 8 percent overall and 17 percent in Europe," said E. Scott Beattie, Elizabeth Arden CEO.

Source: Cosmeticsdesign-Europe.com

Heinz Glas: construction of a new furnace



After a record 2010 year, German glassmaker Heinz Glas is building a new furnace, with a production capacity of 40 tons per day. The Heinz Glas group (EUR 280 million in turnover in 2010 including 220 million for the "Glass" activity) is going to build new furnace dedicated to the perfume industry, in Kleintettau on its German site. The investment representing more than 25 million

euros. The new furnace will have a capacity of 40 tons/day and to start with, will supply, two IS machines. It will be commissioned in January 2012. An investment that will also be complemented with a strengthening of the industrial tool in terms of finishing with the introduction of a third vacuum coating bell, a new lacquering line, a new automatic screen-printing line and a new automatic tampon printing line for a cost of about 2 million Euros. To date, Heinz Glas has no fewer than four furnaces in Germany, two in Poland, two in China and one in Peru. The Germany-headquartered group has literally pulverized its objectives in 2010 with a turnover that has soared from € 230 million in 2009 to € 280 million! It is mainly on the "glass" activity that the group will have achieved the best results, particularly in France, thanks to such successful launches as the new bottle for Opium and Belle d'Opium by Yves Saint Laurent, without forgetting of course, Ricci Ricci by Nina Ricci, So Elixir and Vanille Noire by Yves Rocher.

Source: Premiumbeautynews.com

Inter Parfums revises 2011 forecast upwards



Inter Parfums has revised its 2011 sales forecast upwards after posting an 18% increase in 2010 sales to €305.7m, achieved through gains in market share and exceeding targets set earlier. Lead sectors of the business put on substantial growth in 2010 with Burberry sales rising 11% to €184.8m, Lanvin boosting sales by 31% to €53m and Van Cleef & Arpels pushing the sales up 29% to €25.9m. Lanvin's performance in particular outpaced expectations set earlier with growth based on two established lines – Eclat d'Arpège and Jeanne Lanvin – and the launch of the Marry Me line which generated €7m. Meanwhile the integration of the Montblanc perfumes within the group from July last year also generated extra sales of around €7m. Emerging markets were the main areas for improvement, with Asia region sales up 27% and the Middle East 16%. Eastern Europe reported 61% growth and Latin American sales increased by 42%. West European sales went up 14% while those in North America put on 9%. Inter Parfums president Philippe Benacin said that given the worldwide integration in the second half of 2010 of established perfume lines under the Boucheron label, the take-off of Jimmy Choo perfumes and the good performance by the Montblanc perfumes in the second half, the company had revised its 2011 sales forecast to around €350m, up 15% over 2010.

Source: Cosmeticsbusiness.com

TABLEWARE

IKEA has recalled a 'RUND' glass mug over safety fears.



IKEA has recalled a 'RUND' glass mug over safety fears. People are asked to immediately stop using the mug and bring it back to any IKEA store for a full refund. IKEA has received 12 reports worldwide of RUND glass mugs that have broken in use, with five injuries. An IKEA investigation into the breakages revealed variations in glass thickness. IKEA apologised for any inconvenience caused.

Source: Rte.ie

COMPETING MATERIALS

Cans

UK metal packers fear BPA baby bottle ban could trigger wider safety doubts



A metal packaging trade body has expressed fears that the ban on bisphenol A (BPA) in polycarbonate baby bottles could raise doubts on the safety of other food contact materials containing the chemical, said the UK Food Standards

Agency (FSA). The food safety watchdog revealed the concerns of the UK metal packaging trade group as it launched a consultation process over the European Commission's decision to ban BPA in polycarbonate bottles for infants up to 12 months old. The FSA has asked for industry, retail and consumer players for their views on draft national regulations to implement the European Directive to outlaw use of the substance in baby bottles.
Source: Foodproductiondaily.com

Plastics

Plastics head predicts continued price concerns for 2011



2011 will bring little let-up in input costs for the plastic packaging industry, the head of the British Plastics Federation has predicted. Director general Peter Davis said that the high raw materials prices and problems of availability would be an "ongoing concern" in the year to come, while energy prices would continue their upward trend. "Big hikes in energy prices are expected and the UK's dependence on energy imports and slowness in developing new energy generation will be publicly exposed if bad weather causes industry power cuts," he said. "In December many factories were ordered to switch to generators to save gas supplies." Davis's comments came in a week that two major plastics raw materials suppliers – Ineos Nova and Dupont – announced significant New Year price hikes. They come at a time when manufacturers are facing raw materials price rises for a range of materials, including plastics but also affecting board and metals.

Source: Packagingnews.co.uk

Plastic bottle recyclers lament mixed plastic influx



The quality of plastic bottles collected for reprocessing is "diminishing" due to more councils collecting mixed plastics commingled at the kerbside, plastic reprocessors have claimed. Purchasing managers and reprocessors said that increased levels of mixed plastic were mostly affecting the mixed bottle grade. Purchasing managers also said increased levels of mixed rigid plastics - such as tubs, trays and pots - were currently driving prices for higher quality mixed bottles up as firms competing for the material sought to cherry-pick better quality material from an increasingly mixed stock. The current price for mixed plastic bottles is between £170 and £210 per tonne, which has risen from £130 to £170 per tonne in July. Both 'grade one' and 'grade two' bottles - the latter tends to have a greater level of contamination - have seen their prices increase. And, commenting on the impact of this on the market, reprocessors claimed that technology at materials recycling facilities (MRF) is not at a stage where it can sufficiently separate mixed plastics from the, traditionally more valuable, plastic bottle bales and as a result was adversely affecting prices.

Source: Letsrecycle.com

Explosive bioplastic growth prompts firm to expand in Central and Eastern Europe



US bioplastic firm Cereplast has announced two new distribution agreements in Poland and Romania that will aid its expansion into Central and Eastern European markets, according to the company. The manufacturer of bio-based, compostable and 'sustainable' plastics has entered into a multi-million dollar supply and distribution agreement with BioWorks to supply Cereplast resins to the Polish market. The resins are made from renewable resources including corn, wheat, tapioca and algae. "Cereplast remains committed to identifying key partners in the European marketplace to help meet explosive demand for bioplastic resin on the continent," said Frederic Scheer, founder, chairman and CEO of Cereplast. Scheer said that Poland, as the largest central European country, is considered to be one of the main manufacturing hubs in Western Europe. According to the CEO, in 2011, Poland has the potential to become a multi-million dollar bioplastics market.

Source: Foodproductiondaily.com

Cartonage

Hungarian folding carton and label producer acquired

Edelmann Group The German Edelmann Group last month took over the majority share in the printing company Zalai Nyomda Zrt. in Zalaegerszeg, Hungary. Zalai belongs to the leading producers of folding cartons and labels in Central and Eastern Europe and offers a wide range of packaging materials for the consumer goods and the pharmaceutical industry.

In the CEE region, Edelman already has a production unit in Poland.

Source: Ceepackaging.com

Tetra Pak 'committed to UK reprocessing'



Tetra Pak has said it is committed to developing aseptic carton reprocessing in the UK after kerbside collection rates rose to 31% of local authorities. TetraPak is still in consultation on the closure of its UK manufacturing facility in Wrexham, but has highlighted the increase in kerbside collections. Some 31% of councils now operate that type of collections, compared to 20% at the end of 2009. 87% of councils operate bring back facilities. The cartons are currently shipped to Sweden for reprocessing but it has been reported that the firm plans to develop capacity in the UK in the next 18 months.

Source: Packagingnews.co.uk

CONTAINER GLASS ACCESSORIES & SUPPLIERS

U.S. wineries continue to increase their use of cork



Premium domestic wineries are continuing to increase their use of cork closures, with brands using cork once again showing higher annual and holiday-period sales growth compared to those with alternative closures, according to a survey released by the Cork Quality Council (CQC) based on data from A.C. Nielsen. "We believe wineries are returning to cork because of consumer preference, vast improvements in the quality of cork, the emerging limitations of alternative closures and a growing awareness of cork's environmental advantages." Among the top 100 selling brands, the number of wines using cork rose by 10.4% to 74 brands during the 52 week-period ended Jan. 8, 2011, compared to the same period a year ago. Moreover, wines with cork posted an average annual sales increase of 10.3%, compared to 3.5% for alternative closures, which include plastic stoppers and metal screw-caps. "This is the fifth survey in a row to show an increase in the use and sales of cork," said Peter Weber, executive director of the CQC. "We believe wineries are returning to cork because of consumer preference, vast improvements in the quality of cork, the emerging limitations of alternative closures and a growing awareness of cork's environmental advantages."

Source: Businesswire.com

RETAILERS

A number of retailers set to enter Romanian market



A number of multinational retailers are set to enter the Romanian market this year, opening up possibilities for those supplying brand packaging to them. The most eagerly awaited appearance in the opinion of market analysts PMR is that of the German discounter Lidl, which was to take place last year. The company wants to open supermarkets in Bucharest, Ramnicu-Valcea, Timisoara, Iasi, Ploiesti, Turda and other 20

locations. Burberry is also expected to open a store in Romania in H1 2011. The DIY retailer Leroy Merlin has announced that is planning to open its first store in Romania this year in the Colosseum shopping centre in Bucharest, which is still being built.

Source: Ceepackaging.com

Snowfall hits Tesco Christmas sales



Tesco has blamed a subdued performance in its UK non-food business on the heavy snowfall in the run up to Christmas although said it continues to make good progress. Britain's largest retailer reported 6.2% growth in sales in the six weeks to 8 January that it said had been boosted by strong business internationally where sales grew by 14.2%. Tesco's UK operations reported 4.2% sales growth – 0.6% on a like-for-like basis – that reflects new store openings. Food sales were strong but non-food was hit by the severe weather conditions that hindered journeys to larger stores. The snowfall has been estimated to have cost Tesco some £50m in lost sales. Chief executive Terry Leahy said: "Our performance remains solid but was hindered in the run up to the important Christmas trading period in the UK by the disruptive effects of the severe winter weather conditions." Tesco's announcement comes a day after rival Sainsbury's revealed record trading for the Christmas period. Marks and Spencer and Morrisons also reported improved trading.

Source: Packagingnews.co.uk

CUSTOMER INDUSTRIES

Beverage industry – soft drinks and beer

Positive signs for beverage packaging market but uncertainties remain

Major uncertainties continue to make it difficult to predict a recovery in the global packaging market for beer and soft drinks, according to Canadean. Working with figures for volume of beer and soft drinks consumed, the beverage market research firm had predicted that the global market would dip 0.4 per cent in 2010 after recording growth of 1.3 per cent in 2009. But there have been some signs of recovery in beer and soft drink volumes so far this year, suggesting that the 2010 forecast may be beaten. Canadean analyst Stephanie Coleman said that some markets are considerably more positive in the latest forecasts than they were at the end of Q1. In particular, full year forecasts for Russia have been revised upwards following growth in Q2. But the analyst added a word of caution. Not all markets have been moving in a positive direction and plenty of uncertainty remains, even in those that are. Russia, for example, is still considered an extremely volatile market making it difficult to count on a continued recovery. Breaking down the beverage packaging market by material reveals some significant changes in the fortunes of different products. In 2010 Canadean expects PET to continue to be the major growth material in terms of volume. In 2004 PET already accounted for 41 per cent of the beer and soft drink packaging market and it has since increased its share to 46 per cent. Canadean forecasts predict that in 2010 PET will nudge its share up to 47 per cent. Both glass and metal have suffered at the expense PET over the past five years but in 2010 it is metal that is predicted to take the biggest hit. Canadean predicts 0.3 per cent growth for glass and a decline of 2.9 per cent in the volume of metal packaged drinks.

Source: Foodproductiondaily.com

Food



EDEN Foods taps amber glass jars to avoid BPA

Eden Foods has introduced 14 & 25-ounce glass jars of organic crushed tomatoes & sauces. These are the only shelf-stable organic tomatoes in the US packed in amber glass, protecting flavor & nutrients from light damage. But the driving force at Eden Foods for these amber glass jars of tomatoes was the avoidance of BPA in high acid food cans, and failure of the can manufacturers to make BPA-free cans for tomatoes. Six products: Eden Organic Spaghetti Sauce; No Salt Spaghetti Sauce; Pizza Pasta Sauce; Crushed Tomatoes; Crushed Tomatoes with Sweet Basil; & Crushed Tomatoes with Roasted Onion & Garlic, are now available in the new amber glass jars. Light causes discoloration & off-flavor through chemical change in food. Photo-oxidation (light damage) is systemic in food stores where fluorescent lighting, in particular, reduces food quality. Amber glass is difficult to get & more costly, but it best protects food. Amber glass is also free of the endocrine disrupter chemical BPA.

Source: Packagingdigest.com

From baby food to Hollywood glam

Melissa Gunning is riding her eco-chic baby food storage invention all the way to Beverly Hills, Calif., where she has been invited to set up a booth prior to Sunday night's Golden Globe Awards. While showing off her Wean Green company's convenient and cute glass cubes, the Calgary mompreneur will mingle with dozens of film and TV stars looking to stock their swag bags with the hottest parenting products. Gunning's cubes are one of the hottest eco-parenting products on the market, recently earning product awards from iParenting Media and ptpamedia.com. "There are no other tempered glass baby food containers," Gunning says. "Our style is definitely unique - it's really important to us." So what's all the fuss about? Gunning's four-ounce (114-millilitre) tempered glass cubes come in sets of four. Each cube gets its own colour of bright silicone lid - Raspberry, Blueberry, Peas and Carrots - and special "smart clips" on each lid keep the food from leaking into your diaper bag. Heavy-duty and square, the containers can go straight from freezer to microwave and also come in handy for adult snacks, spices, sauces and leftovers. The glass is safe for food storage - no bisphenol-A, phthalates, PVC (polyvinyl chloride) or plasticizers - and is recyclable.

Source: The Calgary Herald

Spirits

Spirits sales up 9.5% in 2010-2014 on Asian demand



Global spirits sales are expected to increase 9.5% from 2010 to 2014 on higher consumption of imported spirits in Asia, market research company International Wine and Spirit Record said. The drift in demand toward premium brands in the global market will likely continue through 2014, according to the study, which was ordered by French wine fair organizer Vinexpo. "Most of the spirits have now been taken in charge by big international groups, which have been able to exploit the strength of the brands," said Vinexpo Chief Operating Officer Robert Beynat during a press conference. Global retail revenue is expected to rise 9.5% to \$230.27 billion by 2014. Volumes of liquor sold worldwide will likely grow 2.2% by 2014 to an annual 2.74 billion nine-liter cases--the unit commonly used in the spirits industry. Volumes in Asia alone are expected to gain 4.8% during the period.

Source: Nasdaq.com

Millennials more open to exploring new and different alcoholic beverages



"Marketing Daily" reports Millennials (ages 21 to 34) are already redefining the alcoholic beverages marketplace, and their distinctive behaviors and attitudes will have an even more pronounced impact going forward. According to a new study, while the majority still prefers beer, they purchase relatively more wine and spirits than older generations did at a comparable age. Thus, while consumers traditionally have tended to show a relative shift from beer to wine and spirits as they age and their lifestyles change, Millennials' future consumption patterns are less predictable. Source: Marketing Daily

Pack redesign for iconic French brand Ricard



Design agency Coley Porter Bell has created the first-ever packaging redesign for iconic French drink Ricard. The new look follows consumer research and moves from a round bottle to a shape that is inspired by the brand's logo that is rectangular and is now embossed on the side of the bottle. The label has been broken down into three sections to highlight the logo, the 'pastis de Marseille' product and the signature of Paul Ricard. "Depuis 1932" is also embossed into the bottle to emphasise its history. Philippe Savinel, president of Ricard said that the new design would "reinforce the link with existing customers and help attract new ones" and balanced modernity with the brand's heritage. The bottles have been manufactured by Owens-Illinois and Saint-Gobain, the firm said. Source: Packagingnews.co.uk

Sparkling Wine

Champagne sales bubbling over



After a dive in Champagne and other high-end wine sales during the depths of the recession, bubbly sales are roaring back. After two years of the worst Champagne and sparkling-wine sales bottles began to move again. Either people are in better moods or are drinking to get there, because sparkling-wine sales rose 8 percent, according to the market research firm Nielsen, to \$780 million for the year ended in mid-October. Champagne from France rocketed 12 percent to U.S. sales of \$191 million. Source: Seattle Times

Major sale bubbling in Champagne



Rémy Cointreau is shopping its Charles Heidsieck and Piper-Heidsieck Champagne brands. Late last year French conglomerate Rémy Cointreau made the surprise announcement that it intended to sell its Champagne division, comprising the Charles Heidsieck and Piper-Heidsieck brands. The group's chief executive officer, Jean-Marie Laborde, indicated that with the sale of the two labels, as well as almost 125 acres of vineyards owned by Rémy in Champagne, they expected to raise "several hundred million Euros." The announcement created a great deal of buzz about possible buyers, particularly in the close-knit Champagne community. Insiders speculate that other French conglomerates might show interest, such as LVMH, which currently owns multiple luxury Champagne brands including Moët & Chandon and Veuve Clicquot, or Vranken-Pommery, which already owns the third, more value-oriented Heidsieck brand, Heidsieck Monopole. Looking abroad, possible buyers might include Diageo or Asian investors. Source: Winespectator.com

Turkish sparkling wine remains a dream due to high taxes



Turkish consumers will have to continue longing for locally produced “champagne” at affordable prices for a long time due to the high Special Consumption Tax, or SCT, levied on the product by the government. The SCT on sparkling wine is 16 Turkish Liras per liter. Hürriyet Daily News & Economic Review, Kayra Wine Department Manager Gözdem Gürbüzatık noted that what the Turkish brands produce was not champagne but “naturally sparkling wine,” which required a slightly different production technique. “There is only one other brand producing this type of wine apart from us,” she added. The naturally sparkling wines, unlike regular sparkling wines, continue to sparkle every time they are poured into a tumbler, just like champagne. But the fermentation technique which forms the gas that causes the sparkling is different than for regular champagne.

Source: Winebiz.com.au

Wine

France reclaims top spot in global wine industry: study



France reclaimed its position as the world's leading wine producer last year after losing the top spot to Italy in 2009, according to a study released by wine and spirits trade show Vinexpo. The study, conducted by London-based International Wine and Spirit Research (IWSR), said France produced 419 million cases of wine last year, making it the top global producer followed by Italy and Spain. France is expected to maintain its top position until 2014, the study said, despite an expected 5.54 percent average drop in production levels during the same period. After dropping on average by two percent a year since the 1960s, the decline in global wine consumption slowed between 2005 and 2009 to 1.4 percent per year, the study said. The decline is expected to slow further between 2010 and 2014, to 0.7 percent per year, it said. French wine exports fell by an average of 1.1 percent in value between 2005 and 2009 and by 9.4 percent in volume, the study said. The French wine industry has benefited in particular from a huge surge in demand for wines from its Bordeaux region in China and Hong Kong, according to the Bordeaux Wine Council.

Source: AFP France

UK merchants report £100m+ sales last year



The UK's top wine merchants have had a bumper year, reporting sales of over £100m each and massive increases on 2009. Sales successes are due mainly to the ever-burgeoning Chinese market, and the superb 2009 vintage in Bordeaux. The most complete picture comes from London merchant Farr Vintners, in whose ‘end of term’ report, chairman Stephen Browett announced sales in 2010 of £169m, more than doubling 2009's figures of £83m. This figure was helped massively ‘by record demand during the extraordinary 2009 en primeur campaign...which brought sales of £62.8m’. This is three times the figure for the 2008 vintage of £20m total sales. While other merchants do not publish figures in such detail, Berry Brothers, the biggest and oldest wine merchant in the UK, told Decanter.com it sold £110m of En Primeur wine alone in 2010. BBR figures for en primeur on the 2008 vintage were £40m; on the classic 2005 vintage they were £60m.

Source: Decanter.com

Chateau Carmes Haut-Brion sold for record sum



Château Carmes Haut-Brion in Bordeaux has been bought for €18m – a record price. The property, in the Pessac-Léognan region, was bought by Patrice Pichet, head of Bordeaux real estate company Groupe Pichet. This is his first vineyard purchase. Pichet reportedly paid €18m for the chateau in November 2010 from owners Didier Chantecaille-Furt and his daughter Penelope. The vineyard is located close to Château Haut Brion (the two estates shared the same owner, Jean de Pontac, for part of the

16th century). Berry Bros describes Carmes as 'a jewel of a property, positioned on the same bank of gravel (graves) as its more famous namesakes'.

Source: Decanter.com

Fruity Language



Wine makers in Portugal are struggling to keep up with a huge demand in Poland for a cheeky new vintage - because the name sounds just like f**k in Polish. The fruity wine - Curva Douro - is pronounced exactly like the Polish swear word, 'kurwa.' And sales are soaring in both Poland and Britain - where there is a huge Polish worker community - as drinkers take it to parties or give away bottles as presents for a joke.

"We've seen overwhelming demand for this wine with customers buying it in crates to give away," said Warsaw off-licence owner Wiktor Zmuda. And the buyers don't even seem to give a Curva about the price, at 10 GBP a bottle. "It's more than Poles would normally pay for a bottle of table wine, but the comedy value seems to be making it worth it," said Zmuda.

Source: Austriantimes.at

Beer

UK brewers raise wholesale prices following VAT rise and beer duty



Major brewers in the UK have announced to increase their wholesale prices of between 3.5p and 7p per pint for January and February 2011, following the 4 January VAT rise and the impending increase in beer duty, British newspapers reported. ABInBev is adding 5p to pints of Stella Artois, 7p to pints of Becks Vier, and 1p to Stella Artois 4 from 1 February. Heineken UK is increasing prices by between 4p and 5p on Monday 7 February, a duty-inclusive increase of 3.6%. The increase varies according to brand and applies to all packaged and draught beers. Carlsberg UK is adding 5p to pints from 31 January. Molson Coors is adding 3.5p to pints of Carling, a 2.3% rise, from 24 January. Already last month Diageo revealed a 5% wholesale price rise (excluding duty and VAT) for Guinness from 1 February. The British government is currently sticking to plans to increase beer duty above inflation in the Budget in March, through its tax 'escalator', even though the latest Oxford Economics research for the British Beer and Pub Association (BBPA) shows that rising taxes mean falling revenues and further job losses in the sector as beer sales fall sharply. Inevitably this means many more pub closures. The VAT increase alone is predicted by Oxford Economics to lead to the loss of around 8,800 jobs related to the sale of beer. These further planned duty increases will cost the Treasury £40 million in reduced tax revenues, and lead to another 10,000 job losses, the BBPA said.

Source: Globalmalt.com

Export of the Pilsner Urquell lager increased by 5% last year



In 2010 Plzeňský Prazdroj exported 664,000 hl of the Pilsner Urquell beer and thereby increased export of the renowned lager from Plzeň by 5 %, the company informed on Monday. Increased interest in Pilsner Urquell was seen in 2010 in traditional markets, such as the German market (240,000 hl, +4.77 %), the Slovak market (114,500 hl, +18.26 %) and the British market (24,000 hl, +37%). It was also sold in countries which are quite exotic for Czech beer, such as the United Arab Emirates, Syria, South Korea and Vietnam. Last year, Plzeňský Prazdroj successfully launched export of its Pilsner Urquell beer to Argentina. "The economic situation in a lot of markets to which we export isn't easy. That is why beer experts expect a decline in exports of Czech beer abroad. The negative trend should affect mainly luxurious goods, such as, in this case, premium brands. Therefore increased interest in Pilsner Urquell, which has always spread the fame of Czech beer around the world, is an excellent result. Just like Czechs, foreign consumers visibly appreciate its premium quality and its unique taste," says Karel Kraus, Manager of the Pilsner Urquell brand.

Source: Globalmalt.com

UK: SABMiller in exclusive deal with one of the world's leading airlines



In 2011 passengers flying with Virgin Atlantic will be able to drink two of SABMiller's global beer brands whilst in the air, following an exclusive deal to serve Grolsch and Miller Genuine Draft on-board Virgin Atlantic, the brewer said on Friday. The distribution and marketing agreement will see also Peroni Nastro Azzurro, Pilsner Urquell, Grolsch and Miller Genuine Draft listed in the iconic Virgin Atlantic Clubhouses at Heathrow and Gatwick airports. For the nearby future, there is an intention to extend the partnership to other Virgin enterprises as well. Chris Taylor, SABMiller's Group Global Brands Director said: "Virgin Atlantic has a reputation for delivering a great customer experience to travellers and we're delighted that our international brands will be a part of that experience. Their emphasis on quality and innovation make them ideal partners for our beer brands." Since it was founded in 1984, Virgin Atlantic Airways has become one of the world's leading airlines and now flies to 32 destinations worldwide. The airline has pioneered a range of innovations setting new standards of service. Virgin Atlantic's Sales and Marketing Director, Paul Dickinson, said: "Virgin Atlantic is always seeking out new ways to enhance the passenger experience and of course that includes the beers we serve onboard. The SABMiller international portfolio is of the highest quality and has many brand values that resonate with our own. We chose Grolsch because it's a top notch, slightly maverick brand and Miller Genuine Draft because it's a very versatile drink and is the ideal accompaniment to any style of food. We look forward to our passengers' feedback and to a long alliance with SABMiller."

Source: Globalmalt.com

Soft Drinks

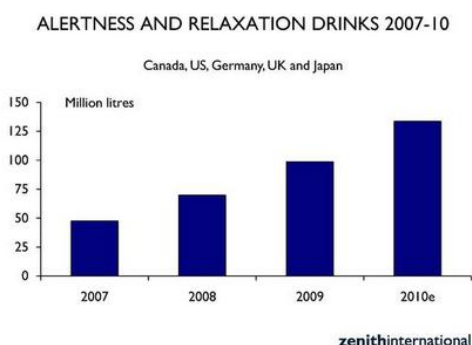
Euromonitor hails 2010 as a year of soft drink revival



Volume growth in the global soft drinks market almost returned to pre-recession levels in 2010, with carbonates exhibiting a particularly marked recovery, according to Euromonitor. The major emerging markets of China, Brazil and India have enabled the big multinationals to endure the effects of the recession in developed markets over the past two years. But now there are signs of recovery in these stagnant regions. The growth trend has turned positive for carbonates in four developed markets in 2010, including the important US market. Euromonitor has identified carbonates as one of the most striking stories of the recovery. They have been struggling in recent years, posting annual average growth of 0.8 per cent in 2008 and 2009, but last year, the market researcher said that figure rose to 1.9 per cent. The source of this growth has been broad based. In addition to the four developed markets that turned positive in 2010, Euromonitor said there were eight developing markets that returned to growth after contracting last year. And no developed market that had positive growth in 2009 turned negative in 2010. The recovery of carbonates is particularly important for the industry as a whole because of their share of the global market – they account for around 41 per cent of total value in soft drinks, according to Euromonitor.

Source: Beveragedaily.com

Relaxation drinks continue on upward growth path



New research from Zenith International suggests that the global market for alertness and relaxation drinks has passed the \$500m mark. The idea of relaxation or alertness drinks first emerged in Japan in 2005 when a group of products came onto the market enriched with (GABA) gamma aminobutyric acid. Formulated to help people unwind or focus better, these new drinks quickly spread to the US and have found a niche

alongside energy drinks. Zenith estimates that global sales volumes have trebled since 2007 to 133 million litres in 2010 and the retail value of the market has risen to \$521m. The US is now the largest market. Relaxation type drinks are emerging in European countries like the UK and Germany but regulatory hurdles are holding them back. Zenith market analyst Cecilia Martinez told this publication: "The main impediment for relaxation drinks is that certain ingredients such as melatonin have not been approved for use in beverages." As a result, relaxation drinks in Europe tend to be made with herbs which have a long history of use in many different products.

Source: Foodanddrinkeurope.com

RECYCLING/ COLLECTION

Civil engineers urge quality focus for UK waste collections



UK waste infrastructure is too focused on quantity of material rather than quality, according to the Institution of Civil Engineers (ICE). ICE's State of the Nation:

Waste and Resource Management 2011 report said between £10bn and £20bn needed to be invested in waste infrastructure over the next decade in order to generate materials of sufficient quality that they were routinely reused. ICE said that as well as a focus on quality, the government should facilitate private investment and develop infrastructure that could adapt to future demands. ICE waste and resource management expert Jonathan Davies said UK policy had focussed too heavily on landfill diversion which meant local authorities were looking to avoid fines by increasing the quantity of material they collect. "We still need more action also to drive up the quality of the material being produced," said Davies. Source: Packagingnews.co.uk

Wrap launches £4m fund to boost recycling in Midlands



Wrap has launched a new £4m fund to boost recycling in the West Midlands and recover a further 500,000 tonnes of waste by 2015. The aim is to focus on harder to capture materials – such as mixed plastic and food waste – and the funding is being provided by Wrap and the European Regional Development Fund. Wrap said funding was available for both small – up to £100,000 – and large – up to £500,000 – investments in both plants and equipment. Steve Creed, Wrap director of business resource efficiency, said: "More to be done if all business in the West Midlands are to have economic options to recycle their waste by 2020. "The new European funding will build on the success of the Advantage West Midlands programme and provide an opportunity to create more jobs in the recycling sector while at the same time contributing to long-term sustainable growth of businesses."

Wrap said that the West Midlands region would need an extra three million tonnes of recycling capacity over the next ten years.

Source: Packagingnews.co.uk

EU improving on waste recycling - but not enough, says review



Many member states are doing very well in the recycling of waste, particularly municipal waste recycling - but results are varied - and much more could be done. That was the message of the review of the European Commission thematic strategy on waste prevention and recycling, released last week. "We are still some way from achieving the long term goal of becoming a 'recycling society' - one that not only avoids producing waste but also uses it as a resource," the Commission said on 19 January - with Environment Commissioner Janez Potocnik pointing out also that a resource efficient economy will also create jobs - in waste recycling alone around half a million. "We have made major improvements in the last ten years; but we still have a long way to go. If the last ten years have taught us anything, it is that the targets we are putting on our

European waste legislation really are achievable. But they are not achievable through legislation alone," Potocnik said.

Source: European Environment & Packaging Law

FOOD CONTACT MATERIALS

BRC addresses risk of chemical migration from packaging to food

In a Web posting on ConfectioneryNews.com, journalist Guy Montague-Jone reports that the

 BRITISH RETAIL CONSORTIUM
for successful and responsible retailing

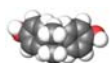
British Retail Consortium (BRC) has added safeguards to reduce the risk of chemicals migrating from inks in

packaging to food products. The new safeguards are part of Issue 4 of BRC Global Standard for Packaging, which are set to be published in February. Other changes include a preparation and planning section, which is written to help sites new to the certification process; the debut of grading system based on the number and severity of non-conformities; and processes for corrective action that reflect the company's audit performance. To read the full article by Guy Montague-Jone, visit

www.confectionerynews.com

Source: Packagingdigest.com

US company settles 'landmark' bisphenol A case



A leading US polycarbonate baby bottle maker has become the first to settle a lawsuit over failure to tell consumers its products contained bisphenol A (BPA), in what lawyers have dubbed a "landmark" development. Philips Electronics Corporation North America reached the settlement last week as part of a multi-district class action. Cases against six other major baby bottle producers, including Gerber, Platex and RC2, are pending. Between them, these companies account for the vast majority of the US market. If the remaining cases against these manufacturers follow the precedent set by Philips, this would effectively amount to a *de facto* ban on BPA use in baby bottles in the US. Last November, the EC announced it would be introducing a ban on the use of BPA in baby bottles this year. Under the terms of the preliminary settlement, Philips is not permitted to use BPA in its baby bottles for four years - unless other manufacturers do so and as long as they inform consumers of its inclusion in the container. Philips sold Avent brand plastic baby bottles and sippy cups that contained BPA. Plaintiffs alleged that the firm and several other manufacturers were liable for breach of warranty, violations of deceptive trade practices statutes and unjust enrichment when they failed to disclose to consumers that the baby bottles and sippy cups contained the chemical and that there are health risks associated with BPA exposure. The proposed class-wide settlement provides refunds and/or vouchers to those who purchased, or received as a gift, Avent or Philips Avent branded baby bottles and sippy cups that contained BPA. The judgement is set to be confirmed in May. The settlement resolves the case against Philips but preserves all claims against the remaining six defendants, Edith Kallas of Whatley Drake & Kallas said. "The settlement found that Philips had an obligation to disclose that it was using BPA in its baby bottles and sippy cups," she added. "If a company is aware there is material information, they should disclose it so consumers can make informed decisions. Consumers had a right to know about this potentially dangerous substance and the company had an obligation to disclose there was a controversy out there about it." Kallas said it could not be inferred that the settlement meant the court had reached any conclusions on the merits of BPA.

Source: Foodproductiondaily.com

STUDIES/RESEARCH

Major growth trends in bioplastic packaging to 2020



The emergence of new materials and major suppliers are set to shake up the global market for bioplastic packaging over the next decade, according to a report from Pira International. The industry consultants forecast a new breed of bioplastics will become significant drivers as “packaging market demand gradually shifts from biodegradable and compostable polymers towards biopackaging based on renewable and sustainable materials”. The study - The Future of Bioplastics for Packaging to 2020: Global Market Forecasts - predicts the current top five suppliers, which presently meet more than half of global supply, will be joined by a raft of other companies as novel manufacturing streams come on-line. “From 2010 bioplastic technology is expected to change with the commercialisation of materials produced directly by natural/genetically modified (GM) organisms and the introduction of non-biodegradable, bio-derived polyethylene (PE),” said the report. Bioplastic materials are defined as materials that are either biodegradable and compostable and derived from both renewable and non-renewable sources, or materials that are non-biodegradable and derived from renewable resources. Global bioplastic packaging demand is forecast to reach 884,000 tonnes by 2020. A 24.9 per cent compound annual growth rate (CAGR) is expected from 2010-15 slowing to 18.3 per cent in the five years to 2020, said the analysts. Pira expects the fast-growing GM and bio-derived segments will account for a quarter of total bioplastic packaging market demand by 2020. Polyhydroxyalkanoates (PHA) are forecast to achieve a CAGR of 41 per cent and bio-derived PE a staggering 83 per cent over the period. At the same time traditional bioplastic packaging technologies based on starch, cellulose and polyester are each forecast to show a decline in market share. Source: Foodproductiondaily.com

RAW MATERIALS

FMC to restart its Wyoming soda ash plant



FMC is reportedly restarting its Granger soda ash production plant in southwest Wyoming, in response to the recent strong export demand for southwest Wyoming soda ash. According to the company, the plant will reopen in July and provide work for about 80 people. FMC suspended production at the facility in 2009 because of reduced export demand caused by the global economic downturn. Source: Glassonline.com

PEOPLE

New Sales Director at Heinz Glas



Heinz Glas announced the appointment of Rudolf Wurm to the position of Commercial Director for Heinz-Glas GmbH, in replacement of Horst Hempfling who was offered new challenges within the company. Rudolf Wurm will be assisted by Jörg Fehn who will operate as the Assistant Sales Manager more specifically in charge of areas like North America, Northern Europe and the Middle East. Source: Premiumbeautynews.com

O-I announces new Vice President of Global Environment, Health and Safety



Owens-Illinois announced that Deborah Hockman, Ph.D., has been named vice president of global environment, health and safety (EHS). In the newly created position, Hockman will lead O-I's global efforts to enhance the company's safety, environment compliance and health processes, standards and metrics. She also will serve as global safety program leader, driving the company's worldwide efforts to create an accident-free workplace – one of O-I's sustainability initiatives. Source:www2.bizjournals.com

EVENTS

PCD (Perfumes, Cosmetics & Design)



8 - 9 February 2011
Cit  des Sciences et de l'Industrie
Paris, France

FEVE Water Tasting Event - Join us at the 1st Water Tasting Event in the European Parliament!



9 February 2011, 6 - 8.30 pm
European Parliament
Brussels, Belgium



Ambiente



11-15 February 2011
Frankfurt a. M., Germany

Pharmapack



23 - 24 February 2011
Paris, France

GulfGlass 2011



7 - 9 March 2011
National Exhibition Centre
Abu Dhabi, United Arab Emirates

Prowein



27 - 29 March 2011
Duesseldorf, Germany

Interpack



12 - 18 May 2011
Duesseldorf, Germany

Glassman Europe – meet FEVE at Glassman Europe



25 - 26 May 2011
Hall 5, Montjuic, Palau de Congressos
Barcelona, Spain



FEVE AGM and Open Day



16 June 2011
Brussels, Belgium



Vinexpo



19 - 23 June 2011
Bordeaux, France

Fachpack



15 September – 29 September 2011
Nuernberg, Germany

Simej



Fiera Milano City
22 – 26 November 2011
Milan, Italy

ANUGA



8 - 12 October 2011

Cologne, Germany

Luxe Pack 2011



October 2011

Grimaldi Forum

Monaco

Vitrum 2011



26-29 October 2011

Milan, Italy

Barcelona Food Technology & Hispack International Packaging Exhibition

15–18 May 2012



Barcelona, Spain



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