



NEWSLETTER – April 2011 – N°394

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## EUROPEAN UNION NEWS

### ***Commission consults on resource efficiency***



EUROPEAN  
COMMISSION

What is stopping us from moving towards a low carbon economy? That is one key question to be asked as part of the European Commission consultation on its "Roadmap for a resource efficient Europe" launched recently. The broad aim of the consultation, launched after the Commission adopted its Communication on resource efficiency is to get "informed opinions" on how to best achieve the transition to a resource efficient Europe. The survey has three sections focusing on: the respondent's general view on resource use, scarcities, current obstacles (e.g. inadequate markets, insufficient funds, lack of targets/indicators) and major areas of concern; policy areas that the roadmap could bring forward (e.g. market-based instruments and green taxes, green public procurement, research & development); and on the respondent's personal attitudes and consumption behaviour. The consultation also asks how the Commission should approach the issue of indicators so that improvements in resource efficiency across different parts of the EU economy could be effectively monitored and measured.

Source: European Environment & Packaging Law

### ***New targets needed for packaging, says Commission***



Recycling and recovery targets for packaging should be increased in line with the waste framework Directive, the European Commission's Diana Oancea said in March - if emphasising that no formal decision on targets had been taken.

"Targets are very necessary, [it is not just the east], we have countries in the west that only do the minimum," she told the European Packaging Waste Forum on 9 March. "The targets should drive up performances in future." Oancea, from DG Environment's Sustainable Production and Consumption Unit, said that a revision and new targets were needed in the broad aim for increased coherence between the packaging and packaging waste directive (PPWD) and the revised waste framework directive (WFD). The WFD notably calls for a preparation for reuse and recycling of materials target, such as at least paper, metal, plastic, glass from households and an option for similar wastes, to be increased to "a minimum of overall" 50 per cent by 2020. "The targets are puzzling and can overlap a bit as a result of political negotiation. We need to aim for enhanced coherence in the future," Oancea said also that the WFD recycling target was complementary to the PPWD targets. PPWD targets were still in place as the WFD target was broader, with different ways to calculate it. The packaging recycling targets however were specific (i.e. 60 per cent for glass and paper, 50 per cent for metals, 22.5 per cent for plastics and 15 per cent for wood).

Source: European Environment & Packaging Law

### ***'2050 strategy' builds on energy savings***



Europe must invest heavily in efficiency to limit spiraling energy costs and beat its own target for cutting greenhouse gas emissions, the EC said in March, unveiling plans to move to a competitive low-carbon economy by 2050. Much or all of the extra investment would be recovered from savings

on oil imports, the Commission said in its 'roadmap for moving to a competitive low-carbon economy in 2050'. "As oil prices keep rising, Europe is paying more every year for its energy bill and becoming more vulnerable to price shocks. So starting the transition now will pay off,"

said Connie Hedegaard, the EU's commissioner for climate action. Europe has to invest an extra 1.5% of its economic output each year to rein in energy costs, the Commission's report said. Most controversially, the roadmap said that meeting efficiency goals would also help the bloc beat existing targets for cutting greenhouse gas emissions by the end of the decade. The EU has a long-term goal to slash emissions by 80% below 1990 levels by the middle of the century and to trim greenhouse gases by a fifth by 2020. The EU would cut greenhouse gases by a quarter by the end of the decade, if it met renewable energy and efficiency targets by then, the Commission said. The notion of beating the 2020 goal was criticised in equal measure for going too far and not far enough by business and green groups respectively, a battle likely to complicate the plan's adoption by member states in the coming months. The EU has long said it could move to a more ambitious, 30% emissions cut if other countries also offered more ambitious action in currently deadlocked UN climate talks. The EU has a non-binding target to improve efficiency by a fifth by 2020, and the EC published a separate report on Tuesday detailing how to meet the goal. One way of boosting efficiency would be to cut the quota of emissions permits to industry in Europe's carbon market, the Commission said, tightening the emissions trading scheme's (ETS) screw on greenhouse gases. The market caps emissions from factories and power plants by issuing a fixed quota of permits, now in surplus after a financial crisis cut pollution and halved the carbon price. Setting aside a "gradually increasing" number of carbon permits from 2013 to 2020 could push carbon prices higher and drive low-carbon investment, the Commission said. The 'BusinessEurope' industry lobby opposes that idea, saying it would hurt companies whose rivals in China, Japan and the United States face less onerous climate laws.

Source: Euractiv.com

### **Commission: New comitology rules will have major impact**



EUROPEAN  
COMMISSION

The new rules for the European Commission's implementing powers enter into force on 1 March - reflecting the gradual shift in law making from the initial omnipotence of Council to the sharing of power with the Commission and European Parliament. According to the EC, the new comitology system will be "simpler, more efficient, and more transparent" and will have a major impact on future EU legislation. The new comitology system, which puts into practice Articles 290 and 291 of the Treaty on the Functioning of the EU (TFEU) on implementing acts, foresees that special procedures will disappear and that practically all implementing measures, including trade defense measures such as anti-dumping or countervailing measures, will be subject to the regulation. An EC official told journalists that there were four main changes to the new rules. The first change is that there is no longer "any interference of the legislator". Cases will no longer be referred to Council and "only the Commission" will take decisions. The second change is the increased flexibility given to the EC. There is no longer any legal obligation for the EC to adopt a draft implementing act where there is no QMV in favour or against. Thirdly, there are now only two procedures (advisory and examination) instead of four. Finally, to ensure the smooth implementation of the revised rules, adaptation between the old and the new system is automatic and immediate.

Source: European Environment & Packaging Law

### **Macedonia (FYROM) considers deposit system for bottles**



The Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia (FYROM) is considering introducing a deposit and return system on glass bottles. A new *Law on Packaging and Waste Packaging* came into force in FYROM on 1 January 2011. To ensure reaching the glass targets, one option would be to introduce a deposit system, said Aleksandar Tikveshanski, Business Development Officer at USAID Plastic Recycling Project. "Glass is a specific topic in our country," Tikveshanski said. "We currently have no producers and all the glass we use is imported." Tikveshanski said that there is currently an initiative to start glass production in the country, "but this will take some time." "At the moment bottles are single use only and are not returned for cash. All the glass collected is exported to neighbouring countries where a recycling system is already in place." According to Tikveshanski, however, this is likely to change the moment FYROM produces its own glass and sets up a separate waste collection and recycling system. EU industry organisations such as EUROPEN (the

European Organisation for Packaging and the Environment), BCME (Beverage Can Makers' Europe) and the umbrella organisation for green dot schemes Pro Europe oppose deposit schemes, particularly that of Germany's, saying that they are costly and burdensome. In their view, bottle collections are best done by green dot schemes.  
Source: European Environment & Packaging Law

### **Council: No binding energy efficiency targets before 2013**



EU ministers meeting in Brussels have again put off any discussion of a legally binding target for improving energy efficiency across the EU until at least 2013. Ministers stated that setting any additional energy efficiency targets was "not justified at present", despite the slow progress to date. "The implementation of the EU energy efficiency target will be reviewed by 2013 and further measures considered if necessary," they said. According to the European Commission, the EU is barely halfway to achieving its voluntary target to increase energy efficiency by 20 per cent by 2020 compared to a business-as-usual scenario. The EC is expected to publish a new EU energy efficiency plan - an update of the 2006 version which includes the 20 per cent target soon, including measures to try and get the EU back on track. Suggested measures include focusing on energy efficiency throughout the supply chain from production to end-use, requiring the public sector both to use energy efficiency measures and to promote them and tightening EU eco-design standards. The draft plan also suggests revising the EU's energy services directive (2006) and cogeneration directive (2004). These and several other suggestions in the Commission draft won political support from the ministers in their meeting conclusions. But the ministers make no reference to the Commission's call for national governments to set voluntary national energy efficiency targets. "The implementation of the [2011 plan] and related instruments across member states would be more easily achieved if a common, easy and practicable methodology for monitoring the development of energy efficiency could be developed," said the ministers. Member states have been reluctant to accept binding EU energy efficiency targets until such a common methodology is agreed.

Source: European Environment & Packaging Law

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## CONTAINER GLASS INDUSTRY

### Europe

#### **Ardagh to buy European packaging group**



Ardagh Group is to buy European packaging group Finanziaria di Partecipazioni Industriali (Fi Par) in a deal worth up to €125 million. Fi Par is involved in the production of metal packaging for the food and aerosol markets in Italy and Greece, trading under the names In Cam, National Can Italiana, Eurobox, European Aerosol Can, and National Can Hellas. The acquisition, which has been approved by competition regulators in Italy, is expected to be completed in early April. The group employs 440 people across five manufacturing locations and had sales revenues of about €150 million in 2010. Chief executive Niall Wall said the deal would reinforce Ardagh's position in the key product areas of metal food containers and aerosols. "Annual group sales in Italy including glass and metal will now be substantially increased, making this one of our key geographies and further strengthening our presence in southern Europe," he said. "This is a really good transaction. Fi Par is a very successful business with an excellent reputation that will enhance Ardagh's overall position in Europe. We are very excited about its addition to our group." Ardagh, which produces metal and glass packaging for food, beverage and consumer product brands around the world, employs 14,000 people in 24 countries, and has annual sales of more than €3.2 billion.

Source: Irishtimes.com



### **Polish glass producer acquired**



Zignago Vetro Group purchased around 79% of the share capital of Huta Szkła Czechy (HSC), a glass producer based near Warsaw, for a total price slightly less than 7 million euro. In 2010 the company, which has over 300 employees, generated revenues of approximately Euro 14 million, an increase of almost 30% compared to 2009, with an EBITDA margin of approximately 11%. This financial information is in the process of being certified. HSC is a company with high potential that operates in niches of the global market of glass containers for cosmetics and perfumery, and also for food and beverages. HSC supplies its customers primarily with a wide range of personalised products. HSC is located in a strategic geographical area, both because of the potentiality for growth of the Polish market, and because of its location in between of the traditional EU markets and of the high-growing Eastern Europe markets. Franco Grisan, President and Managing Director of Zignago Vetro and new President of HSC stated: "This transaction announced today is fully consistent with the Zignago Vetro's strategy, which aims to grow and strengthen both organically and by acquisition and to increase its flexibility with a view of broadening its offer and its reference markets. Receiving the parent company's know-how will permit a comfortable and profitable development for HSC and will allow Zignago Vetro to expand its own production process by integrating manufacturing processes that are currently not being performed. These new synergies between companies of the Group and the direct presence in markets that are very interesting for us will increase the value of our company."

Source: Ceepackaging.com

### **UN event brings focus on packs' food supply chain role**



Interpack has pulled off a major coup with the addition of the Save Food conference and exhibition in a tie-up with the United Nations. The mini-exhibition and two-day conference will run alongside Interpack in Düsseldorf, from 16-17 May. The event is organised by the UN Food and Agriculture Organisation (FAO) and Messe Düsseldorf. The conference will aim to highlight the role that packaging plays in feeding the world's growing population and in reducing food losses. Logistics and transport will also be on the agenda for the event as key players in helping to cut down the sometimes huge percentages of food that can occur through the supply chain between farms and consumers. At the conference, the results of three new studies will be unveiled that have been carried out by the FAO. The first looks at the reasons for, and extent of, food wastage through the supply chain in developed countries. Another study examines the same subject in less developed countries, while the third aims to quantify the investment needed to ensure an adequate supply of food packaging locally in these countries. "Worldwide food losses are estimated to range from 20% to 75% depending on the type of food," said Robert van Otterdijk, FAO officer for Save Food. Guest speakers at the event will include representatives from the UN plus experts from industry, politics and research institutes. In addition a Save Food Pavilion will showcase best practices in the food sector.

Source: Packagingnews.co.uk

### **Another way to think of champagne bottles**



Just looking at it, you want to taste it! The bottle of champagne glass is translucent - a real pleasure. An image of purity associated with golden wine. This image is also linked to the mythical vintage Roederer Cristal. The bottle is the first to play on transparency. Louis Roederer uses a Flemish master glassblower who creates an exceptional bottle made of crystal. Transparent, it has a flat bottom very thick to withstand the pressure inside the bottle. Crystal has become a luxury cuvee, one of the first world.

Source: Lunion.presse.fr

### **Looking again at glass**



Despite competition, glass bottles still rule. Wine packaging has taken giant strides during the past decade, providing more options for containers and closure. But the overwhelming majority of wine in North America is still sold in glass bottles—and not just because that’s the traditional package. Less than 10 years ago, the industry was doubtful that consumers would accept synthetic corks (let alone screwcaps), and bag-in-box (BiB) was limited to extremely low-end wines. This has all changed, but the fact remains: Glass is clearly king in terms of units sold. Recent figures from our data partner Symphony IRI Group show that glass bottles (from 187ml to 4 liters) accounted for 82.8% of wine sales by volume for the year ending Nov. 28. During the same period, sales of standard 750ml bottles remained stable; single-serve 187ml bottles declined 1.4%; 1-liter bottles dropped 2.3%, and larger format 3L and 4L bottles dropped 2.6% and 1.6% respectively. Somewhat surprisingly, SIRI reported that simultaneously, BiB sales also declined in the 3L (down 2.2%) and 5L (minus 1.1%) sizes. Only aseptic (TetraPak and similar presentations) containers grew—by 10.3% in the half-liter and 1.6% in other sizes. Nevertheless, North American purveyors of glass wine bottles responded to the perceived competitive threat by providing greener options and ramping up promotion for recycling programs. Top suppliers including O-I and Verallia became top sponsors at events like the annual Green Wine Summit in Santa Rosa, Calif., where company representatives explained their green initiatives to audiences motivated by environmental and cost concerns. Full article on Wines & Vines:

<http://www.winesandvines.com/template.cfm?section=features&content=84592&ftitle=Looking%20Again%20at%20Glass>

Source: Winesandvines.com

### **AMERIPEN: New U.S. environment-focused packaging organization formed**

AMERIPEN

The new organization, formed by leading CPGs, will encourage a science-based approach and will represent the interests of the industry in public policymaking. Leading U.S. corporations have announced that they are taking steps to create a new packaging trade organization. AMERIPEN will engage on public policies impacting the packaging value chain on topics related to packaging and the environment, and will represent the interests of the industry, which includes raw material producers, packaging manufacturers, packaging users and fillers, retailers, and material recovery organizations. Corporate founders include The Coca-Cola Co., Colgate-Palmolive, ConAgra Foods, The Dow Chemical Co., DuPont Packaging & Industrial Polymers, Kellogg Company, MeadWestvaco (MWV), Procter & Gamble, Sealed Air Corporation, and Tetra Pak, Inc. AMERIPEN will advocate packaging policy developments in North America focusing on measures that are environmentally and economically sound, as well as socially responsible. AMERIPEN, with a material-neutral approach, will encourage science-based decision-making on sustainable packaging initiatives and will provide a point of view and guidance to policymakers and thought leaders on the value of packaging. “Today, the complexity of environmental issues confronting packaging is greater than ever. Having a voice to represent common industry views of these matters and help shape public policy is an absolute essential” comments AMERIPEN vice president Gail Tavill, “With the emergence of extended producer responsibility and other potential packaging legislation in the coming years, this is a critical time for our industry to offer a competing voice. We’re committed to providing necessary expertise and insight to ensure sustainable management of packaging throughout its life cycle.”

Source: Greenerpackage.com

## **GPI: Clear Choice Awards**



The Glass Packaging Institute (GPI) invites you to **enter the 2011 Clear Choice Awards**, which recognizes the contribution glass packaging makes to the image, marketability, sustainability and success of food, beverage and cosmetic products. Because of the success of last year's Awards, GPI will again hold a virtual Clear Choice Awards event. Clear Choice Awards winners will be announced on the GPI website the week of 11 September 2011, during GPI's Recycle Glass Month.

Source: GPI.org

## **Asia**

### **O-I presents glass LCA At China Safe And Sustainable Packaging Summit 2011**



Owens-Illinois presented its complete Life Cycle Assessment (LCA) study at the China Safe and Sustainable Packaging Summit in Hangzhou, China. The China Safe and Sustainable Packaging Summit shares best practices in reducing resource use, waste and associated costs and creating sustainable packaging with consumer appeal. Detailing cradle-to-cradle life cycle data on glass, aluminum and Polyethylene Terephthalate (PET) containers, O-I's LCA reveals glass has the most favourable carbon footprint of all those packaging types. Validated by sustainability research firm AMR Research, O-I's LCA also shows that using recycled glass directly reduces carbon emissions. Every 10% of recycled glass used in production cuts carbon emissions by about 5% and reduces energy use by some 3%. Further, transporting finished glass containers comprises only a small portion (4 to 5%) of the complete carbon footprint of glass packaging. "Sustainable packaging is becoming a critical consideration for food and beverage industries in Asia Pacific. O-I's LCA enables a true comparison between packaging materials as it details the complete life of a package - from the extraction of raw materials to the reuse or recycling of the container," said presenter Steve Bourke, Regional Environmental and Risk Manager, O-I Asia Pacific. "The focus on sustainable packaging in China is expected to grow due to environmental awareness, government initiatives and an increasing population. Glass is not only the consumer choice for taste, purity and safety, it's also 100% recyclable, forever. "O-I's LCA provides key packaging decision-makers in China with more insight into the environmental impact of their packaging choices. It also dispels many myths associated with the carbon footprint of different packaging types," Mr Bourke said. O-I is China's second largest glass manufacturer, with eight plants and one mould factory. O-I's China operations produce around one million tonnes of glass packaging per annum, mainly for the beer, food, wine and spirits industries.

Source: Abnnewswire.net

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## **FLACONNAGE**

### **Glass bottles introduced for nail polish**



The O.Berk Company has introduced a range of flint glass bottles for nail polish, perfume or cologne. The square/cube shaped bottles in this collection are available in three sizes – 8ml, 11ml and 15ml – and all feature screw top neck finishes that can accommodate a variety of closures. The manufacturers claim that they can create a custom look with upscale decorating options that shows off a company's unique brand identity.

Source: Ceepackaging.com

### **Recycled content not always preferable in natural and organic cosmetics packaging**



With natural and organic cosmetics products typically commanding a higher price than their traditional counterparts, packaging needs to reflect this, which doesn't always mean opting for recycled or sustainable content, according to Euromonitor



International's head of global packaging research, Benjamin Punchard. "While some categories, such as organic food, often combine a strong environmental awareness in both the product (as organic) and the packaging (often bio-based plastics or compostable materials), within cosmetics this is not always possible or desirable," Punchard said. Punchard highlighted that when glass packaging is used, cosmetics and personal care companies will more often opt for virgin glass rather than recycled glass in order to ensure the premium image they are trying to portray is reflected in the packaging quality and clarity. "In addition, many skin creams and lotions will be oxygen or light-sensitive and therefore the primary concern will be to protect the contents, for example through airless pump technology, rather than to utilize recycled or sustainable packaging content," he said. When it comes to using packaging to market natural and organic cosmetics and personal care products, 'positioning is everything', said Punchard. While virgin glass may be preferable to recycled glass for clarity, this can be marketed to the consumer as recyclable, he said, adding that often, secondary packaging of a folding carton is used, which offers additional scope for the inclusion of recycled board.

Source: Cosmeticsdesign-Europe.com

### **Asia Pacific forecasted to lead global luxury packaging market growth**



The luxury goods packaging market by value in Asia Pacific is expected to see a compound annual growth rate (CAGR) of 7.1 percent in the period to 2015, according to new research from Pira Intl. This outstrips the 4.9 percent projected for the global luxury packaging market as a whole and 3.0 percent for the global consumer packaging market.

Source: Packaging Digest

### **Bulgari joins forces with LVMH**

**BVLGARI** The Bulgari Group has joined forces with the LVMH Group to establish its long term development in the cosmetics and fragrance, as well as the watch and jewellery market segments. The agreement was concluded and approved unanimously by the LVMH board of directors as well as with the Bulgari board of directors. Both boards also unanimously approved the fact that the Bulgari family's majority shareholding in the Italian House will now go to LVMH. Upon completion of the share transfer process, LVMH will issue 16.5 million shares in exchange for the 152.5 million Bulgari shares currently held by the Bulgari family, who will thus become the second largest family shareholder of the LVMH Group. In compliance with the Italian Stock Exchange regulations, LVMH will then submit a Public Purchase Offer at €12.25 per share on the shares held by minority stockholders. Bernard Arnault, owner of LVMH believes the alliance between the two groups bodes well for the future and development of both companies, stating that both group's shareholders are involved in the management of the business and share the same views.

Source: Cosmeticsdesign-europe.com

### **Gerresheimer acquires Brazil packaging firm**



Gerresheimer AG is acquiring Védal, a Brazilian manufacturer of pharmaceutical packaging and closures. Gerresheimer did not disclose the acquisition price, but says the move will allow it to strengthen its position in the South American market. "Expanding in emerging markets is a key component of our growth strategy," CEO Uwe Röhrhoff said in a statement. "The acquisition... perfectly fits our strategy of doubling our sales in the emerging markets from 100 million Euros to 200 million euros [\$142 million to \$284 million] by 2013." Gerresheimer already has three plants in Brazil and one in Argentina. Védal has annual sales of about \$63 million and approximately 450 employees.

Source: Gerresheimer Press Release/Plasticsnews.com

### **Gerresheimer: a recycled but beautiful glass for Garnier**



For its face care line, Garnier is using a range of glass jars developed by Gerresheimer and containing 40% of recycled material: an action that immediately benefits to the environment. Garnier, L'Oreal's cosmetics and toiletries mass-market brand, has just moved on to the next stage in its search to minimize the environmental impact of its packaging. Garnier is now using a 40% recycled glass in the glass pots of its face care products produced by German glassmaker Gerresheimer: a first for a brand in the mass market channel. For obtaining a material that is as beautiful and transparent as virgin glass, Gerresheimer has developed a specific technical process. The glass comes from a controlled source. After having been collected, sorted, cleaned and ground up according to "a leading-edge process," a high-class cullet is obtained. This cullet is then re-introduced into the glass manufacturing cycle in order to make new glass. The process helps reduce the environmental impact of the glass packaging used by Garnier, through energy savings, the reduction of CO2 emissions, and the preservation of natural resources.

Source: Premiumbeautynews.com

### **Hindusthan Glass close to overseas buy**



Hindusthan National Glass and Industries Ltd (HNGL) may finalize a strategic overseas acquisition in the pharmaceuticals space in the next two-three months, a top official said. India's largest glass bottle maker by market share, which largely caters to industry sectors such as liquor and food and beverages, plans to strengthen its presence in the drug sector in both local and international markets. The acquisition is likely to cost HNGL between Rs.200 crore and Rs.400 crore. The existing clients of the target company in the pharma sector are the key advantage that the local firm expects from this buy, said vice-chairman and managing director Mukul Somany. "An acquisition in the drug space, where we wanted to grow further, would not only help entering foreign markets, but also to have several new global clients," he said Somany declined to share details about the target firms and its key markets. "We were looking for acquisition targets in Middle East, other South-East Asian countries, and Europe," he said. HNGL had engaged Rothschild Consulting and PricewaterhouseCoopers to advise on the deal, according to a person familiar with the acquisition plan, who requested that he remain unnamed.

Source: Livemint.com

### **Webinar: Glass Delamination- an industry challenge**



Glass delamination is one of the most significant issues occurring in the area of parenteral primary packaging. The appearance of glass flakes in a parenteral solution has significant impact on patient safety, quality, and regulatory concerns. Current opinion/thought on potential root cause has focused merely on the quality of the glass being used. In practice, the root cause of delamination is a combination of glass science and processing, the composition of the formulation, and the time/temperature of the product while it is contained in the glass package. To prevent delamination, all three factors must be considered. This refutes the concept that there is "good" glass packaging and "bad" glass packaging. This talk will focus on scientific fundamentals that demonstrate this somewhat complex relationship, and will suggest predictive testing that can show glass/liquid incompatibility long before the appearance of visible flakes. Time & date: Thursday May 5, 2011 - 12:30 pm to 2:00 pm EDT. For more information and to register:

<http://mediaserver.aapspharmaceutica.com/meetings/webinars/apq-7/apq-7-info.pdf>

Source: Mediaserver.aapspharmaceutica.com

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## **TABLEWARE**

### **New Villeroy & Boch tableware line**



New for 2011 is Villeroy & Boch's new glass tableware collection, Cera

Black. Cera in clear glass and also the decorative Bloom Sun & Shadow. The twelve-piece Cera Black collection includes a selection of different sized glass plates in square, rectangular and circular shapes featuring a smooth curved plate edge. The original new collection teams innovation with functionality and is dishwasher safe, scratch-proof and resistant to discoloration.

Source: Thestaffcanteen.com

### **Riedel: We're in China for the long game**



Georg Riedel does not expect to see any great take-up of his glasses in China for a generation. Riedel set up its own distribution network in China in July 2010 as a 'strategic move,' the CEO of the company said. The Austrian firm sells the entire range of its glasses - which retail at between £20 and £100 each - through department stores and now through franchise stores, of which there are 20, with a further 30 opening this year. 'We wanted to be there in time. We have been watching the rise of the Chinese middle class, and we are very comfortable developing glasses for them,' Riedel said. He also said it would be 'premature' to call the operation a success. 'There is no doubt that China is a waking giant, but within the time span of its development we need to be very patient. It will take 20 years: the next generation will reap the fruits of the seeds we have planted.' The Chinese market for fine glassware is similar to the Japanese market, in that they have a culture of working with and using fine vessels of china and glass. 'The finesse and delicacy of vessels is not new to Japanese culture and the Chinese have developed a similar appreciation.' But, Riedel said, the problem was persuading Chinese consumers to use the glasses at home. 'We have to teach those who buy the glasses that they are not a piece of aesthetic but something functional. Often we find that they buy them, and then keep them in the cabinet.'

Source: Decanter.com

### **Bormioli Rocco at Interphex in New York**



The Bormioli Rocco group was exhibiting at Interphex, 29 to 31 March, the major international pharmaceuticals and biopharmaceuticals trade fair in New York. This exclusive display opportunity at the Jacob Javits Center, the New York Exhibition Centre, provided Bormioli Rocco with a chance to present the very best of its products for pharmaceutical packaging. In the glass packaging field, the Bormioli Group's Glass Pharmaceuticals Division was proud to bring its Delta vials to New York. These are lightweight but extremely resistant, and have been especially developed to meet the needs of pharmaceutical companies operating in the injectables segment. Made from type I borosilicate glass, these containers weigh 25-30% less than the equivalent traditional vials, and offer numerous economic and technical advantages. Thanks to the exclusive innovative BormioAdvance technology, Delta vials ensure superior performance – compared to similar products in tubular glass – in terms of chemical stability and vial stability, resistance to mechanical impact and axial load, and the smoothness and precision of the vial's mouth and closure.

Source: Theopenpress.com

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## **COMPETING MATERIALS**

### **Cans**

#### **UK beverage can market passes 9bn**



The UK beverage can market has passed 9bn for the first time, according to new figures from Beverage Can Makers Europe (BCME). The 2010 statistics show that the UK market reached "an important milestone" last year and saw a market growth of 7%. Overall, the carbonated soft drinks sector grew by 12.3% and alcohol by 2% year-on-year. According to the BCME, the UK remains the largest

beverage can market in Europe. In 2010, soft drinks represented more than 50% of all drinks can shipments for the first time since 2002. The European beverage can makers said that the soft drinks category showed marked growth across Europe, with figures up 7.5% year on year, with 26.4bn cans shipped. Beer market growth was 3.2% or a total of 27.7bn cans shipped. Main regional drivers for soft drinks growth were Austria, UK, Scandinavia, Germany, Turkey and CIS, whilst Scandinavia, France, Germany pushed beer market growth. New filling lines in France and Scandinavia also contributed to the strong growth figures, whilst the energy drinks market continues to expand rapidly across Europe.  
Source: Packagingnews.co.uk

### ***The decline and fall of canned foods?***



Some parts of the canned foods industry are doomed, according to a new report from analysts at research firm Key Note, which predicts that total UK volume sales will continue to fall, despite a predicted rise in sales value. No can do? Keynote is gloomy about the future of canned foods. Key Note said the industry faces a threat from cartons and resealable pouches, as well as bottles and jars, which may not have all the advantages of cans but are more convenient for some consumers. "Some sectors of the canned foods market appear to be in an irreversible decline – canned desserts and canned cooking sauces are likely to disappear almost entirely within the next decade," said Key Note. Nonetheless, canned foods sales - dominated by major concerns such as Heinz, Dei Monte and Princes - rose from £1.96bn in 2006 to £2.4bn in 2010, an increase of 22.6%. "Most sectors showed growth between 2009 and 2010 in value terms, although volume sales are generally declining across the market" said Keynote. The canned vegetables sector, however, is bucking this trend, mostly due to the popularity of baked beans that represent 49.3% of this sector, itself responsible for 30.8% of overall canned sales: "The recession encouraged consumers to stock up on canned foods, the cheaper alternative to other formats, but even this didn't stop the volume decline altogether." Furthermore, Key Note said that Premier Foods' introduction of Branston Beans in October 2005 began a "war of innovation" with Heinz that led to a wider variety of products, with customers more likely to find a niche that fits their particular taste. Key Note expects rising commodity prices to stimulate sales growth of 16.7% between 2011 and 2016. It says volumes will be shored-up by high unemployment levels - with canned food generally less expensive than fresh equivalents - though product areas such as desserts (milk puddings, canned custards, sponge puddings with an "old-fashioned image") and cooking sauces will see sales fall "quite rapidly". Further contraction is expected in the UK canning industry as costs rise, the report warns, and more food manufacturers move their packaging operations overseas. But Key Note said the canned food industry is still likely to witness more new product development, especially in canned- soup, vegetables and fish: "Products with reduced salt, sugar and additives are likely to be popular parts of this overhaul, as well as new items that will continue on from recent developments such as 'no drain' tuna and flavoured canned fish. "However, the majority of NPD in the market is likely to have a negative impact on canned foods; improved types of alternative packaging, for instance, are likely to damage sales." The report notes that although cans are often seen as a relatively environment-friendly packaging, figures on the GreenBoxDay site show that only 2.5 billion of the 12.5 billion cans bought in the UK each year are recycled.  
Source: Foodproductiondaily.com

### ***Plastics & Bioplastics***

#### ***Accelerating PET price spike to squeeze food and drink margins***



PET prices in Europe accelerated upwards in February putting further pressure on the already squeezed margins of food and drink manufacturers. According to plastics information provider PIE Europe, PET prices have risen by about a third since August last year, with the biggest increase coming last month. Prices now stand at between €1500 and €1800 a tonne depending on the volume of the order. PIE Europe told this publication that the latest spike in prices was caused by



shortages of PTA, a PET feedstock, linked to problems at BP facilities in Belgium. A new PTA plant in Poland is expected to come on line in the coming weeks and that is likely to ease the situation. However, PET prices are not likely to shoot down any time soon – upward pressure remains strong. One of the big issues driving price increases in recent months has been the poor cotton harvest. A shortage of cotton has increased demand for synthetic fibres like polyester – diverting PET feedstock away from the plastic packaging market. The strength of the synthetic fibre demand has played a role in another cause of higher prices – lack of imports from Asia. Normally 10-15 per cent of PET sold in the European market comes from Asia but high local fibre demand has given Asian producers little incentive to export to Europe. These factors may have filtered through into the price and are unlikely to be responsible for any more price increases going forward. Nonetheless, PIE Europe predicted that prices would continue to increase towards summer 2011 because of the seasonal increase in demand. As temperatures rise, soft drink consumption increases and with it comes higher PET packaging demand. And oil prices are still rising, due to instability in North Africa and continued high demand from emerging markets. Any further petrochemical increases are likely to filter down to PET.

Source: Foodproductiondaily.com

### ***Claim of more rapid decomposition of bottles***



A company called SodaStream claims to have patented a Bio Bottle which it says decomposes much faster than conventional plastic. This is of course a claim being made by several companies and in this case the decomposition time seems to be much longer than in many comparable products. “Over 340 billion bottles and cans are not recycled every year. Most of them are thrown away, with the majority ending up in landfill,” stated Daniel Birnbaum, CEO of SodaStream.

“SodaStream’s reusable carbonation bottle is the heart of our environmental benefit. And now with the Bio Bottle, even our flavor packaging is eco-friendly, as we can now reduce the environmental impact of our syrup containers. We are proud to lead in the development of the first widely-distributed soda packaging that decomposes at a significantly faster rate than conventional plastic. This brings us one step closer to a zero-footprint packaging solution, and helps achieve our goal of a world free from bottles and cans.” The Bio Bottle is made with special material that helps it biodegrade into organic components in a landfill or compost facility in five years instead of the usual 450 years or more. This is based on ASTM D-5511-02 testing. SodaStream flavor packaging will begin adding the technology later this year.

Source: Ceepackaging.com

### ***BPI predicts further price hikes after £45m 2010 increase***



British Polythene Industries (BPI) projected further price increases this year as it revealed that its raw materials costs increased by £45m in 2010. The company said that its pre-tax profits had increased to £16.7m (2009: 11.8m). However, its operation profits decreased from £19m (2009) to £17.9m. BPI said that its polyethylene polymer prices were now at the high levels that they experienced in the “summer of 2008 – a level that we thought was unsustainable”. BPI also said that there was “no sign of prices coming down and we have seen increases from suppliers both in January and February 2011”. BPI chief executive John Langlands said that the results were in line with the firm’s expectations. He said that raw material prices had increased significantly in the past few months and continues to rise now. He added: “It was a good result in a difficult year. The main issue for us was the increase in raw material prices that had increased by 25% in the last year, by £45m. However, our operating profits reduced by a £1.1m. “We have taken actions in the last two or three years to make sure we are in a better position to weather the current economic climate.” Langlands explained that the greatest challenge of this year will be to recover the raw material costs from its customers.

Source: Packagingnews.co.uk



### ***PepsiCo develops 100 percent plant-based, renewably sourced PET bottle***



PepsiCo has developed a PET plastic bottle made entirely from fully renewable resources. The company says its "green" bottle is the world's first 100 percent plant-based, renewably sourced PET bottle. The bottle is made from bio-based raw materials, including switch grass, pine bark and corn husks. In the future, the company expects to broaden the renewable sources used to create the "green" bottle to include orange peels, potato peels, oat hulls and other agricultural byproducts from its foods business. The company says, this process further reinforces PepsiCo's "Power of One" advantage by driving a strategic beverage innovation via a food-based solution. PepsiCo also remarks that the strategy builds upon the company's unique ability to source plant-based materials for production. "This breakthrough innovation is a transformational development for PepsiCo and the beverage industry, and a direct result of our commitment to research and development," says PepsiCo chairman and CEO, Indra Nooyi. "PepsiCo is in a unique position, as one of the world's largest food and beverage businesses, to ultimately source agricultural byproducts from our foods business to manufacture a more environmentally-preferable bottle for our beverages business - a sustainable business model that we believe brings to life the essence of performance with purpose." Combining biological and chemical processes, PepsiCo has identified methods to create a molecular structure that is identical to petroleum-based PET, which results in a bottle that looks, feels and protects its product identically to existing PET beverage containers. PepsiCo will pilot production of the new bottle in 2012. Upon successful completion of the pilot, the company intends to move directly to full-scale commercialization.

Source: Packagingdigest.com

### ***Coca Cola increases its investment in recycling***



Around 35,000 tonnes of PET bottles were reprocessed in the UK last year. The new facility will increase this total to more than 75,000 tonnes when it is fully operational - more than doubling the amount of high-quality rPET currently produced in Britain. The plastics reprocessing plant will also supply CCE with enough GB-sourced, high-quality rPET to achieve CCE's target of including 25% rPET in all its plastic packaging in GB by 2012. CCE GB Managing Director, Simon Baldry said: "The amounts of high quality rPET produced in GB will more than double, enabling CCE to meet our ambitious target of incorporating 25% rPET in all our plastic bottles by 2012. At the same time, we are working with our customers to encourage shoppers to recycle more as part of our wider sustainability efforts." CCE has signed a ten-year joint venture deal with ECO Plastics that guarantees an annual supply of rPET to CCE. CCE is making a £5 million equity investment to support construction of the new facility, with ECO Plastics raising an additional £10 million to complete funding for the project. The deal is a first for the British drinks manufacturing industry. It will bring recycling in GB full circle, as used British packaging will be recycled in Lincolnshire for re-use in packaging that will then be sold in Britain. Currently, CCE sources food-grade rPET from continental Europe, while around two-thirds of used GB plastics packaging is exported for reprocessing. The new recycling facility will be built on ECO Plastics' current site in Lincolnshire, and will be operational next year. Commenting on the Joint Venture between CCE and Eco Plastics, DEFRA Waste Minister, Lord Henley said: "This investment builds on the public's enthusiasm for recycling and will make it easier for them to buy recycled plastic products such as the famous Coca-Cola bottle. It more than doubles the UK's ability to turn used drinks bottles into new ones, which reduces the carbon footprint of every bottle made, compared with using virgin material.

Source: Ceepackaging.com

### ***Cartonage***

#### ***SIG Combibloc attempts to reduce environmental impact***



SIG Combibloc is attempting to focus on its environmental commitment. By 2015, the company plans to have reduced CO2 emissions in its production plants world-

wide by 40 per cent, energy consumption by 35 per cent and specific waste volumes by 25 per cent. It is also planned to increase the percentage of FSC-labelled carton packs to 40 per cent by 2015. Rolf Stangl, CEO of SIG Combibloc: "Our goal is to further reduce the carbon footprint of our products and our production processes. And to help us meet this challenge, we have all the information at a glance: the life-cycle of our packaging, from the acquisition and processing of the raw materials, right up to the disposal or recycling of the carton packs after use. Independent, critically audited life-cycle assessments conducted by noted specialist institutes help us to precisely identify those parameters in the life-cycle of our carton packs where we can make changes to produce the greatest possible benefit for the environment. For us, that means 'sustainable development' in the original sense of the term, beyond just a short-term image boost. In this way, we will ensure that our system of carton packs and the filling machines that go with them continue to provide the basis for one of the most environ-mentally-advantageous packaging solutions available for long-life foods". Source: Ceepackaging.com

### ***New owners to grow and rebrand Nampak cartons business***



The new owners of Nampak's European Healthcare and Cartons businesses have spoken of their plans to rebrand grow the business after the £65m acquisition. Los Angeles-based Platinum Equity said that it would be looking for both growth and improved profits through a mix of acquisitions and operational improvements. New branding for the 14-plant business, whose sale was first announced before Christmas, will be revealed in the coming months. It was also revealed that the company has been looking at buying the business, which includes three facilities in the UK and Holland producing cartons for the food and drinks markets and 11 pharmaceutical cartons facilities across Europe, for more than five years. Source: Packagingnews.co.uk

### ***Tetra Pak previews aseptic bottle shaped milk carton***



Tetra Pak has given a sneak preview of its aseptic carton pack for ambient milk that is not rectangular but bottle shaped. The first aseptic carton bottles from Tetra Pak - launched back in 2005. The company behind the classic rectangular milk carton claims the new package combines all the benefits of the carton with the convenience of the bottle. The aseptic carton bottle is made from renewable paperboard that is Forest Stewardship Council (FSC) certified. And for pouring, the bottle has an injection moulded top. The carton bottle will be making its first commercial appearance on shelves in April this year ahead of a media launch in Sweden on 16 May. Tetra Pak has already developed a carton-based bottle called Tetra Aptiva Aseptic. Launched at Anuga Foodtec in 2005, Tetra Pak hailed the package as the first ever aseptic carton bottle. Designed particularly for the on-the-go drinks market, the bottle combined a carton-based sleeve with a plastic top and screw cap. Source: Foodproductiondaily.com

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## **CONTAINER GLASS ACCESSORIES & SUPPLIERS**

### ***Rexam puts beverage closures business up for sale***



Rexam had announced last year that it was "examining options" for its beverage and specialty closures business including a possible sale and further restructuring. Beverage closures have repeatedly been identified as a weak point in its portfolio. In its newly published financial statement, Rexam said beverage closure volumes were down by some 9 per cent last year as the closures division as a whole reported sales of £343m. In the results, closures were classified as discontinued operations and following a review, an impairment charge of £171m was incurred in 2010. Rexam anticipates that the disposal of the closures business will improve its net debt position and help the company in its pursuit of bolt-on acquisitions. The company said it is looking for opportunities in emerging markets. In

2010 total sales at Rexam grew 2 per cent to £4,962m with much of the best performances coming from the fast growing can markets in South America. But in Russia, can volumes fell due to a 200 per cent tax hike on beer and the appearance of a new competitor. Rexam said it remains optimistic about Russia in the long term.  
Source: Foodproductiondaily.com

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## RETAILERS

### ***Spar sees fall in revenue in Hungary***



There was a 4% reduction in the revenue generated by the Hungarian division of Spar retail chain in 2010, to HUF 381bn (€1.4bn), in comparison with the 2009 figure according to market analysts PMR. Despite this the company could maintain its position on the Hungarian retail market and has been able to modernise its retail network. This was the first reduction in the company's revenue in 20 years of operations in Hungary. Peter Feiner, the managing director, expects its revenue to stagnate or to increase by 1-2% this year. In 2010, Spar Magyarorszag renovated 57 former Plus stores and one Interspar hypermarket. The store count of the company was 399 in Hungary at the end of 2010: this included 348 Spar units, 20 Kaiser establishments and 31 Interspar hypermarkets.  
Source: Ceepackaging.com

### ***Best retail report shows signs of recovery for the retail industry***

Interbrand, the leading brand consultancy and authors of the annual Best Global Brands ranking of the top 100 world's most valuable brands, have turned their attention to the global retail sector. The Best Retail Brands report ranks the top 50 U.S. retail brands by brand value, as well as the top retail brands from Asia Pacific, Canada, the U.K., France, Germany and Spain. The U.S. brands are valued for the third time in collaboration with Interbrand Design Forum, the retail experience group within Interbrand. Walmart is the most valuable retail brand for the third consecutive year in the U.S, while Woolworths, Shoppers Drug Mart, Tesco, Carrefour, ALDI and Zara are ranked as the number one retailer in their respective markets. Findings show that U.S. retailers are leading on the road to recovery much as the U.S. was first affected by the economic downturn in 2008. Across Europe, retailers are harder pressed to generate value from cash-strapped consumers and Asian retailers are presented with both opportunities and challenges as markets expand consumers' preferences. "Consumer confidence has been returning, yet people have been fundamentally changed by the recession, with markets opening up and rapid advances in technology that influence how and where people shop. For retailers, this means having to create new, exciting opportunities to truly connect with more skeptical and e-savvier customers," says Jez Frampton, global chief executive of Interbrand. Brand-led companies are proving to be resilient in this environment characterized by rapid change. "For two years, store expansion has slowed while retailers focused on what mattered most to their customers. In the past year, the best performing brands demonstrated their ability to understand customers, and have found innovative ways to strengthen the relationship with their core customers," says Bruce Dybvad, CEO of Interbrand Design Forum.  
Source: Packagingdigest.com

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## CUSTOMER INDUSTRIES

### Soft drinks

#### **Private label juice boom sparks consolidation push**



The rise of private label fruit juice is having a big impact on the juice industry, sparking a wave of consolidation. A mooted merger between Agrana Juice Holding and Ybbstaler Fruit Austria in Europe is the latest example. Agrana and Raiffeisen Ware Austria (RWA) announced that they were considering a merger of the two fruit juice subsidiaries. The move would create a joint venture with annual revenues of €250m. Haider Hannes from Agrana explained that the deal with RWA is being driven by changes at a retail level. More and more juice is being sold by supermarket own brands. "For example, two thirds of fruit juice in Germany is distributed in discount markets dominated by Aldi, Lidl, REWE and EDEKA," said Hannes. And that concentration at the top of the market is putting pressure on the whole chain to adapt. Rabobank analyst Francois Sonnevile agreed that the power in the value chain is now with the retailers. A relatively small band of supermarkets has captured a big share of the juice market - Sonnevile said this has occurred because consumers in Western Europe see juice as a commodity product and are quite happy to buy it private label.

Source: Foodanddrinkeurope.com

### Spirits

#### **Diageo sees Europe sales growth returning in 2-3 years**

DIAGEO

Global drinks giant Diageo PLC said it expects organic sales growth to return to its European operations only in two to three years' time, as weak economic conditions, particularly in southern Europe, continue to hit demand across the region. "I do think we have got an exceptional set of circumstances with some of these markets," Andrew Morgan, president of Diageo's European operations, told investors on a conference call. Still, Morgan doesn't expect sales in the region to "deteriorate" this fiscal year and anticipates operating profit improving in the second half, even if it doesn't meet the level of last year. "At the year-end, we won't be at flat operating profit levels." Diageo's European sales and operating profit in the first half, excluding acquisitions, fell 3% and 9% on the year, respectively. Morgan also said Diageo is paring its advertising and promotional spend in markets such as Greece, Spain and Ireland, as they continue to suffer from the fallout of the economic downturn. "For the time being, we have no choice. We are prepared to drop our spend significantly. I believe that is the right thing to do. We have to track our investment with the trading trajectory." The company is continuing to either sustain or increase investment in recovering mature markets like the U.K., France and Germany, as well as emerging markets like Russia. "In Russia, we have [made] significant increases in marketing and overhead spend," Morgan said.

Source: Foxbusiness.com

#### **Diageo turns to tequila for its next buy**



Diageo is apparently considering a bid for tequila firm Jose Cuervo, people with knowledge of the company confirmed, as part of chief executive Paul Walsh's multi-billion pound acquisition spree. Diageo, which already distributes Cuervo on behalf of the Beckmann family that owns the brand, is said to be considering a \$2bn (£1.2bn) takeover offer. The move comes just after the company was linked to Polish spirits group Stock, as it attempts to broaden its reach in emerging markets to offset flagging domestic sales. Diageo, the maker of Johnnie Walker whisky and Smirnoff vodka, last month also agreed to buy Turkish spirits firm Mey Icki for £1.3bn. Walsh halted Diageo's share buyback programme in 2009 to help fund the company's war chest. Cuervo has been tightly held by the Beckmann dynasty for six generations, but is now said to be in talks to appoint

Barclays Capital to help it sell off the company. Cuervo and Diageo signed a joint venture in 2003, with the former paying \$100m for a 50 per cent stake in Diageo's Don Julio tequila brand. Drinks firms have undertaken a spate of takeovers and consolidation in recent months as companies look to shelter from faltering sales. The spirits arms of consumer goods group Fortune Brands is expected to be put on the block later this year, while France's Rémy Cointreau told the market recently it was in exclusive talks to sell its champagne business to EPI.

Source: [www.cityam.com](http://www.cityam.com)

## Sparkling Wine

### **Remy in talks to sell champagne unit**



French drinks group Remy Cointreau is in exclusive negotiations to sell its loss-making champagne business to privately-held company EPI. Analysts value the unit, which comprises the Charles Heidsieck and Piper-Heidsieck brands, at around 400 mln euros or roughly four times its sales. Societe Europeenne de Participations Industrielles (EPI), the holding of the Descours Family, owns a number of upmarket French brands including J.M. Weston shoes or the Bonpoint children's clothing company. Last November, Remy Cointreau surprised investors by announcing it intended to sell its champagne division to focus on its fast-growing cognac brands. The champagne division had 2009/10 sales of 97 million Euros - or 12 percent of the group total. It has promised to break even this year after suffering an operating loss of 4 million last year amid a global economic slowdown. Its inventories of 40 million bottles - four years of stocks - and its 800 hectares of vineyards made it an attractive target in a champagne sector known for its strict production criteria, analysts say.

Source: Reuters.com

## Wine

### **Spanish wine exports to China increase in 2010**



Figures released in Spain show that exports of Spanish wine to China increased over four hundred percent during 2010. The data, which was published in 'El Correo del Vino' confirms that sales of Spanish wine to China increased by 465 percent last year, rising from 8.4 million liters in 2009 to 47.3 liters in 2010.

Meanwhile the value of those exports more than tripled, rising by 312 percent from 11.6 million Euros (16 million U.S. dollars) to 36.1 million Euros (50 million U.S. dollars). The reason there increase in the quantity of wine exported is higher than the increased income is explained by the fact that much of the sales were in bulk and consequently have a much more economic price. China imported 37.71 million liters of Spanish wine in bulk during 2010, compared with 3.65 million liters in 2009 and the average price for that wine was 0.41 euro per liter (0.56 U.S. dollar per liter). Spain also saw good results in exports of bottled wine to China, more than doubling the quantity from 4.6 to 9.5 million liters and also seeing the benefits rise by over 200 percent, from 9.8 million Euros (13.5 million U.S. dollars) to 20.1 million Euros (27.7 million U.S. dollars).

Source: [iStockanalyst.com](http://iStockanalyst.com)

### **Francois Pinault buys Chateau Grillet (France)**



French billionaire Francois Pinault, through his group Artemis, has bought Chateau Grillet, the monopole estate in the Rhone Valley that forms its own wine-growing AOC. Pinault, who owns Chateau Latour in Pauillac and Domaine d'Eugenie in Burgundy, alongside auction house Christie's and Rennes football club, bought the estate from Isabelle Baratin-Canet, whose family (originally Neyret-Gachet with name changes through marriage) has owned Chateau Grillet since 1830, reports Decanter News.



## **U.S. passes France as world's biggest wine-consuming nation**



The U.S. passed France as the world's largest wine-consuming nation for the first time, lifted by its larger population and an interest in wine-and-cheese culture among young Americans. Wine shipments to the U.S. climbed 2 percent to 329.7 million cases last year, according to Gomberg, Fredrikson & Associates, a wine-industry consulting firm in Woodside, California. That compares with 320.6 million for France, reports Bloomberg.

Source: Winebiz.com.au

## **Beer**

### **AB InBev reports fourth quarter and full year 2010 results**



Anheuser-Busch InBev released its Fourth Quarter and Full Year 2010 Results. In spite of the persistent challenging economic environment in several markets Anheuser-Busch InBev showed very good progress in its financial results for 2010. Topline grew by 4.4%, EBITDA increased by 10.6%, EBITDA margin was improved by 209 bps and generated 9 905 million USD in cash flow from operating activities.

Source: Globalmalt.com

### **AB InBev wants to actively take part in consolidation within the market**



AB InBev intends to use cash generated through sales and cost cuts for acquisitions and organic growth, the group's CEO Carlos Brito was quoted as saying. "Thanks to cost-cuts through synergies we aim to save \$2.25 billion, significantly more than the \$1.5 billion we originally expected to save," Brito said. "We now want to grow and actively take part in consolidation within the market," he added.

Source: Globalmalt.com

### **Carlsberg delivers "strong performance" in 2010**



The Carlsberg Group delivered strong performance in 2010 in spite of the significant impact from the increase in Russian excise duties, which affected the beer market in Russia extraordinarily in 2010, the company reported. Overall beer market trends improved in 2010 compared to 2009. Importantly, the Russian market was stronger than the Group anticipated at the beginning of the year, it said. The Group's beer volumes were down by 1% to 114m hl with a 2% organic volume decline (2% decline for total beverages). Excluding the Russian stock-building in Q4 2009 and subsequent destocking in Q1, organic beer volume would have grown by an estimated 1%. In Q4, organic beer volumes declined by 5%. Adjusting for the Russian stock-building in Q4 2009, organic beer volumes were flat for the quarter.

Source: Globalmalt.com

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## **RECYCLING/ COLLECTION**

### **Free market rules essential to boost recycling, says FEAD head**



If Europe is to reach its aim of becoming a true recycling society, free market rules must apply in the waste management sector, Peter Kurth, the new President of the European Federation of Waste Management and Environmental Services (FEAD) has said. Kurth, President of BDE (Bundesverband der Deutschen Entsorgungs- Wasser- und Rohstoffwirtschaft d.V./Federation of the German Waste, Water and Raw Materials Management Industry), the former Berlin Finance Senator and long-time Director of Alba AG was elected President at the 15 February General Assembly. He said, echoing the first of four strategic goals in FEAD's "Brussels Declaration"

unveiled on the same day, that there was no alternative to the shift in the sector from waste disposal to an effective recycling and resource economy, but a precondition for the success of this change was free market rules and competition across Europe."FEAD therefore calls strongly for the creation of equal market conditions for private and public waste management companies. This includes, in particular, fair public procurement legislation without loopholes and without privileges for public-public co-operations, equal VAT treatment for public and private companies and the strict application of competition rules."Kurth, who takes over as president from Italian Carlo Noto La Diega, in office since 2009, said that the key for a stable supply to European industry with high quality raw materials is recycling, if the 50 per cent recycling aim agreed in the European Waste Framework Directive (WFD) for 2020 is "ambitious for many countries". "The five-stage waste hierarchy laid down in the WFD stipulates that recycling must in future enjoy clear priority over incineration. Only in this way can the foundations for a European recycling society be laid."Citing the background of increasing shortages of primary raw materials, he told the General Assembly on his appointment that he welcomed the European Commission's raw materials strategy: "This strategy is proof that the macroeconomic importance of the waste management and recycling economy is widely recognised in Brussels as the sector of the future."

Source: European Environment & Packaging Law

### **UK : Recycled idea could net £432m for charities**



A modern drinks container deposit refund scheme has the potential to raise more than £432m each year for local charities, according to new research commissioned by the Campaign to Protect Rural England. A survey by Ipsos MORI found 12% of British adults say they would always donate recovered deposits to a local charity, when given the option to do so. A further 66% said they would do their deposit most or some of the time. CPRE stop the drop campaign manager Samantha Harding said: "Sometimes the best ideas are old ideas. By introducing a modern deposit scheme, we could boost income for local charities, and save money by reducing litter and increasing recycling. We know it works in other countries and our research suggests many people would support a UK scheme. The research shows that public support for a DRS is strong, with more than half (53%) supportive of a 15p deposit on 500ml drinks containers (30% are opposed). This support rises to six in 10 people (60%) for a scheme with a 10p deposit (24% are opposed). This deposit is then refunded to consumers when they return the container to a retailer or other collection point. At this stage the customer could be offered the opportunity to donate their deposit to a local charity or community group. A CPRE report published last year showed that such a scheme, already in place across large parts of Europe, the US and Australia, could be set up at a relatively low cost (£84 million) and has the potential to achieve substantial reductions in drink-related litter. Harding said: "A deposit scheme has the potential to deliver huge benefits for society and can run alongside existing recycling systems."

Source: Packagingnews.co.uk

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## **FOOD CONTACT MATERIALS**

### **Risk assessor finds no hormone-like activity in mineral water**



The German federal risk assessor has recommended further research into hormone-like activity in natural mineral waters despite finding no cause for concern in recent tests. The Federal Institute for Risk Assessment (BfR) in Germany said it had recently analysed chemical data on bottled mineral water from the CVUA, an inspection agency in Stuttgart. No substances were detected that are known to cause hormone-like activities although some substances were identified for which there is no data on hormone-like activity available. In addition, BfR said oestrogen-like activities were not detected in those mineral waters on test. Overall, the German risk assessor concluded that "mineral water should not exhibit hormone-like activity." But

significant additional research to assess potential health risks was recommended. "Water obtained directly at the spring, water that has undergone treatment by bottlers and water that is available in shops, bottled mineral water of different storage periods should be analysed and compared." The BfR research follows on from a 2009 study conducted by researchers at Goethe University in Frankfurt that raised the alarm about estrogenic activity in bottled water and suggested packaging could be to blame. Writing in *Environmental Science and Pollution Research*, the scientists suggested that estrogenic compounds leach out of plastic packaging into bottled water. They reached the conclusion after analysing 20 brands of mineral water in Germany, including nine bottled in plastic, nine packed in glass and two in paperboard. BfR spokesperson Jürgen Their-Kundke told this publication that the Frankfurt study had, in line with previous research, uncovered hormone-like activity in mineral water. But he questioned the suitability of the test systems used in the study and said the researchers had been hasty to attribute the hormone-like activity to plastic bottles. The spokesperson said a previous study had found hormone-like activity in water taken directly from source, suggesting that packaging may not be responsible at all. To establish exactly what is responsible, the BfR is therefore calling for more research comparing water at different stages of the product life cycle from the spring to the cupboard. Another future research task is to discover if hormone-like activity reported in mineral water is even relevant to human health.

Source: Foodanddrinkeurope.com

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## STUDIES/RESEARCH

### ***New nano-structured snack packaging is most airtight ever***



A new coating material for food packaging could keep sodas fizzy, chips crispy and military rations more edible, scientists say. It's made of a thin film of nanoscale bits of clay, the same kind used to make bricks, mixed with polymers. When viewed under an electron microscope, the film looks like bricks and mortar, according to its creator. The nanobrick film was unveiled over the weekend at the National Meeting and Exposition of the American Chemical Society in Anaheim, Calif. According to Jaime Grunlan, who developed the material, it is "truly the most oxygen-impermeable film in existence," as impervious to air as glass is. Snack makers have experimented with a wide range of **futuristic packaging materials**, all meant to keep food fresh even as it languishes on store shelves. Most of the packaging processes are meant to keep out oxygen; current examples include soda bottles coated with silicon oxide and chip bags lined with foil. But metal – also used in the military's meals ready to eat – can't be microwaved, and consumers can't see inside to glimpse the tasty treats. The new material would be layered onto an existing plastic package, improving its strength and blocking oxygen, according to a news release from the ACS. It's made from montmorillonite clay, a soil component that is also used to make bricks, but it looks transparent. Beyond keeping Twinkies fresh for millennia, the nanobricks could also be used to make flexible electronics, tires and even sporting goods, according to ACS. "It could potentially help basketballs and footballs stay inflated longer than existing balls," ACS says.

Source: Gizmodo.com.au

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## RAW MATERIALS

### ***Belarus: Chinese investor to finance construction of soda ash plant***



A Chinese investor will reportedly take part in the construction of the soda ash plant in Gomel Oblast. The Construction and Architecture Ministry of Belarus and a Chinese company have already signed an investment agreement, Anatoly Lis, Deputy Natural Resources and Environmental Protection Minister, said. "We have started developing the deposit. It has been explored already," Lis added. The plant, which will have the capacity of 280,000 tonnes of soda ash per year, will produce soda ash for glass, chemical and other industries. The plant will sell its products domestically to satisfy domestic

demand, which stands at about 120,000 tonnes of soda ash per year, as well as internationally. The plant will be built in Mozyr District where the biggest deposits of rock salt, used in the production of soda ash, are located.

Source: Glassonline.com

### ***Soda Ash - Global Strategic Business Report***



The most recent report from Research and Markets analyzes the worldwide markets for Soda Ash in USD and Metric Tons as per the following end-use segments: glass (container glass, flat glass, fiber glass, and others), chemicals, soaps and detergents, pulp and paper, fluegas desulfurization, water treatment, and miscellaneous. The report also provides separate comprehensive analytics for the US, Canada, Japan, Europe, Asia-Pacific, Latin America, and Rest of World. Annual estimates and forecasts are provided for the period 2007 through 2015, as well as a seven-year historic analysis for these markets. The report profiles 58 companies including many key and niche players such as: Ciech Chemical Group; Dahua Group Dalian Chemical Industry Co., Ltd.; DCW Ltd, FMC Corporation; GHCL Ltd.; Hubei Shuanghuan Chemical Group; ICI Pakistan Ltd.; Joint Stock Company Soda; Lianyungang Soda Plant, Nirma Ltd.; Searles Valley Minerals; OCI Chemical Corporation; Penrice Soda Holdings Ltd.; Shandong Haihua Co., Ltd.; Soda Sanayii A.S.; Solvay S.A.; Tangshan Sanyou Group Co., Ltd.; Tianjin Soda Plant; Tata Chemicals Ltd.; General Chemical Industrial Products, Inc.; General Chemical (Soda Ash) Partners; and Brunner Mond Group. Key topics covered: introduction, methodology and product definitions; global market overview; product overview; natural soda ash - occurrence, mining and processing; end-use analysis; technological innovations; recent industry activity; corporate activity in recent past - a perspective builder; focus on select players; global market perspective; US; Canada; Japan; Europe; Asia-Pacific; Latin America; rest of world; and competitive landscape.

Source: Glassonline.com

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## **PEOPLE**

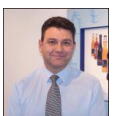
### ***Marion Stolzenwald is Senior Manager Corporate Communications at Gerresheimer***



Marion Stolzenwald (51) joined Gerresheimer AG, Düsseldorf as Senior Manager Corporate Communications on March 1. Marion Stolzenwald has moved to Gerresheimer from Vodafone Germany, where she held the position of Press Spokesperson. In her earlier career, she performed various communication functions at Ericsson Germany and Kyocera Electronics Europe. At Gerresheimer, Marion Stolzenwald's main responsibilities will be trade media relations and the development of Gerresheimer's employer image communication strategy. She reports directly to Jens Kuerten, Director Corporate Communication & Marketing.

Source: Glassonweb.com

### ***Beatson Clark strengthens directorial team***



Beatson Clark has appointed Gary Brough to the position of operations director. As operations director, Brough will be responsible for the successful management of each element outside of product production, from planning, engineering and logistics to the recycling plant. Brough, 47 from Retford Nottinghamshire, has joined Beatson Clark from his role as operations controller at Robert McBride. In the past he has held influential roles at some of the country's leading FMCG companies such as Northern Foods, Sara Lee, Homepride Foods and Unigate (St Ivel).

Source: Glassonline.com

## **Change in Board of Management at Saint-Gobain Oberland AG**



The Supervisory Board of Saint-Gobain Oberland AG nominated Mr. Wolfgang Brauck, hitherto Member of the Board of Management, responsible for the sales department, Member of the Board of Management, responsible for Eastern Europe. He takes over this resort from Mr. Jorma Turpeinen who resigned as Member of the Board of Management. With immediate effect the CEO, Mr. Stefan Jaenecke, accounts for the sales resort.

Source: Saint Gobain Oberland

## **Bragg named President of the Glass Packaging Institute**



Lynn Bragg has been named President of the Glass Packaging Institute. Ms. Bragg assumes the position of President following the retirement of current GPI President Joseph Cattaneo in March 2011. Mr. Cattaneo will continue to support GPI in a consulting role following his retirement. "Lynn comes to GPI with a great breadth of experience in the government service and association management realms," said Rich Crawford, Chairman, Board of Trustees, GPI. "We look forward to her leading our industry association as we address the challenges and opportunities that present themselves within our ever-changing, ever-evolving field."

Source: GPI.org

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## **EVENTS**

### **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

### **Sime**



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  
Hispack Barcelona, Spain

## **Glasstec**



23 - 26 October 2012  
Duesseldorf, Germany

## **Emballage**



19-22 November 2012

Paris Nord Villepinte, France



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***The next FEVE News will be published by the beginning of May2011.***



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