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EUROPEAN UNION NEWS

New Environment chair will "strongly support" a Waste Implementation Agency



The proposal to set up a European Waste Implementation Agency, in a drive to strengthen EC waste legislation, will be backed wholeheartedly by the new chair of the Committee on the Environment, Public Health and Food Safety, German Socialist Jo Leinen. Leinen told MEPs at a 3 September press conference dealing with the Committee's priorities, that he was particularly keen that this Agency would deal with recycling: "Waste and recycling are a major matter of concern, for example biowaste and waste from the electronics industry. There is inadequate waste disposal. I am extremely interested in the Agency." He also said that more could be done on recovery and recycling of household appliances, with a view to having an impact on climate change: "The work needs to be accelerated. We will be closely involved in discussions on all these areas." The feasibility of establishing such an Agency will be discussed again. Although the Agency is largely supported by a wide range of stakeholders, its setting up may be problematic, given the current moratorium on new Agencies of any sort.

Source: European Environment & Packaging Law

Barroso hails progress on sustainable development



European Commission President José Manuel Barroso has hailed the progress that the EU has made on sustainable development, while admitting some problem areas, in releasing a report on 24 July. "We have made solid progress on integrating sustainable development into EU policy areas," said Barroso as the Commission published the review of its three-year-old sustainable development strategy. "This review highlights the progress we have made over the last three years and the areas where further work is needed. The economic crisis creates a unique opportunity to create a new sustainable economy through smart green growth. "While the Commission highlighted how Europe has taken the lead in the fight against climate change and the promotion of a low-carbon economy, the report acknowledges that at the same time, unsustainable trends persist in the EU in several areas and the efforts need to be intensified.

Source: European Environment & Packaging Law

Packaging prominent in Scottish waste strategy



Packaging reduction and recycling are a major strand of the Scottish Government's waste strategy that aims to create a 'zero-waste Scotland'. The Scottish Government said the strategy would provide the framework to reach its goal of a zero-waste Scotland. A lot of the focus on packaging is based around existing work being carried out by organisations such as Wrap and Envirowise to reduce the amount of packaging placed on the market. Regulations covering so-called excess packaging remain at Westminster via the packaging essential requirements, although producer responsibility is a devolved institution issue. The report also calls for an "accessible, efficient and effective" recycling system to gain high quality materials for reuse. It plans to increase the volume and number of materials collected at kerbside. The Scottish Government said it would review the voluntary retailer agreement to reduce carrier bag usage next year, although confirmed it currently has no plans to introduce a charge.

Source: Packagingnews.co.uk

Pro Europe packaging conference to highlight retail issues

Packaging Recovery Organisation Europe
PRO EUROPE Pro Europe, the umbrella organisation for companies opting to use the green dot in their packaging waste management schemes, will include a special session on retailers and the food chain in its next biannual conference in Brussels, Belgium. The 7-8 October 2010 event will debate the impact on the industry of the somewhat controversial Retailers' Forum, set up at the end of April. Although its co-chair Marion Sollbach said that it was not a standards setting body, some environmentalists call it little more than a talking shop with costs and resources involved for those taking part. Other companies say that not enough emphasis is being placed on consumer information and environmental labelling - despite this being seen as a priority when the Forum was set up.
Source: European Environment & packaging Law

French green law 'breaks European packaging directive', says Europen

 The European Council for Packaging and the Environment (Europen) has blasted France's new environment law for breaching European packaging regulations. The French Senate and National Assembly last month passed the '*Grenelle Environnement*' law that seeks to promote a greater sustainability by looking at areas such as climate change, biodiversity and waste. But, when referring to packaging the *Grenelle* removes the need for consumer acceptance of the product, which is enshrined in the European Packaging and Packaging Waste directive. As such, France cannot unilaterally change the legislation. The *Grenelle* limits the requirements for packaging to "product safety, hygiene and logistics". Europen managing director Julian Carroll said removing consumer acceptance could affect consumers across Europe and could erode supply chain efficiencies in packaged goods, for example by removing the possibility of multipacks for drinks.
Source: Packagingnews.co.uk

"Friends of Glass" launching "Choose Glass Week" on September 23.

 Dominique Tombeur, President of FEVE shared some key assets of glass as packaging material for food and drink and gave an overview of the Industry in Europe. Trends of the Belgian market were presented by the Mr Liher Irizar, Director of the glasswork MdV Vidrala Belgium. Dennis Claus - from InSites shared the surprising results of a European wide survey on consumers' attitudes towards glass packaging at the launch of Choose Glas Week in Belgium. Two Belgian "Friends of Glass" - Jill Peeters, TV presenter and meteorologist – winner of the C3 Climate Change Communication Award 2009, and Bernard Tirtiaux, writer and glass sculptor, explained why they decided to support the initiative. The harp player Maria Palatine brought glass to life by playing on a glass "carillon". The event gave also the opportunity to visit the first ever "Friends of Glass" shop displaying a huge variety of products packaged in glass. Friends of Glass Media Events with celebrities' photo calls and other media actions in Austria, Belgium, France, Germany, Italy, Portugal, Spain and United Kingdom. In the US "Recycle Glass Week" took place with three chances to meet "Little Bottle" - the event's mascot - in New York, while glass manufacturers were holding over 50 events to promote recycling awareness in 22 states.
Source: FEVE/ Ceepakaging.com

SCP survey shows overwhelming backing for carbon labels

 Over two-thirds of Europeans support mandatory carbon labeling on goods sold in EU stores as a way to promote sustainable production and consumption, according to a Eurobarometer survey published over the summer. The survey, on Europeans' attitude towards sustainable consumption and production, found that 72 per cent of people thought that a label indicating a product's carbon footprint should be mandatory in the future. A carbon footprint label would show the total amount of greenhouse gases - including carbon dioxide - emitted during its lifetime, from production to disposal. At present no such scheme exists Europe-wide, but at the December 2008 Environment Council ministers invited the Commission to study the introduction of carbon footprint labeling. However, attitudes on the subject varied widely between member states with the Czechs the least in favour of such labeling (47 per cent) and Greeks very much behind the

idea with 90 per cent in favour. Just under half of Europeans also said that ecolabels play an important role in their purchasing decisions.

Source: European Environment & Packaging Law

FEVE Open Day discussion attracted policy makers and key EU players



Under the headline “Sustainability: ‘Life Cycle Assessment – the use and misuse of LCAs” policy makers and key European players gathered in Brussels for FEVE’s annual policy event on the 29 September. The event consisted of presentations by Mr Kogler from the EU Commission, Mr Vollmer from the European Environment Agency (EEA), Mr Bernard de Caevel from RDC and Dominique Tombeur, President of FEVE. Moderator was Mr Peter O’Donnell , Assistant editor of the European Voice. The speeches were followed by an open debate with the over 90 participants, the decision-makers, supply chain stakeholders, and officials from the European Institutions and EU environmental actors. The Open Day will become an important element of FEVE’s lobbying strategy to interact with the EU Commission on questions and issues in the context of the container glass industry in Europe.

Source: FEVE/ LPAC Committee

CONTAINER GLASS INDUSTRY

Europe

Beatson Clark’s Got a Lotta Bottle for Europe



Specialist glass manufacturer Beatson Clark along with its sister company Pont Packaging is supplying a new 1ltr milk bottle to Flemish company Inza. When Inza had a problem sourcing a supplier who could be flexible with regard to bottle production, Dutch based Pont Packaging recommended Beatson Clark as the perfect solution. Beatson Clark and Pont Packaging have been working in partnership successfully for many years and this relationship is flourishing, with the two working together on several further projects this year. Inza is a long-standing customer of Pont Packaging and this new 1lt white flint returnable bottle joins the 200ml bottle of flavoured milk that Beatson Clark already supplies. Beatson Clark specialises in providing packaging solutions for niche brands and complete product lines for customers with variable needs. It supplies glass-packaging containers to the pharmaceutical, food and drink markets worldwide.

Source: Press Release Beatson Clarke

Vidrala regains trust



BIS recommended value but lowers price target. Vidrala regained upward path and managed to score the 2.57% to close above 17 Euros in August. The sharp drop in demand has forced the company to announce production cuts in the first half but managed to offset lower income with price increases. The firm expects volumes to touch bottom in the third quarter 2009.

Source: Cincodias.com

Saint-Gobain Oberland introduces short-time work

The container glass manufacturer Saint-Gobain Oberland plans to introduce short-time work in its facility in Bad Wurzach (Germany) for the period November to March 2010. The drop in demand has made a throttling of output inevitable.

Source: www.euwid-verpackung.de

Vetropack holds margin

In the first half 2009, the glass packaging group Vetropack in Bülach (Switzerland) recorded lower turnover and profits than in the previous year. This was largely due to currency fluctuations (Ukraine), although the drop in demand resulted in a partial standstill of

production lines at all locations. Although demand picked up slightly in May and June the group does not anticipate a return to full capacity in the near future.

Source: www.packaktuell.ch

Glashütte Ernstthal inaugurates new furnace

The Glashütte Ernstthal, which belongs to the A.Pohli GmbH & Co. KG group, with headquarters in Wuppertal (Germany), has inaugurated its third glass furnace to further expansion on the export market. The glassworks, which manufactures glass containers for cosmetics, food and spirits, has almost doubled its capacity with the new furnace, producing up to 1.5 million items per day. This investment worth approximately € 48 million has generated 100 new jobs.

Source: www.euwid-verpackung.de

O-I closes plant in Reims

The U.S. American leadership of O-I has the right to close its site in Reims, France. The Tribunal de Grande Instance (TGI) of Lyon confirmed the lawfulness of the closure. The closure of the plant better known under the name of VMC is scheduled for October 31.

Source: Lunion.presse.fr

Zignago Vetro: H1 '09 net profit down



Zignago Vetro reported a consolidated net profit of EUR 11.8 million for the first half of 2009, compared to EUR 14.5 million for the same period of 2008. The Italian hollow glass containers manufacturer's consolidated revenue totalled EUR 107.5 million, down from EUR 128.8 million. Consolidated earnings before interest, tax, depreciation and amortization (EBITDA) dropped to EUR 29.8 million compared to EUR 34.6 million in 2008. Consolidated earnings before interest and tax (EBIT) were EUR 18.4 million, down from EUR 23.4 million.

Source: Glassonline.com

Council approves planning permission for Quinn Glass site



Central government will again have to consider a planning application for Quinn Glass's glass bottling and filling plant, after Cheshire West and Chester council approved it on 3 September. The council's head of planning development recommended permission be approved but the planning committee had a 100-page report to study. The report said: "Overall it is considered that the proposed development will result in the regeneration of a significant brown field site, which will produce a highly substantial development and create a large number of jobs locally and over the wider sub-region."

"The benefits of the development are considered to outweigh the now limited harm and therefore members are advised that planning permission could now be granted." Quinn Glass director Adrian Curry welcomed the council's decision and thanked the 700-strong workforce for its continued hard work.

Source: Packagingnews.co.uk

O-I closes Finnish plant



Owens-Illinois, Inc. has concluded a process of consultation with local union representatives and has closed its glass container plant in Karhula, Finland, transferring production to other O-I facilities. The Karhula plant is one of two European facilities O-I identified for closure in the second quarter and consultation regarding the second European facility are presently ongoing with local union representatives. The company is expected to make an announcement later this year. "Our ongoing global asset utilization process identified the opportunity to shift production to other European facilities. The result will be lower energy consumption and production costs, while still allowing us to meet current and anticipated market needs," said Rich Crawford, president of O-I Global Glass Operations. O-I is collaborating with the affected employees regarding other employment opportunities, which also include positions within the company.

Source: Glassonline.com

Wrap: Lightweight wine bottle available by the end of the year



A 300g screwcap wine bottle could be available in time for Christmas, the Waste and Resources Action Programme (WRAP) has said. Wrap revealed in May that Kingsland Wines and Spirits, Tesco and Quinn Glass were trialling the bottle for new world wines that are bulk imported into the UK. A range of filling-line trials, product strength and market testing is currently underway following trial production runs at Quinn Glass's Elton facility in July. "Subject to final testing, the bottle will be available in late 2009," Wrap said in a statement. Tesco has indicated that it will be using the bottles from January, and Asda is said to be among the retailers that have shown interest. "The design of the bottle is unique and reduces the current best in class by 56g. We believe its the first 300g screwcap wine bottle produced anywhere in the world," said Wrap.

Source: Packagingnews.co.uk

Diageo restructure 'won't damage UK bottle makers'

The Diageo logo, consisting of the word 'DIAGEO' in white capital letters on a red rectangular background.

Controversial plans by drinks manufacturer Diageo to restructure its Scottish bottling operations are unlikely to damage the UK glass manufacturing sector, the head of British Glass has predicted. Diageo last month caused outrage when it proposed the closure of its Johnnie Walker bottling plant in Kilmarnock and other restructuring measures at bottling facilities in Glasgow and Fife and a distillery in Port Dundas that would lead to the possible loss of up to 900 jobs. Questions have been asked on the matter in Westminster and Scottish first minister Alex Salmond led a march of more than 20,000 people in Kilmarnock in protest at the plan. Diageo has said, however, it plans to spend £86m expanding its Leven plant in Fife, creating 400 new positions there. David Workman, director general of British Glass, played down the likely impact on British bottle manufacturers, saying that the key was for bottling to remain in the country. He said: "If it's an exercise in streamlining and cost reduction, rather than moving filling abroad, it should not impact the sector too much."

Source: Packagingnews.co.uk

Piramal Glass: 1Q 2009-2010 results



Indian glass container manufacturer Piramal Glass, reported a net loss of INR 421 lakhs on net sales/income from operations of INR 13,749 lakhs, on a stand alone basis, for the first quarter ended June 2009 (net loss of INR 53 lakhs on net sales/income from operations of INR 12,053 lakhs in the same period of 2008).

Source: Glassonline.com

Britvic reduces weight from J20 bottles to cut glass use



Britvic has cut the amount of glass used in its J20 juice drink to slash packaging and energy use as part of its corporate responsibility strategy. The lightweighting initiative means that Britvic's 275ml J20 is 20g lighter than before, down from 200g to 180g. The company said that the weight reduction programme will save about 4,000 tonnes of glass per year, the equivalent of 20m bottles at current production levels. Britvic added that the new bottle design had also led to improvements in filling-line efficiencies because the bottle had been reduced in height by 5mm; and the firm estimated energy savings of 10% due to less glass used during the blowing process.

Source: Packagingnews.co.uk

Egypt

Egypt: increase of glass bottle exports

According to Sharif Al-Zayyat, board member of Egypt's Chemical and Fertilizers Export Council, the volume of Egypt's glass bottles export increased by 20% in the first half of the current fiscal year compared with the corresponding period of 2008. The export rise was attributed to the increasing cash export aid received from the export support fund.

Source: Glassonline.com

USA

Glass Manufacturer Feels Impact of Low Packaging Demand



North America's largest glass manufacturer, O-I Global, saw a 12 percent drop in glass shipments from last year's second quarter. But, demand was up 14 percent over the first quarter of 2009, which the company credits to improved market conditions in Europe and North America. Glass containers are 100 percent recyclable and can be recycled endlessly. Recovered glass is used as the majority ingredient in new glass containers. O-I's sales were down from \$2.2 billion in Q2 2008 to \$1.8 billion in Q2 2009, and over the first six months of 2009, net earnings were down \$162.9 million. The decrease in sales across many packaging industries has affected recycling because lowered demand for new containers causes a decreased need for recycled material. Source: 911.com/ Packagingnews.co.uk

Amcor buys Rio Tinto's Alcan Packaging business



Bottle-making giant Amcor agreed to pay \$2.03 billion for the majority of Rio Tinto's Alcan Packaging business, marking its biggest-ever acquisition. Amcor will acquire Alcan Packaging businesses including global pharmaceuticals, tobacco and European and Asian food divisions. The assets being acquired encompass operations in 28 countries and about 14,000 employees. To fund the offer, Amcor will issue shares and take on debt amounting to \$1.3 billion. Completion of the acquisition will depend upon regulatory approval in the U.S. and Europe. The deal will reportedly transform Amcor will into one of the world's largest packaging companies. Source: Marketwatch.com

Russia

Anadolu Cam: upgrade of Russian bottle plant



Turkish company Anadolu Cam Sanayii A.S., a part of Turkish glass manufacturing group Sisecam, reportedly plans to invest about EUR 70 million in the upgrade of a bottle production plant in Ruscam-Kirishi in Russia's Leningrad Region it bought in 2008. The company and the regional government signed a memorandum on the upgrade on 29 July 2009. The plans involve the upgrade of two bottle production lines, with the launch of the first line scheduled for mid-2010, followed by the launch of the second line in late 2011. The upgrade will be financed by loans from Societe Generale, ING Bank and the European Bank for Reconstruction and Development. Source: Glassonline.com

India

Glass manufacturer HNGI looks to build its presence overseas



India's largest manufacturer of glass used in bottles, Hindustan National Glass and Industries Ltd (HNGI), is looking to acquire container glass manufacturing companies in regions such as West Asia, South-East Asia and Africa. "We are in talks with three companies in these regions, and hopefully, something would materialize in the next couple of quarters," said the company's joint managing director Mukul Somany. The company could even snap up more than one company, he added. HNGI serves beverage makers—both alcoholic and non-alcoholic—pharmaceutical companies and food processors, and manufactures 50 million bottles a day. The companies that it is looking to acquire have a turnover of Rs300-400 crore each and a production capacity of around 10 million bottles each—roughly one-fifth of HNGI's current capacity. Source: Livemint.com

Packaging award recognizes new wine bottle



The Lean & Green™ wine bottle manufactured by O-I Asia-Pacific received two Packaging Evolution Awards in Australia, including the Best in Show award, in just its first year on the market. Lean & Green launched in May as a lighter bottle that uses less glass and was originally marketed for wine in Australia and the U.K. By using less glass and reducing the diameter of the bottle, O-I decreased the weight in some by up to 28 percent. Glass containers are 100 percent recyclable and recovered glass is used as the majority ingredient in new glass containers. By manufacturing bottles that weigh less, O-I was achieved a 20 percent energy savings and 12 percent water savings, while fitting 840 additional bottles in a 20-foot shipping container. These features helped O-I win the Most Innovative Solution In Packaging Waste Management award. “It’s a win/win situation when you can deliver products that are lighter, use less energy and water and are also more freight efficient, particularly when brand owners can maintain their product’s image at the same time,” said O-I Asia Pacific President Greg Ridder. Source: 911Earth.com

FLACONNAGE

STO-Flaconnage unveils new perfume bottle



STO-Flaconnage has added a new 100ml oval bottle to its standard range for the perfume market. The Knottingley, Yorkshire firm said the Fiona was a traditional-looking bottle with a large surface area that could be decorated with a wide range of printing techniques such as spraying, acid etching and hot-foil stamping. Source: Packagingnews.co.uk

\$2bn deal will create pharma packaging giant



Australian company Amcor looks set to join the healthcare packaging giants via a \$2 billion deal to purchase the pharmaceutical, food and tobacco packaging assets of Alcan, part of the Rio Tinto mining group with sales of \$4.1 billion in 2008. Rio Tinto already completed the sale of its US packaging division to Bemis for \$1.2 billion. The latest deal covers the firm's European and Asian packaging assets, and depends on Amcor raising some \$1.3 billion via a rights issue. Negotiations between Amcor and Rio Tinto have been going on for around a year, and Alcan has been on the block since 2007. If the deal is completed, Amcor will become the world's biggest supplier of pharmaceutical packaging with an increase in sales of around 50%. Source: Pharmafocus.com

COMPETING MATERIALS

Cans

Rexam aluminium drinks bottle to go into production in 2010



Rexam has announced that its Fusion aluminium drinks bottle is to go into full production in the first quarter of 2010 at its Czech Republic plant, following a UK-led pilot phase last year. The first Fusion line will be based at Rexam's Ejpvovice plant near Prague and the firm hopes to produce 60 million units in the first year. A number of drinks brands are understood to be trialling the Fusion bottle, although a spokeswoman for Rexam said the company is not yet in a position to reveal names. Source: Packagingnews.co.uk

Red Bull hit with record £270k packaging waste fine



Energy drink brand Red Bull has been fined a record £271,800 for breaching packaging waste regulations in the UK. The London-based soft drinks importer

pleaded guilty to failing to comply with requirements to recover and recycle packaging waste over an eight-year period from 1999 to 2006. Southwark Magistrates Court fined the firm £261,278 and ordered it to pay the Environment Agency (EA) £3,755 and £6,854 in costs and compensation.

Source: Packagingnews.co.uk

Good weather drives canned cider sales



Cider can sales in the first half of 2009 rose as a result of the early summer heatwave, industry association the Can Makers has claimed. Figures corroborated by Neilson reveal that cider in cans has grown 16% and ale in cans has grown 2% over this period. However, take-home beer sales have declined by 1% this year. Canned soft drinks sales have increased by 9% between January in June, leading Can Makers to suggest consumers are beginning to favour them over more expensive juice drinks, smoothies and bottled water. Can Makers report that shipments to fillers between January and July remained level with 2008 at 4233m cans.

Source: Packagingnews.co.uk

Rexam to close Dunkirk can factory in France

Rexam is to close its beverage can making plant in Dunkirk, France. The closure, announced 22 September, is being made in a bid to "balance capacity in the European market", the company said. The Dunkirk plant manufactures 33cl and 50cl steel cans and has an annual capacity of around 1.1bn cans. Rexam said there will be no impact on its ability to meet customer requirements. The overall European capacity reduction programme announced at Rexam's half year results, including the closure of the Dmitrov plant in Russia in August, will cost GBP54m (\$88US.6m), of which GBP25m are expected to be cash costs, arising mainly in 2010, and will generate savings of GBP20m in 2010.

Source: packagingdigest.com

Rexam produces wine cans for Russian distributor



Russian wine supplier Marine Express has swapped 750ml glass bottles for 250ml slim cans from Rexam for a new wine launch. The Elsa brand, a semi-sweet white Liebfrauenmilch, is the first wine in a can to be launched by the distributor, and will be followed by semi-sparkling Lambrusco red and white wines from Italy. Rexam is producing the cans at its Recklinghausen plant in Germany.

Source: Packagingnews.co.uk

Ball named Coke's top European supplier as volumes grow



Coca-Cola's biggest bottler, Coca-Cola Enterprises (CCE), has named canmaker Ball Packaging Europe its top supplier as it reported growth in its European operations. Ball was awarded CCE's 'Supplier of the Year' gong at a dinner on Tuesday night for its efforts in 2008, when it supplied 2.3bn cans to CCE in Europe. CCE European supply chain general manager Stephen Moorhouse said that Ball had been "outstanding" in meeting the company's flexibility capacity requirements and had also made a major contribution to a lightweighting project for the company's cans.

Source: Packagingnews.co.uk

Aluminum

Rexam rolls out aluminum bottle

The new "Fusion" beverage can launched by Rexam Beverage Can is to go into serial production in the Czech Republic at the beginning of 2010 and is to be used for wine, water products, beer and soft drinks. It combines the characteristics of a can and aluminium bottle. In the first year output will total 60 million units and will eventually increase to 120 million before going into world-wide production. At the same time Rexam plans to close its facility in Dunkerque, as a result of the recession and over-capacity in France.

Source: www.globalmalt.de

Plastics

Gerresheimer focuses on plastics with new pharma facilities



German pharmaceutical packaging manufacturer Gerresheimer has opened a US-based research and development centre and a new factory in Spain in a bid to grab a greater share of the burgeoning market for plastic drugs packaging. The group, which said that plastics is its fastest growing division, has expanded its existing manufacturing plant based in Peachtree City, Georgia, with the establishment of a technological centre, which will conduct research and development into plastics manufacturing. Gerresheimer said it had experienced massive growth in demand for plastic packaging over the last five years, due to plastics replacing some traditional glass packaging.

Source: Packagingnews.co.uk

New PET recycling plant

The German company Meister Recycling GmbH is building a new reprocessing plant for used PET beverage bottles near Fulda. It will have a capacity for 35,000 tonnes of single-use bottles per year and will produce 30,000 tonnes PET flakes as of mid 2010.

Source: Euwid Recycling and Waste Management

Plastic bottle introduced



M&H Plastics has announced the addition of the new 'CONTOUR' bottle to its standard range of products. The 400ml bottle is manufactured in PET and takes a 23mm snap-on flip top closure. Different colored bottles and caps can create a big choice of range options.

Source: Ceepackaging.com

PET and PLA not recyclable together

According to Napcor (National Association for PET Container Resources), located in Sonoma, California (USA), PLA can contaminate PET material for recycling and have negative effects on the recyclate. It is difficult for consumers to distinguish between the two materials and technology developed to date does not provide a satisfactory level of separation.

Source: Euwid Verpackung

Wine in PET bottles above the clouds

Japanese Airlines (JAL) has introduced wine in recyclable PET bottles on its flights between Tokyo and London in the Economy Class and plans to extend the measure to all international routes in the long-term. The bottle weighs only 22 g, one seventh of a glass bottle of comparable size and consequently reduces the weight of the aircraft and the burden on the environment.

Source: Euwid Verpackung

Barrier tests suggest plastic almost as the same capacity as glass claims Superfos

As part of research at Superfos, barrier tests were carried out on a long term basis. One test example was red cabbage. Sealed within a SuperFlex container with barrier labels, membrane and a membrane lid, the red cabbage apparently kept both its colour and freshness for 27 months. With ordinary plastic containers, red cabbage usually turns brown after four months, but the test apparently showed hardly any difference in colour after more than two years.

Source: Ceepackaging.com

US: Plastic takes on vintage glass

The ubiquitous 750-milliliter glass wine bottle is starting to get competition from a plastic upstart. The bottles carry a "use by" date - plastic doesn't provide quite the same seal as glass - and as such aren't likely to find their way into the cellars of serious wine enthusiasts. For those who aren't as picky, however, the wine is apparently likely to cost less. "The wine

doesn't know what package it is in," said W.R. Tish, a wine educator who writes a blog called Wine Skewer. "It tastes the same whether it is in a plastic bottle, a plastic bladder inside a box, or a glass." At AKA a Bistro in California's Napa Valley wine country, will begin pouring a cabernet sauvignon out of plastic bottles this month for wine-by-the-glass customers. Peralta Winery will sell him 1-liter plastic bottles for the same price as a 750-milliliter glass bottle. That means he can sell two extra glasses for about \$7 to \$8 each. "My decision will be based on the same factor as any wine: taste," Simon said. "Consumers only care about what's in the glass." The bottles apparently have a special layer designed to keep oxygen from permeating the container and destroying the wine. But it's not the iron-tight seal that glass provides, so bottles will come with "use by" dates.
Source: Chicagotribune.com

Cartonage

Tetra Pak plays down need for UK carton reprocessing



Tetra Pak has put plans to expand UK carton reprocessing on the back burner. Tetra Pak recycling operations manager Fay Dashper said the firm was considering a number of options in the UK but its trials showed none was currently viable. She said there had been a change of view within the company towards reprocessing overseas. "We're completely happy with shipping cartons to Sweden to a dedicated reprocessing facility. Initially, we were keen on reprocessing in the UK in response to public demand. But life-cycle analyses have shown it's not detrimental to the environment to ship waste overseas," she said. Dashper admitted that the move towards kerbside collections meant the firm had less control over waste than it does with bring banks. Some 20% of local authorities are predicted to have some form of kerbside collection of cartons by the end of the year.

Source: Packagingnews.co.uk

Contamination of beverage cartons

According to the German Environment Agency, beverage carton manufacturers were already aware in 2005 that the printing chemical ITX was contaminating liquids in beverage cartons up to 12 times beyond the accepted levels. In future, only chemicals which are tested in long-term studies and confirmed as harmless are admissible. Despite this, manufacturers currently refuse to say what substances are now in use, but insist that 95% of cartons now use an improved printing system. The new printing inks of the remaining 5% will be the subject of severe scrutiny by authorized institutes.

Source: www.infodienst.de

CONTAINER GLASS ACCESSORIES & SUPPLIERS

GM introduces new bottle-washing machine

GM Getränketechnik & Maschinenbau, located in Gera (Germany) presented its latest bottle-washing machine at the Drinktec trade fair in Munich. The automatic bottle circulation ensures that bottles still circulate – at a rate of 14,000 bottles/hour – despite external disruption.

Source: www.infodienst.de

Embossing: new trend in glass?

Once the preserve of high-end spirits and perfumes, embossed bottles could now be a boon for any brand wanting to raise its profile. The traditional milk bottle is the ultimate in practical glass packaging. The height-to-diameter ratio and gently curving shape mean the bottle is light, cost effective to produce and can withstand being reused 20-30 times. The bottles reach customers unadorned except for the name of the dairy embossed into the glass. David Workman, director general at trade body British Glass, explains that the embossed logos were introduced as a practical measure, to ensure the bottles were returned to the correct dairy. A label would have washed off when the bottles were reused. Embossing is

now used for branding rather than functional purposes. Stamping a brand's name into the fabric of the packaging sends out strong quality cues to the consumer as well as reassuring them of the product's authenticity. Once the moulds have been made, the branded bottles or jars can be produced in their millions at the same speed and cost as a plain version.
Source: Packagingnews.co.uk

CUSTOMER INDUSTRIES

Food

Honey builds on award-winning work for spice firm with chutney jars



Design and branding agency Honey has continued its creative partnership with spice kit specialist Spicentice by designing the packaging for the brand's new chutney range. The range incorporates luggage tag-style labels that are used across the Spicentice range and fruit tags to illustrate the different flavours. Honey managing director Doug James said: "We've identified the key part of the original design: the luggage tags. They insinuate we've travelled the world." Square glass jars were chosen to make better use of space in transit and there are plans to move the range into recycled glass in the future. Honey's rebranding of Spicentice's range of spice kits in 2008 led to a 38% rise in sales and a Design Effectiveness Award. As a result, Spicentice extended its range to include chutneys.
Source: Packagingnews.co.uk

Spirits

Tequila packaging blends modern, traditional design



Tanteo tequila is a natural, hand-infused spirit in a hand-crafted bottle designed by Tanteo Spirits' creative director and co-founder, Lincoln Mayne. The Australian-born Mayne boasts a background in both graphic and fashion design, during which he cross-branded, designed and provided creative direction for numerous brands, including Calvin Klein, Maxmara, PUMA, Bumble & Bumble and VH1. The handcrafted glass bottle's modern shape reflects Mayne's work in the fashion industry and of his fine arts training in sculpture with its subtle curves.
Source: Packagingdgiest.com

Pernod Ricard sells Tia Maria

The French spirits giant, Pernod Ricard, has sold the coffee liqueur brand Tia Maria to Illva Saronno for € 125 million. Chivas Brothers will produce Tia Maria for Illva Saronno, whilst Pernod Ricard Argentina will produce and market the brand in Argentina. The transaction will enable Pernod Ricard to further reduce debts incurred by its takeover of Vin&Spirit in 2008.
Source: www.infodienst.de

Martini Rosato relaunched



Bacardi Germany has relaunched its Martini Rosato with improved recipe and new bottle design in the hopes of appealing to modern consumers.
Source: www.infodienst.de

Consultant's report supports Johnnie Walker bottling closure



Hopes are fading fast for the future of Diageo's Johnnie Walker bottling plant in Kilmarnock after a new report labelled the closure as "sensible". According to reports, a study by BDO Stoy Hayward investigating possible alternatives to the closure of the plant found in favour of Diageo's decision. The Kilmarnock packing plant in Ayreshire will be closed by the end of 2011 and Diageo will consolidate packing operations with its other facilities in Glasgow and Fife.
Source: Packagingnews.co.uk

Tequila Herradura redesigns packaging



Tequila Herradura will be introducing new primary and secondary packaging developed to highlight the brand's ultra-premium, hand-crafted authenticity. The revamped Blanco, Reposado and Añejo packaging will be seen on U.S. store shelves and in restaurants and bars this summer. Designed by the Brown-Forman Design Group in conjunction with Duffy & Partners, a brand design company, the new Tequila Herradura packaging incorporates key elements from the brand's story.

Source: Packagingdigest.com

Grand Marnier unveils Christmas bottle



Grand Marnier has opted for a striking red lacquer for this year's limited-edition bottle for Christmas. The "Irresistible" bottle, which has been designed by a French design agency, has been coated in a red lacquer shell that feels silky to the touch. A limited run of 1,000 of the bottles will be available from top retailers including Selfridges, Harvey Nichols, Fortnum & Mason and Harrods and in bars and hotels. This marks the seventh year of Grand Marnier's limited edition bottles, which have included bottles wrapped in material, flocking and a furry boa. The bottle shape itself has not changed since it was created by Louis-Alexander Lapostolle in 1880 and the company is still run by his heirs.

Source: Packagingnews.co.uk

Absolut rocks out with leather-clad bottle



Pernod Ricard is to give new meaning to the phrase 'on the rocks' this month when it launches a special edition bottle of Absolut vodka bottle clad in leather and studs. The Absolut Rock Edition is due to go on sale in September and will initially be on sale in department store Selfridges before becoming more widely available in October. The drinks giant is to put the pack at the heart of a new marketing campaign linking the vodka to rock music.

Source: Packagingnews.co.uk

Diageo takes Sainsbury's to court over Pitchers drink



Diageo has entered into a legal battle with Sainsbury's over alleged copyright infringement of its Pimm's brand. The legal action will determine whether Sainsbury's new gin-based drink Pitchers, which it encourages customers to drink with fruit and lemonade, is a copy of Diageo's Pimm's. A Diageo spokeswoman confirmed that the company had "issued legal proceedings against Sainsbury's in relation to an intellectual property matter". She said: "It would be inappropriate for us to comment further other than to say that Sainsbury's is a valued customer of Diageo and we hope to continue to be so for many years." A Sainsbury's spokesperson said the company planned to "vigorously defend ourselves against these allegations".

Source: Packagingnews.co.uk

Sparkling Wine

Gloomy forecast for Champagne sales



Champagne shipments could drop by more than 60 million bottles this year, if shipments continue falling at the current rate. Shipments were down almost 20% in the first six months of the year, according to Champagne trade body the CIVC and, if this decline continues, the annual figure could be as low as 260m bottles. Volumes have not been this low since the post-millennium hangover in 2001. Ghislain de Montgolfier, president of the Union des Maisons de Champagne (UMC), said "We are confident we will sell about 265m bottles this year."

Source: Decanter.com

Launch of low alcohol sparkling wine

The German sparkling wine market leader, Rotkäppchen, with headquarters in Freyburg, is launching a low alcohol sparkling wine in a satinized bottle. The alcoholic content will be less than 0.5 vol %.

Source: www.infodienst.de

Innovative look for Henkell sparkling wine



The new clear glass bottle introduced for Henkell's Rosé and Blanc de Blancs emphasizes its elegance and premium quality. The traditional short cap and embossed lily remain unchanged. The new bottles are expected to become available at end October.

Source: www.infodienst.de

Deinhard collection with new look

After being presented at this year's ProWein, Deinhard's wines and sparkling wines are now being launched in transparent bottles with a screw cap.

Source: www.infodienst.de

Rotkäppchen-Mumm invest in « piccolo »

The Rotkäppchen-Mumm sparkling wine cellars in Eltville am Rhein (Germany) have inaugurated a new 0.2 l bottling facility – an investment this year alone of € 4.1 million. The new line can fill 30,000 bottles per hour and the new facility comprehends all aspects of the bottling process.

Source: www.infodienst.de

Marchant brands premium Cava range



Freixenet, the Spanish wine producer, has turned to Holmes & Marchant to create the brand identity, packaging and label for a new range of premium Cava due to hit UK shelves later this month. Holmes & Marchant also named the new Elyssia range, which comprises a rosé Pinot Noir Brut and white Gran Cuvée Brut. The Marlow-based design and packaging innovation company created a smaller label than is usually found on wine or Cava bottles. The label is joined to the bottle neck with a ribbon and features a range of glossy varnishes, designed to make it stand apart from the matt and gold of Freixenet's Cordon Negro range.

Source: Packagingnews.co.uk

Cellar acquisition for Gosset



Champagne house Gosset is to move its headquarters to newly-acquired premises in Epernay. The company has bought a property previously owned by Chateau Malakoff, and the move will see the producer consolidate its operations from five sites down to two. The new premises include full production facilities, with a 28,000hl fermentation room and 5km of cellars.

Source: Harpers.co.uk

Wine

French wine exports fall 25 percent amid crisis



French wine exports have plunged 25% in the first half of this year as consumers worldwide scaled back on non-essentials amid the global financial crisis, exporters said. The Federation of French Exporters of Wines and Spirits said exports totaled 3.28 billion euros, down from 4.35 billion in the same period last year. The group, which represents 85% of France's wines and spirits exporters, said exports of luxury products such as Champagne and Cognac fell 45% and 27% respectively. Exports of less expensive table wines fell only 1%, the group said. The Federation's president Claude de Jouvencel, said in a statement that he expected the market would stabilize in the second half of the year.

Source: Forbes.com/Associated Press

German wine market suffers setback

According to the German Wine Institute, Mainz (Germany), in the first half 2009 sales of German wine dropped by 2.8%. At the same time turnover increased by 2.1%. During the same period wine exports increased by 4.3% to 1 million hl, whilst the value of exports dropped 1.9% to € 195 million. The downward trend was most pronounced in sales of red and rosé wines (- 2.7%). Discounters continued to consolidate their sales' position, holding a 48.2% share of the market.

Source: www.infodienst.de

French wines expand in Asia with Castel and record sales in China



With more than 11 millions bottles sold in the Asia-Pacific region in 2008, Castel is the French wine market leader in most of the Asian countries, particularly China and Japan. Group sales marked an increase of 23.5% in 2007 and 21% in 2008. In China, Castel saw their sales increase by 115% in 2008 and soar by more than 243% by the end of May 2009. With more than 5 million bottles sold, the sales figures from 2008 have already been left behind!

Source: Wineindustryreport.finewinepress.com

Burgundy expects lower wine prices in softer market



Burgundy wines, hit by a fall in U.S. and British demand suffered a 30 percent drop in first-quarter exports and a “more difficult” year ahead is expected to lead to price cuts for the region’s finest vintages.

Source: Wineindustryreport.finewinepress.com

Constellation to announce integration plans as more senior staff are shed



Constellation

Constellation Brands is expected soon to announce plans for further integrating its Australian and UK operations. Constellation UK's president, Troy Christensen, has been in Australia for two weeks overseeing development of the plan. Apparently the possible plans included splitting the company's premium and commercial brands into separate business units. They also included increasing the company's portfolio of low-cost commercial brands by acquiring brands from Australian Vintage, which supplies a number of own-label wines to UK retailers as well as owning popular premium brands Miranda, Passion Pop and Sunnyvale and the premium McGuigan, Nepenthe and Tempus Two brands.

Source: Decanter.com

Bordeaux: 2009 could be the next 2005



Bordeaux producers are cautiously optimistic about the 2009 vintage after a dry and warm season - already comparing it with 2005. Expectations are high following a sunny and dry summer. While a little rain would be welcome, they are praying September does not spoil what could be a great year. Emmanuel Cruse, owner of Margaux property Château d'Issan said, 'So far it's the greatest season since 2005. We are crossing our fingers September will be as good as last year.' Producers report red varieties are maturing faster than usual on both the Left and Right Bank.

Source: Decanter.com

Beer

Chinese beer brand booms

China Resources Breweries (CRB) claims that its brand “Snow” saw sales' growth of +24% in the first half 2009. Output rose to 35.8 million hl putting it in second place world-wide behind “Budweiser” from Anheuser Busch/InBev. CRB is a 51:49 joint venture between a Chinese group and SABMiller.

Source: www.infodienst.de

Negative development on German beer market

According to figures released by the German Brewery Association, beer sales saw a downward trend of 4.5% in the first half 2009. Beer exports also dropped to 7.06 million hl, a minus of 7.1%. A similar trend was registered for the popular beer mix beverages which sold 7.4% less year on year in the first half. These are the worst figures for beer since statistics were introduced in 1991 and are attributed to price increases, the smoking ban in the gastronomy sector and unfavourable weather conditions.

Source: www.infodienst.de

Foster's Australia reports 2009 financial results



Australian Foster's Group announced its 2009 financial results. The company said the beer market was robust, while wine remained challenging. According to the company's statement, the group's net sales revenue was up 2.7% to \$4.5 billion, net profit was up 4.0% to \$741.5 million and earnings per share up 4.6% to 38.5 cents. Operating cash flow pre interest and tax increased 12.6% to \$1.37 billion. The company will pay a final dividend of 15.25 cents a share, up from 14.25c last year, and a total annual dividend of 27.25 cents. Regarding the company's beer business, Foster's beer volume in Australia was up 2.3%, net sales revenue increased 5.5%, while net sales revenue per case went up 3.0%.

Source: Globalmalt.com

Beer production in China up 6% in the first half of 2009

China Alcoholic Drinks Industry Association

China's beer production reached 20.5 million tons in the first half of this year, up 6% compared to the same period in previous year, according to data of the China Alcoholic Drinks Industry Association (CADIA). China is hopefully to become the world's largest beer producer for the eighth consecutive year, said Wang Yancai, director of the CADIA, at the annual Qingdao International Beer Festival in Qingdao. Wang forecasted that the country's beer production will maintain an annual growth of between 3% and 5%.

Source: Globalmalt.com

Beer sales in West Europe fall considerably in H1 2009



Beer sales across West Europe fell by more than 4% in the first half of 2009 - the equivalent of 580 million litres, or more than a billion less UK pints of beer - according to leading beverage research agency Canadean's Quarterly Beverage Tracker. Alcoholic drinks, as a whole have not fared much better, while soft and dairy drinks have slipped by around 1%, hot drinks have registered a very small rise and overall commercial beverage consumption has declined by a little over 1%.

Source: Ceepackaging.com

SABMiller sells Cervecería Nacional de Ecuador



Colombian brewer Bavaria, a subsidiary of the world's second largest brewer SABMiller will sell 90.8% of the shares it owns in Cervecería Nacional de Ecuador. 18 606 401 shares for US\$ 29.17 totalling US\$542.7 mln will be sold in the transaction. During the first half of this year, the Colombian brewer showed operating revenues of 805.735 million pesos, about US\$ 383 million.

Source: Globalmalt.com

Thai Bev eyes acquisitions in several beverage firms



Thai Beverage, Thailand's largest brewer, confirmed that it is looking at acquisitions of stakes in two beverage firms in Singapore and one in Thailand and Philippines respectively but declined to give names of the firms. Beverage firms listed in Singapore include Del Monte Pacific, Fraser & Neave and Asia Pacific Breweries.

Source: Globalmalt.com

Original bottle for original Siberian beer



Russia SunInBev announces the launch of the Sibirskaya Korona in a new original bottle. The first bottling has been produced today in Omsk. The producers say that the new original bottle is an ornament for the rich noble Sibirskaya Korona beer. Refined luxury in every detail, smooth lines, the elongated convenient bottle neck, elegant bottleneck label that guarantees quality – this is the new quality standard set by the Sibirskaya Korona brand in its pursuit to cherish its consumers.

Source: Ceepackaging.com

Anadolu Efes Turkey acquires only 3.24% of Efes Breweries International



Turkish brewer Anadolu Efes announced today the acquisition of only 3.24%, or 6,858,785 shares of the issued share capital of Efes Breweries International (EBI), its subsidiary operating in the CIS and Georgia. On 20 July 2009, Anadolu Efes made a recommended cash offer for the entire issued share capital of EBI other than the 148,457,429 shares already owned by Anadolu Efes (which represent approximately 70.22 per cent. of the issued share capital of EBI) at an offer price of US\$2.22 in cash for each EBI Share, valuing each EBI GDR at US\$11.10.

Source: Globalmalt.com

Brewer has invested over EUR100m in Perm



Production volume at SUN InBev Perm branch has been increased till 3.5 mln hectoliters as a result of the scaled investment project. For the period of 2000 till 2008 the investments reached 100 mln euros. SUN InBev plans the further development of Perm brewery, in particular the construction of new infrastructure for the water treatment plants that allow company to decrease the water pollutant discharge. There's been reached the accord of signing the new agreement between SUN InBev and region government. 'In our new agreement, unlike the signed in 2004 one, the main priorities, more accurate tax, number of employees and wage fund criteria should be set', - said Vice-premier Yury Utkin.

Source: Ceepackaging.com

US' Brewers Association reports highest number of small and independent craft brewers in 100 years



The Brewers Association, the trade association representing the majority of U.S. brewing companies, reports America's small and independent craft brewers are still growing despite many challenges and are continuing to provide jobs to the U.S. economy. The U.S.A. now boasts 1,525 breweries, the highest number in 100 years when consolidation and the run up to Prohibition reduced the number of breweries to 1,498 in 1910. "The U.S. has more breweries than any other nation and produces a greater diversity of beer styles than anywhere else, thanks to craft brewer innovation," said Paul Gatza, Director of the Brewers Association. Dollar growth from craft brewers during the first half of 2009 increased 9%, down from 11% growth during the same period in 2008. Volume of craft brewed beer sold grew 5% for the first six months in 2009, compared to 6.5% growth in the first half of 2008. Barrels sold by craft brewers for the first half of the year is an estimated 4.2 million, compared to 4 million barrels sold in the first half of 2008.

Source: Globalmalt.com

Beer sales in Romania decline by 14%



Romania's beer sales declined by 14% in the first half of 2009 compared to the same period in 2008, according to data from the National Statistics Institute (INS). Romanian brewers confirm there was a sales decline, but talk about an up to 10% decrease. "The difference between the INS data and the figures reported by players is partly accounted for by the fact that the INS measures production, while the brewers' reports take into account products available in stores, as well as on the on-premise segment (hotels, restaurants, coffee shops)," Stephan Maria Weber, president of the Romanian Breweries Association, said.

Source: Globalmalt.com

UK High court decides in SABMiller's dispute with East African Breweries Limited



The High Court in London has granted SABMiller an injunction which stops East African Breweries (EABL), a subsidiary of Diageo plc, from purchasing Tanzanian brewer Serengeti Breweries Ltd, SABMiller reported. According to a company's statement, EABL has attempted to terminate the brewing and distribution agreement between EABL and SABMiller-owned Tanzanian Breweries Ltd (TBL) on 17 July and to purchase the competitor Serengeti Breweries (SBL). The High Court in London now has granted SABMiller an injunction which stops EABL from purchasing Serengeti Breweries Ltd.. The court ruled that a Diageo unit can't buy SBL until January 2011 or the resolution of a related arbitration. TBL continues to be the sole and exclusive brewer and distributor of EABL brands in Tanzania, the court said.

Source: Globalmalt.com

Beck's recruits pop stars to design limited edition labels



Beck's has unveiled a range of limited edition labels designed by musicians Ladyhawke and Hard-Fi that will appear on all 275ml bottles and secondary packaging this month. The musicians were commissioned under Beck's 'Music Inspired Art' scheme and their work will appear on 16 million bottles of Beck's in bars and shops. Ladyhawke and Hard-Fi, who have designed two labels each, join a list of previous collaborators that includes Damien Hurst, Tracey Emin and Gilbert & George. Ladyhawke, aka Pip Brown, worked with her artistic collaborator Sarah Larnach on the label designs.

Source: Packagingnews.co.uk

AB InBev reports 8.2% growth in challenging market



AB InBev has said new packaging and brand extensions have helped boost volumes in certain markets, and is forecasting a solid performance for the rest of the year. The drinks giant recorded a 52% increase in gross profit in the second quarter of 2009, on sales of \$9.5bn, much of which is attributable to the acquisition of Anheuser Busch in November. AB InBev reported 8.2% organic profit growth for the three-month period. AB InBev chief executive Carlos Brito said: "Our second-quarter results built off a strong first-quarter performance, despite a more challenging environment characterised by generally weaker demand trends." Western European revenues and volumes fell as subcontracting work decreased significantly and the firm concentrated on its own brands. But the development of the company's Stella Artois brand has increased UK market share despite the overall fall in volumes.

Source: Packagingnews.co.uk

German's Bitburger licensed for production in Vietnam



Bitburger as the first German beer will be produced in Vietnam. According to a Vietnamese newspaper, Kinh Bac Investment and Trading Company received the license from Bitburger and would exclusively produce the German beer in Vietnam and distribute both domestically and throughout Indochina. Kinh Bac's Joseph Lim said people in Vietnam have known about German beer for ages. Beer is a part of German culture, as well as Vietnamese culture, he was cited as saying further. Bui Duy Nam, marketing director of the company, said the company would import and distribute the beer for the first year and then produce and bottle it in local factories.

Source: Globalmalt.com

Anheuser-Busch InBev reports second quarter and half year 2009 results

AnheuserBusch InBev reported its second quarter and half year 2009 results. The highlights were following: Total 2Q09 volumes decreased 1.1%, with own beer volumes down 1.2%. Soft drink volumes grew 3.9% in 2Q09. In HY09, total volumes decreased 0.1%, with own beer volumes down 0.4%, and soft drink volumes up 4.9%. AB InBev's Focus Brand volumes increased 1.5% in 2Q09 and 2.4% in HY09, led by Brahma, Harbin, Skol, and the Bud Light family. YTD, the company gained market share in 7 of its key markets: Argentina, Belgium,

Brazil, South Korea, Ukraine, the UK, and the US, and maintained market share in Canada. Revenues grew 1.4% in 2Q09 and 2.9% in HY09, while revenue per hl was up 4.3% in 2Q09 and 5.0% in HY09, due to continued effective revenue management, while comparables became tougher in 2Q09.

Source: Globalmalt.com

BELGIUM: AB InBev expects continuing slowdown of market demand in 3Q 09



Looking forward, AnheuserBusch InBev said it enters the second half of 2009 with strong operating momentum. AB InBev is focused on executing stretch targets and delivering positive results, while building the foundation for future growth. However, it does expect its second half yearoveryear organic EBITDA improvement to be significantly less than that achieved in HY09. The third quarter looks especially challenging due to tough volume comparisons and higher expected sales and marketing investment. Moreover, the brewer expects that the sequential slowing of market demand that it saw through 2Q09 will continue in 3Q09.

Source: Globalmalt.com

LFH designs Carlsberg D-Night range



Carlsberg has launched its new D-Night beer and spirit drinks range in bottles designed by London design agency LFH. The D-Night range, which includes cachaça & lime, vodka & blood orange, and tequila & lemon flavours, is aimed at the 18-25 year-old market in Latvia and Lithuania. It is an extension of Carlsberg's D-Light beer and energy drink range, that launched in 2007, and features the same pull-off cap. "The key design cues we have been taken from D-Light were the red D, the unique brand font and the tattoo effect, which are easily recognised by consumers," said LFH's Steve Irvine. "Each of these three elements were used as a base, from which we could further explore how we communicate 'night' and the flavour variants across the range." In May, Carlsberg relaunched its "Export" beer bottles on the UK market.

Source: Packagingnews.co.uk

AmBev Brazil increases profit by 34% in second quarter 2009



Cia. de Bebidas das Americas, Latin America's biggest brewer, said second-quarter profit increased by 34% after price increases and new packaging helped rise its marketshare in the Brazilian beer market. Net income rose to 1.38 billion reais (\$748 million), or 2.23 reais a share, from 1.03 billion reais, or 1.67 reais, in previous year. Sao Paulo-based AmBev. Profit topped the average 1.14 billion-real mean estimate. Net sales rose 13% to 5.35 billion reais. AmBev, brewer of Antarctica, Bohemia and Brahma beers, said its average share of the Brazilian market climbed to 68.3% from 67.3% a year earlier. New bottle sizes enticed consumers as competitors raised prices.

Source: Globalmalt.com

USA: Heineken's CEO to leave the business



Heineken USA announced on Thursday that Don J. Blaustein, currently President and Chief Executive Officer of Heineken USA, has decided to leave the business effective August 31, 2009. A successor to Mr. Blaustein will be announced shortly. John Nickolson, Regional President Americas will oversee the USA business interim.

Source: Globalmalt.com

Union of Russian Brewers estimates beer production will drop by up to 50% due to higher tax



The Union of Russian Brewers estimates beer production will decrease by up to 50% if the excise tax on beer is tripled. An initiative by the Russian government to triple excise tax on beer would be a catastrophe for the country's brewing industry. Brewing industry experts point out that increasing the tax burden on the industry in a difficult economic situation will entail an inevitable decline in production and, consequently, employment. The reduction will affect a number of related industries. Injuries,

particularly of barley and malt producers, transport companies, suppliers of packaging materials, the trade organization. Daniil Briman, Chairman of The Union of Russian Brewers and vice president of Baltika, the country's largest brewer said "The plan being considered by the government will cause production to drop by 40 to 50 percent, and thousands of people will lose their jobs."

Source: Globalmalt.com

UK: SABMiller is prepared to make acquisitions

SABMiller is prepared to make acquisitions, the brewer's Chief Executive Officer Graham Mackay said in an interview. Further he forecasts the beer industry will recover slowly from the global recession. Mackay said SABMiller has sufficient investor support to do a deal and enough room to take on debts, though he will refuse to pay a premium price given the distressed market.

Source: Globalmalt.com

Beer production in Serbia decreases 12.5 % in the first seven months of 2009



In Serbia beer production decreased to 3.35 million hectoliters in the first seven months of 2009, a decline of 12.5 % compared to the same period in previous year. According to Miodrag Maksimovic, President of the Serbian Beer

Association, the decrease is mainly due to consumer's savings and bad weather conditions this year. The declining trend will continue until the end of the year, Maksimovic thinks.

Source: Globalmalt.com

Royal Unibrew enters into agreement to sell Caribbean breweries



Danish brewer Royal Unibrew has entered into a conditional agreement with the Cerveceria Nacional Dominicana (CND) brewery in the Dominican Republic to sell its shares of the breweries in Dominica, St. Vincent and Antigua to CND.

Furthermore, an agreement has been made with CND for licence production of Royal Uni-brew's Vitamalt brand, which will result in Vitamalt gaining ground in the region. On an aggregated basis, the sale will reduce Royal Unibrew's interest-bearing debt by just below DKK 200 million. The selling price of the shares is equal to their carrying amount. The transaction is expected to be finally closed at the end of 2009 and is not expected to affect the Group's earnings (EBIT) in 2009.

Source: Globalmalt.com

Efes Breweries announces minority buy-out in Russia

Efes Breweries International N.V. ("EBI") announced on Wednesday that the Board of Directors of its Russian operating subsidiary Moscow Efes Brewery ("MEB") resolved to purchase the 6,699% minority stake in Krasny Vostok Brewing Group ("KV Group"), which is held by Tradex Partner Limited Co. ("Tradex"). The total consideration is expected to be between US\$ 30-30.5 million and will be finalized by the completion of the share transfer.

The purchase will be funded by MEB's own cash resources.

Source: Globalmalt.com

Soft Drinks

Fruit juice season reaches its peak in Germany

The Federation of the German Fruit Juice Industry has forecast that more than one million tonnes of eating apples plus 500,000 tonnes apples from mixed orchards will be processed into apple juice this year, ideally in multi-trip glass bottles. In 2008 the German fruit juice industry produced a total of 4 billion liters of fruit juice, nectar and juice drinks worth € 4.1 billion.

Source: www.infodienst.de

Downward trend in Gerolsteiner sales

In the first 7 months 2009, Gerolsteiner sold 3.64 million hl of mineral water products, a minus of 7.5%. However, the company now holds a 16% share of the market for top quality waters and is confident that its consolidation policy will be beneficial in the long run.

Source: www.infodienst.de

Krumbach Mineral Water enters the gastronomy sector

Krumbach Mineral Water, part of the mineral spring group Überkingen-Teinach AG, has launched into the gastronomy sector with its Krumbach Gourmet Medium and Gourmet Naturell waters in an elegant 0.75 and 0.25 l facet glass bottle. The gastronomy line will be marketed in the core sales area in southern Germany.

Source: www.infodienst.de

Danone maintains its leading position on the Polish bottled water market



Zywiec Zdrój, producer of bottled water, owned by Danone, has maintained its leading position in Poland, according to Nielsen data quoted by Rzeczpospolita. In June 2009 the company had a 21.8% market share in terms of volume, whereas the runner-up, Cisowianka, accounted for 7.7%. In terms of value Zywiec controlled 31.7% in H1 2009.

Source: Ceepackaging.com

Tea and soup give Coca-Cola Hellenic stability



Drinks bottler Coca-Cola Hellenic's profits remained relatively stable in the first half of 2009, despite reductions in consumer spending. Group sales fell by 1% to EUR3.2bn compared to the same period in 2008. Adjusted EBITDA dropped only 3% to EUR482.1m. Volume in the still and water beverage category suffered in the first half of the year, while the ready-to-drink tea category was buoyed by the launch of new summer flavours under the Nestea brand in Poland and Romania. In May Coca-Cola Hellenic announced its agreement with Campbell Soup Company for the distribution of Campbell soup in Russia.

Source: Packagingnews.co.uk

Bottled water sales growing in Slovakia



Consumption of bottled water in Slovakia rose by 3.8% year on year between August 2008 and July 2009, according to Nielsen. Sales revenues grew by 35.5% year on year. In terms of consumption, the non-flavoured bottled water segment experienced a 3.6% year-on-year decline. The only category where consumption increased was that of low-carbonated and table waters, which experienced a 0.5% year-on-year increase. As such, the share accounted for by this category in the overall non-flavoured water market has risen.

Source: Ceepackaging.com

Magnus Mineral Springs on expansion course

Contrary to the general trend, Magnus Mineral Springs, a beverage manufacturer from Norderstedt (Germany) with output of over 45 million bottles per year, increased its turnover by 70% year on year in the first half 2009. The company is expanding its distribution beyond the traditional north German borders into the premium gastronomy scene of Berlin and eastern Germany.

Source: www.infodienst.de

PepsiCo pays \$7.8bn for bottlers



PepsiCo has reached agreement on a huge \$7.8bn deal to buy its two biggest bottlers, Pepsi Bottling Group and PepsiAmericas. Under a deal announced today, PepsiCo will pay \$36.50 a share for Pepsi Bottling Group (PBG) and \$28.50 a share for PepsiAmericas, half in cash and half in stock, based on the July 31 closing price of PepsiCo. The deal for the two North American groups is expected to bring annual savings of around \$300m by 2012 through greater efficiency across the group's

operations. Outside of the US, PBG has operations in Canada, Greece, Mexico, Russia, Spain and Turkey. PepsiAmericas, meanwhile, has a major presence in Central and Eastern Europe, with plants in the Czech Republic, Poland, Hungary, Slovakia and Romania, as well as facilities in central America, the Caribbean and the US.

Source: Packagingnews.co.uk

O-I bottles win German design awards



Two O-I glass bottles have won in the packaging category at Germany's Red Dot communication design awards. Bottles for True Fruits smoothies and Veen mineral water were among the 55 packaging winners of the 470 advertising products that were recognised in the competition. More than 6,100 products from 42 countries were submitted. Inga Koster, head of marketing and finances at True Fruits, said it was important to choose a packaging material that fitted the brand identity. "The True Fruits packaging material and the design have to pinpoint the corporate philosophy – 'true fruits, no tricks' and convey the pureness and high quality of the product," she said.

Source: Packagingnews.co.uk

US: Coca-Cola Enterprises to close Kansas bottling plant



Coca-Cola Enterprises (CCE) is to close its Kansas bottling plant in a bid to cut costs. The Kansas facility, which makes Coca-Cola Classic, Diet Coke, Coke Zero, Sprite and Dr Pepper, will shift its operations to a site in Lenexa with the loss of 41 jobs. "Unfortunately, the global economic downturn forced CCE and most other companies to search for more operating efficiencies this year," a spokesperson for CCE said. "Moving production operations from Wichita, Kansas to Lenexa, Kansas was identified as an important operating efficiency because our larger Lenexa plant has the capacity to handle Wichita's existing production load." CCE said its distribution and other operations in Wichita will be unaffected by the plant closure, which is expected to take place on 1 October.

Source: Packagingdigest.com

Powerade wins skirmish with Gatorade



A federal judge has sided with Powerade over attempts by rival Gatorade to kill spots claiming Powerade ION4 is "the most complete sports drink." Although the judge refused the preliminary injunction request, Powerade has voluntarily pulled the ads. The ongoing case, though, has provided embarrassing details about the strategies pursued by Powerade, owned by Coca-Cola Co., and Gatorade, a major beverage for PepsiCo. Stokely-Van Camp, a PepsiCo division that makes Gatorade, filed a lawsuit in March saying Coca-Cola made false advertising claims for Powerade ION4. The ads tout ION4 as "the complete sports drink" because it has two additional electrolytes, calcium and magnesium, that also are in sweat. The lawsuit pits the two largest sports drink brands against each other, although Gatorade continues to dominate the segment. Gatorade accounted last year for 77 % of U.S. take-home sales in the sports drink segment, according to Beverage Digest. Powerade represented 22 % of the sports drink segment.

Source: Packagingdigest.com

MEXICO: Coca-Cola Co, bottlers to invest \$5bn in Mexico

Soft drink giant Coca-Cola Co. and its Mexican bottling partners are to invest \$5USbn in Mexico during the next five years, Coca-Cola Co CEO Muhtar Kent said. Kent made the announcement at the inauguration of a factory outside of Mexico City. The funding is part of a long-term plan to develop Coca-Cola Co's operations in the country

Source: Packagingdigest.com

RECYCLING/ COLLECTION

New research promises breakthrough for recycled glass



I'm not sure about this one, I suppose it depends on what shade of colour recycled mixed glass would give. I mean a jar of white mayo could look a little unappetising in

a light shade of greeny/brown. Until the bottles/jars arrived how would you know if your design will work with it. See what you think. Retailer demand for recycled glass could rocket after new UK research commissioned by the Waste and Resources Action Programme (WRAP). The study, conducted in partnership with Sainbury's, found that consumers are just as likely to buy products in jars and bottles made from mixed colour recycled glass as they are to buy items in clear glass packaging.
Source: Designcognition.com

High-tech optical sorting plant planned: New sorting plant will boost New Zealand's glass recycling capacity.



Auckland City Council has praised the decision to build a major new glass-sorting facility at the Onehunga recycling plant. The new optical sorting equipment is from a specialist manufacturer in Europe and has the capacity to sort 100,000 small pieces of glass the size of a fingernail per minute into individual colours while detecting and removing contamination. Glass container maker O-I and Visy Recycling NZ Ltd - which operates the materials recovery facility (MRF) at Onehunga - have announced that the expanded high-tech optical sorting plant will be built next year. This will feed glass for recycling at O-I's manufacturing plant at Penrose. Glass accumulating at the MRF for future use will be directed to O-I's new glass furnace, also opening next year, for remanufacturing into bottles and jars.

Source: Aucklandcity.govt.nz

Upward trend for German cullet imports

According to figures released by the Federal Statistics Office, 92,348 tonnes of cullet were imported into Germany between January and April 2009 – a plus of 33%. Exports for the same period dropped by 12.7% to 55,944 tonnes. Recyclers complain that it is cheaper to import than to buy from the Dual Systems. In 2008 Germany imported 252,900 tonnes of cullet, of which 140,000 tonnes came from Switzerland. Exports dropped for the same year by 22% to 195,622 tonnes. Chief customers were Belgium and India.

Source: Euwid Verpackung

Beverage container recycling on the increase in Switzerland

In 2008, all beverage packaging sectors fulfilled the 75% recycling requisite. According to the Swiss Federal Environment Agency, 95% of glass bottles were recycled, making a total of 282,390 tonnes.

Source: Euwid Verpackung

Poles are going to have to sort their garbage

The Polish government plans to introduce a new law that will fine those who do not sort their household waste beginning in 2015. The law will require people to dispose of biodegradable wastes in one container, paper, metal and plastic in another, and unrecyclable garbage in a third. Moreover, local governments will have to create facilities for collecting and sorting the various kinds of wastes. The move is less of a policy choice than a necessity. Poland itself will be fined severely unless the changes are carried out. In joining the EU, Poland obliged itself to recycle at least 75 percent of the 12 mln tonnes of garbage it generates annually by 2010.

Source: Ceepackaging.com

UK on track to meet packaging recycling targets



The UK looks largely on track to meet its packaging recycling and recovery targets by the end of 2009, according to industry experts. According to figures published last week by the Environment Agency via the National Packaging Waste Database for the second quarter of 2009, more than 1.59 million tonnes of packaging was recycled. This was up from 1.58m tonnes in quarter one. Compliance scheme Budget Pack managing director Stephen Clark told MRW: "The PRN system works to support exporters and domestic reproprocessors with funds to increase their collection capacity and infrastructure. This is to promote recycling in preference to landfill."

The recent release of the UK's second quarter recovery and recycling figures indicates that the PRN system is operating effectively and we have already seen price movement in materials as a result of this change in supply versus demand." Glass figures for reprocessing and export for quarter two is 397,310 tonnes. British Glass recycling manager Rebecca Cocking said that the figures were relatively high and they indicate that the UK will reach its 1.6 million tonnes target by the end of the year. She added that the main challenge that the glass industry faces is the quality issue.

Source: Environmental-expert.com

UK: Recession blamed as recycling exports rise 22% in a year



Falls in UK paper and board production and the UK's worst recession for decades have contributed to a 22% rise in exports of packaging waste over the last year. Figures published on the Environment Agency's website show that in the second quarter of this year, 716,860 tonnes of packaging waste were exported for overseas reprocessing, a 22% rise on the 586,006 tonnes recorded in the same period last year. Meanwhile, the quantity of waste accepted for UK reprocessing fell 18% from 1.1m tonnes in the second quarter of 2008 to 877,155 tonnes this year, according to the National Packaging Waste Database.

Source: Packagingnews.co.uk

Commingled Recycling Forces U.K. to Import Glass

A representative of British Glass says that almost 10 % of the material recycled into new glass bottles last year had to be imported from other countries, according to Packaging News. Commingled recycling programs – in which materials are collected together in one bin – are reportedly reducing the quality of glass collected. "A majority of glass [from commingled] collections has been compacted so that even if it was clean enough, you wouldn't be able to optical sort it. The less material available for reprocessing, the more virgin material we have to use," said Rebecca Cocking, British Glass recycling manager. "So, to meet targets, firms are looking to imports."

Source: 911.com

Wrap looks to boost recycled glass content



UK Wrap hopes to boost the uptake of mixed-colour recycled glass after new research found the material would not put consumers off buying a wide range of products. The Waste and Resources Action Programme partnered with Sainsbury's to determine if consumers would accept packaging with a slightly green hue in place of a clear glass one. Glass Technology Services, a subsidiary of British Glass, conducted the research and found that, in most cases, using a container with 90% mixed-colour content did not have a detrimental effect on the purchase decision. A total of 79 men and women across a range of ages took part in the study, in which mayonnaise was found to be the only product that was preferred in clear glass. Participants actually preferred the jar that contained a large amount of mixed-colour recycle.

Source: Packagingnews.co.uk

FOOD CONTACT MATERIALS

Four New Reasons to Avoid Bisphenol A



The chemical bisphenol A, better known as BPA, may be even more pervasive and dangerous than scientists thought. Science News reports on several new studies that point to further harmful health effects. Here's a rundown of the findings: Pregnant mice exposed to BPA suffered an irreversible change in one of the "master regulatory genes" of fertility, suggesting the same may happen to humans. Rat hearts exposed to BPA along with estrogen were more prone to life-threatening arrhythmia, pointing to an elevated danger for premenopausal women. A study of Harvard undergraduates found that students drinking out of polycarbonate bottles showed a much more immediate rise in BPA than expected.

Another study indicated that there are likely major sources of BPA contamination in our environment other than food, and that BPA may temporarily collect in body fat and slowly empty into the blood. All in all, the new research makes a case for avoiding BPA whenever possible.

Source: Utne.com

STUDIES/RESEARCH

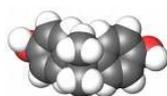
Scientists uncover new ocean threat from plastics



Scientists have identified a new source of chemical pollution released by the huge amounts of plastic rubbish found floating in the oceans of the world. A study has found that as plastics break down in the sea they release potentially toxic substances not found in nature and which could affect the growth and development of marine organisms. Until now it was thought that plastic rubbish is relatively stable chemically and, apart from being unsightly, its principle threat to living creatures came from its ability to choke or strangle any animals that either got caught in it or ingested it thinking it was food. But the latest research suggests that plastic is also a source of dissolved substances that can easily become widely dispersed in the marine environment. Many of these chemicals are believed to be toxic to humans and animals, the scientists said. It is estimated that there could be hundreds of millions of tons of plastic rubbish floating in the world's oceans. In Japan alone, it is calculated that 150,000 tons of plastic is washed up on its shores each year.

Source: Independent.co.uk

Health Canada finds BPA in "BPA-free" bottles



Scientists at Health Canada say they have discovered trace levels of the chemical leaching from baby bottles marketed as bisphenol A "BPA-free." According to study results published in the June issue of "Food Additives & Contaminants: Part A", Health Canada says that the traces may be artefacts from the bottle manufacturing process. Health Canada elaborates in a statement that the trace amounts "may have been detected as a result of BPA being found in the manufacturing environment, or due to the improved sensitivity of modern laboratory instruments." The findings have been quickly challenged by BPA-free bottle manufacturers, who argue that independent tests of their products have shown no detectable traces of BPA. But Health Canada said it "stands by its research." The analytical method it used allowed for the detection of extremely low levels of BPA. Furthermore, "in all of our analytical studies on practically ubiquitous contaminants such as BPA, we always control for contamination."

Source: European Environment & Packaging Law

RAW MATERIALS

Solvay: acquisition of stake in Russian soda ash plant

Belgian chemical and pharmaceutical company Solvay SA announced on 8 September 2009 that it has agreed to buy a majority stake in a Russian soda ash plant. The acquisition, to be completed early in 2010, will be made at about EUR 160 million from Sodium Group Investments Ltd., and is part of the company's strategy to expand in markets with strong growth potential. Soda ash is one of Solvay's core products, and is used in glass production.

Source: Glassonline.com

Soda ash: June production down



The production of soda ash in June 2009 dropped 11.5% or 8,500 tons compared to June 2008 to 65,300 tons (100%, potash free), according to the Cherkasy state scientific research institute of technical and economic information in the chemical industry. Also in June 2009, OJSC Crimean Soda Plant increased its output of soda ash by 30.6% reaching 65,300 tons. In the January-June

2009 period, production of soda ash decreased 33.9% or 165,600 tons to 322,700 tons year-on-year. As previously reported, production of soda ash in May 2009 dropped 42.2% or 37,800 tons compared to May 2008 to 51,800 tons (100%, potash free). In 2008, production of soda ash increased 4.3% or 40,000 tons to 977,800 tons compared to 2007.
Source: Glassonline.com

PEOPLE

Change in the Management of Emhart Glass



Jeffrey D. Hartung has been promoted to Vice President Inspection. He succeeds Joseph Laundry who will retire in 2010 after 17 years service. Jeffrey D. Hartung, who has a BS in Chemistry from University of Pittsburgh and an MBA from Syracuse University, joined Emhart Glass in 2004 after having worked previously for F.M. Howell Packaging, Elmira, NY and TRW, Loveland, Colorado. His previous roles at Emhart Glass include Operations Manager for the Inspection Products manufacturing unit, Manager Cold End Technical Services, and Manager Cold End Sales and Marketing. J

Source: Glassonweb.com

EVENTS

Over 50 U.S. Glass Manufacturing Facilities Held Local Recycle Glass Week Events



The Glass Packaging Institute's 'Recycle Glass Week' kicked off from September 21st with 51 events at glass container manufacturing plants and towns across the United States to promote consumer recycling of glass bottles and jars. "Glass manufacturing companies, with the support of thousands of plant employees, hold events to encourage glass container recycling during Recycle Glass Week," said GPI president, Joseph Cattaneo. "We were encouraging consumers to recycle their glass bottles and jars to save energy, reduce the amount of recyclable materials entering landfills, and help create a greener future."

Source: GPI

ANUGA

1 – 14 October 2009

Cologne, Germany

Empack Ouest 2009

14 – 15 October 2009

Vannes, France

Luxe Pack 2009

21-23 October 2009

Grimaldi Forum

Monaco

GlassPrint 2009

25-26 November 2009

Darmstadt, Germany

The keynote presentation for the container glass session will be presented by FEVE and will be entitled "How healthy is container glass?" For registration please visit www.glassprint.org or sales@glassworldwide.co.uk

SIMEI 2009

24-28 November 2009

Fiera di Milano – Rho
Milano, Italy
www.simeit.it

The 6th International symposium on packaging design and recycling

Centre Technique du Papier
March 30 - 31 2010
Grenoble, France

10th ESG Conference and the

84th Annual Conference of the German Society of Glass Technology (DGG)

30 May – 2 June 2010
Magdeburg, Germany
www.hvg-dgg.de



The next FEVE News October edition will be published by the beginning of November.

For the subscribers of the FEVE hardcopy: please note that the FEVE News will from January 2010 no longer be published as hardcopy but only as pdf-file.



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