

Press Release

Laupheim, May 29, 2024

Stand-alone or in-line: Customize solid-in-bottle solutions

Laupheim, May 29, 2024. The packaging of solids in bottles is particularly popular in the growing segments of dietary supplements and alternative medicines, but is also attracting increasing interest in the pharmaceutical industry. But the pharmaceutical industry is also seeing a growing number of drugs being returned to the market in this way. What at first glance appears to be a relatively simple process is in fact quite complex in practice. Together with the counting system experts at Cremer Spezialmaschinen, Uhlmann Pac-Systeme has developed modular machine solutions that allow customers to customize complete packaging lines and reconfigure them as needed. All modules are equipped with Uhlmann SmartControl and a Pexcite interface.

Counting, filling, checking, serializing in a continuous process

Are the bottles in the right position? Is the correct number of tablets or capsules filled? How is the serialization required by regulations implemented? These are just some of the challenges that have to be solved to ensure a safe and efficient filling and packaging process. With its new solids-in-bottle modules, Uhlmann Pac-Systeme offers solutions for exactly this: from bottle erecting and cleaning to filling with solids, desiccants or cotton pads, capping, labeling and serialization. Suitable cartoning and end-of-line packaging systems can be easily connected, including aggregation with Uhlmann's Track & Trace solution.

High efficiency and flexibility: Bottle unscrambler BU 300

The BU 300 bottle unscrambler from Uhlmann Pac-Systeme uses a process that eliminates the need for a bottle sorter, which makes the use of a bottle sorter with a brush superfluous. The bottles are handled particularly gently, which not only reduces the risk of damage but also significantly lowers the noise level in production. The balcony design of the machines allows easy access for the operator, which simplifies cleaning and product changeovers. The spring-loaded bottle guide can handle different bottle sizes, ensuring stable bottle positioning and reliable process control. This ensures continuous bottle feed even at high speeds. The machine can be quickly converted for product changeovers, as no format changes are required for standard bottle sizes. Automatic format adjustment can be integrated as an option for handling different bottle shapes.

Perfectly coordinated on one line

The individual elements of the solutions by Uhlmann, such as the BU 300 bottle unscrambler, are perfectly matched to one another. The tablet counter CF 622 with optional BottleChrom not only ensures that the correct number but also that only undamaged tablets are filled into the bottles. Damaged and foreign tablets are detected and rejected. An integrated metal detector also checks the bottles for foreign particles before they are sealed. This reduces waste to a minimum.

Controlling complex lines in a comprehensive, user-friendly and reliable manner

Solid-in-bottle packaging lines consist of a multitude of mechanical and digital components. In addition, there are high compliance requirements as well as specifications for counterfeit protection or traceability that must be implemented. Networking these complex structures in such a way that processes run safely and efficiently is not trivial; interfaces have to be managed, data collected, exported and analyzed. Uhlmann's Pexcite Software offers an application solution with which users can network Uhlmann Pac-Systeme systems as well as machines and equipment from other manufacturers, according to their process requirements and thus centrally monitor and control them. Pexcite offers various applications specifically for the control and operation of an entire plant:

- Supervisory Control – centralizes batch management for the entire line
- OEE Monitoring – visualizes and monitors the effectiveness of the entire line and thus creates the basis for optimizing production efficiency.
- Track & Trace – provides comprehensive anti-counterfeiting, product and process security in accordance with applicable track and trace regulations.

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Pexcite ensures connectivity across the entire filling and packaging process of the solid dose bottle line, providing transparency on key process parameters such as waste, energy consumption, maintenance and spare parts requirements, enabling optimal processes.

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MORE INFORMATION

www.uhlmann.de

ABOUT UHLMANN

Uhlmann Pac-Systeme GmbH & Co KG is one of the world's leading system suppliers for the packaging of pharmaceuticals in blisters, bottles and cartons. In addition to its innovative packaging lines, Uhlmann offers consulting, project management, comprehensive services and digital solutions from a single source. The company is part of the Uhlmann Group, which generated sales of EUR 412 million in the fiscal year 2022/23 with around 2,600 employees.

Other companies in the Uhlmann Group are KOCH Pac-Systeme, Cremer Spezialmaschinen, Wonder Packing Machinery and Axito.

More at: <https://www.uhlmann.de> and at www.uhlmann-group.com.

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