

Travel packs take-off

As you prepare to jet off for your summer holiday, just think how much packaging supports you on your journey.

From airline meals or snacks for the car journey to sun cream, cosmetics & toiletries and a handy pack of pain killers, alufoil developments play a big part in making your journey easier.

Following 9/11 in-flight catering experienced a turbulent ride: fewer passengers meant fewer sales. But it has recovered well and in-flight caterers are turning to more interesting healthy and ethnic foods to keep the customer satisfied.

In-flight catering is worth up to US\$15bn a year across the world, with a predicted annual growth rate of around 5%, according to International Travel Catering Association. It also directly employs more than 100,000 people worldwide.

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Domestic demand fuels alufoil growth

Strong domestic demand was behind the good start to 2007 for the European aluminium foil industry with a growth of 3.9 per cent in the first quarter.

Statistics from EAFA show total shipments rose to 228,300 tons (2006: 219,800 tons).

Domestic sales in the EAFA region rose by 6.2 per cent while exports fell by 8 per cent.

The upward trend is expected to continue due to the high potential of aluminium foil in today's packaging markets.

More details on www.alufoil.org.

Alufoil Trophy 2008

Get your entries ready now!

Winners of the Alufoil Trophy 2008 will be showcased at interpack 2008. Entries should demonstrate European aluminium foil packaging solutions that provide excellence in innovation, convenience and environmental responsibility.

The closing date for entries is **November 30, 2007.**

Entry details and entry forms: www.alufoil.org



Coffee creamer portion packs are a great way to promote your company's brands as this special creamer lid for EAFA from NYCO Flexible Packaging and packed by German dairy company frischli of Eggenfelden shows.

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Crème de la crème

NYCO Flexible Packaging supply coffee creamer lidding manufactured from aluminium, or aluminium/PET which can be decorated to a high standard with interesting individual designs.

Whether travelling by train, boat, plane or just sitting in your favourite coffee shop single portion creamer packs are found around the globe.

Singapore Airlines, one of the world's most respected carriers, is well-known for its specialist designs.

Popular since the late sixties, coffee creamer collection is particularly popular in Switzerland and Germany. Coffee creamer lids like the famous "Blick" edition is worth €4,000 or more to collectors!



Small but perfectly formed



Convenient, small and perfect for travelling alufoil-based tubes are used for toothpaste and many cosmetic products. The tubes are often used as

giveaways by hotels and airlines together with toothbrushes, combs or other toiletries.

The tubes are manufactured from a 5-layer laminate (PE/copolymer/Alufoil/copolymer/PE) in which the aluminium foil layer ensures good product protection through its high barrier properties.

The laminate from Huhtamaki Ronsberg is delivered on reels and offers good printability and decoration possibilities.

Airline meal trays are flying high

Light weight, easy disposal and the guarantee that tasty meals can be served hygienically, make alufoil trays very popular with airline caterers.

Key attributes of alufoil are its good thermal resistance and conductivity for heating meals.

Prepared meals can be served in lacquered containers in a variety of shapes and sizes along with multi-coloured printed lids. Lidding can also be embossed with a company logo.

Whether used with a sealed or a press-on lid, alufoil airline meal



trays have a proven track record. Lightweight, elegant and convenient, the pictured alufoil airline containers from Alupak come in sizes up to 420ml in a range of colours and shapes.

Lids can be supplied in a variety of thicknesses and some containers and lids can be supplied in heat-sealed versions.

Standard and lacquered versions are available.

Semi and fully-automatic filling equipment is also supplied for busy in-flight catering businesses.

Taking off

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The European market (non-domestic) has the strongest growth rate of about 24% a year for in-flight meals. Aluminium foil trays are very popular with their light weight, ease of

disposal and good heat retention being among their greatest assets. Additionally they can be decorated to a high standard with branding messages.

The advent and success of low cost airlines that do not provide free in-flight meals has turned into more of an opportunity than a threat.

Many airport outlets offer disposable meal boxes and other ready-packed

snacks. For example the low-cost traveller has been instrumental in raising sales of confectionery in Duty Free Outlets with global growth of 8% between 2000 - 2005, according to a Euromonitor International Report.

Another trend is close co-operation between duty free operators and brand owners to use outlets for new product trials.

Freshen up with ease



A refreshing face wipe is just the ticket when on the move whether travelling on business or pleasure, simply soaking up the sun or removing make-up.

The Amcor EasyPack - Single Wipe Sachet comes in an innovative pack design featuring easy peel technology.

The alufoil-based laminate pack can be slipped into handbags or pockets and opened with one hand.

It gives guaranteed moisture, oxygen and aroma barrier, has high seal integrity and consequently a long shelf life.

The Amcor EasyPack single wipe sachet is also an excellent opportunity to add value to any product which requires hands to be washed after application such as self-tanning, hair colourants and feminine hygiene.

It can be combined with a range of finishes and effects to enhance brand image. Techniques which can be used include metallic, pearlescent, matt, gloss and soft touch. All of which can be combined with high print quality and iridescent inks.



Picnic time

Alcan Packaging Singen has developed an "easy to handle" pack for eating out of doors. Flexalcon® is being used by Zwanenberg to preserve burgers, sausages and a selection of other meat products.

The pack guarantees a long shelf life while protecting the shape of the food thanks to the deep drawn forming method.

The complete portion can be heated in hot water and the high barrier properties preserve the organoleptics. The high-quality printing offers good on-shelf differentiation.

The lidding is manufactured from PETP/Alufoil/PP and the base web from PP/OPA/Alufoil/PP.

All sorts of Stick Packs

Although not new to the market Stick Packs in all their many guises are growing in popularity. Best known for single serve portions of tea, coffee and sugar, the push for single-serve convenience now finds Stick Packs being used for a variety of products including liquids and pastes – condiments such as ketchups, mustards and salad dressings; and health and beauty products such as pharmaceuticals, shampoos, conditioners and gels.

According to US-based Technical Help in Engineering and Marketing (T.H.E.M), companies like Unilever and Nestlé are fuelling these single-serve formats and are demanding more Stick Pack developments.

An important advantage of the Stick Pack format, in which alufoil features prominently, is that it uses on average 40% less material than other single portion packs.

The pictured perforated qTpod from Bistrotea functions as a "tea bag" and teaspoon. This means no dripping and



qTpod from Bistrotea



Aspirin® Effect from Bayer



Lipton® Tea to Go

no wringing making it very consumer convenient. The alufoil laminate (PP/ALUFOIL/PP) is reverse gravure printed in 3 colours and produced by Alcan Packaging Singen.

The state of the art qTpod (Quality Tea Product of Design) from Bistrotea is aroma protective and comes in a tear and water resistant wrapper.

Stick Packs are also available for pharmaceutical products such as the Stick Pack for Aspirin® Effect from Bayer which was primarily developed by Alcan Packaging. Barrier requirement for this highly hygroscopic product was provided by a laminate of PET, PE and alufoil.

A current user is Unilever Foods North America for its' Lipton® Tea to Go iced tea mix. Supplied by Sonoco, consumers simply tear open the Stick Pack add the contents to bottled water, shake and drink. The PET/alufoil/PET laminate is reverse-printed in seven colours using flexography.

Smoke free

A clever development for those that want to quit smoking comes from Novartis Consumer Health with its Nicotinell L-Pack which significantly improves portability, convenience and product protection, as well as consumer information.

The unique design of this pack for Nicotine Replacement Gum provides a new standard for pharmaceutical packs and successfully combines primary and secondary packaging.

"This innovative pack structure is another step towards providing the customers greater convenience and the best possible chance to quit successfully," said a Novartis spokesperson.

The packaging design challenge was to keep both the size of the gum and the number of gums per blister unchanged within the pack. The solution was to fold the blister onto the foil side to provide protection from accidental perforation during storage, use and transport.

The blister is attached to the carton so that it self unfolds when the L-Pack is opened and returns to the folded position when closed.



The Patient Information Leaflet (PIL) is cleverly integrated into the small pack, while Braille is incorporated without any impact on the aesthetics of the pack. Patient compliance is also made easier as the smaller dimensions of the new pack make it easier for the patient to carry a day's dose.

The L-Pack sides are all closed which is rarely the case in other wallet pack concepts. This unique design combines a traditional carton material with a traditional alufoil-based blister.

A European Patent Office application has been filed for the L-Pack.



Vitamin shot!



A new 'fizzy' soft drinks concept with integral alufoil-wrapped vitamin tablet, meets all today's requirements for consumer convenience and healthy options while on the move.

Lacto Tab from EMMI Switzerland features a screw cap which cuts the blister when opening the bottle. The alufoil blister protects the highly moisture sensitive tablet against gas,

humidity and aroma ingress until opened. The consumer then sees the tablet drop into the bottle and sparkle in the drink.

The blister, manufactured in one step by Alcan Packaging Tscheulin-Rothal, consists of two components: a deep drawn tray (OPA/lacquer/ALU/Lacquer/PVC) and push-through alufoil blister (lacquer/ALU/lacquer).

Help for new born babies

A multilayer foil-laminate pouch is being used to help HIV-positive mothers in Kenya.

A dose of Nevirapine oral suspension is given to their newborn babies within 24 hours of birth. This is when the fast-acting drug is most effective in reducing mother-to-child transmission of HIV-1.

LPS Industries, of New Jersey, USA, manufacture the 3-sided sealed pouch from PET/alufoil/LDPE to a thickness of about 0,1mm. The outer PET layer is flexo-printed in two colours.

The pouches, which measure about 12mm x 32mm, are shipped to Seattle-based PATH (Program for Appropriate Technology in Health), an international non-profit organisation based in Seattle whose mission is to improve the health of people around the world.

Pharmaceutical manufacturer Boehringer Ingelheim donates its Viramune brand of Nevirapine (NVP).

A key objective was to identify an effective packaging system for improving delivery of a single dose of Nevirapine to reduce mother-to-child transmission of the HIV virus. Achieving this goal in developing countries was challenging due to the high prevalence of births outside the health-care system. This solution has provided women with NVP syrup to take home in a simple, robust and tamper-evident single dose package.

The Flexible Packaging Association, of the US, has given a Special Citation for Social Responsibility to LPS Industries.



Find out more about alufig !

– visit www.alufig.org where you can find out all about every EAFA member, make business enquiries and see the latest news about alufig applications and the industry.

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