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Aluminium foil is the key to new hermetic seal for liquids and fats in glass

An Alufoil Trophy 2019 for Technical Innovation has been won by the **Selig Group** for its innovative **GlassFuze™** technology. The company has developed a unique sealing technique using aluminium foil as a key material to create a hermetic seal to glass containers, it says. This is the first and only sealing technique for an alufoil membrane that provides a complete hermetic seal that withstands liquid and high oil content substances, according to the company.



The use of the aluminium foil is key to the process. Not only does the foil create a barrier to oxygen and moisture, it also heats up to create the actual seal. Without the use of aluminium foil, this hermetic seal would not be possible, says Selig.

“Currently induction heat sealing of glass jars is used predominantly for dry goods, like coffee. This development has the potential to open this sealing technology to a whole new market segment for liquid, oily and fatty products. This can offer major advantages to producers, as well as retailers and consumers in terms of quality retention and shelf life. It can be regarded as a major breakthrough,” said Laura Fernandez, Senior Packaging Technologist at Marks & Spencer, who led the judges this year.

Selig says this is the first time anyone has come up with an induction heat sealing technique that works with such things as nut spreads, vinegar or water soaked products like pickled onions or beetroot. Usually such products are traditionally in glass jars with a metal cap and a rubber gasket to ensure a good seal and no leaks

Selig’s Darren Dodd, Marketing & Service Director said: “Winning an Alufoil Trophy for our GlassFuze™ technology is outstanding recognition for the team’s dedication, hard work and investment in finding a solution for induction sealing to glass. We have strived to provide an effective solution, that is cost-effective and can create a fully hermetic seal.”

Potentially customers can make significant cost and material savings by replacing metal lids (and rubber gaskets if applicable) with strong, total barrier aluminium foil seals and a lighter cap.

The Alufoil Trophy is organised by the European Aluminium Foil Association. There are five categories – Consumer Convenience, Marketing + Design, Product Protection, Resource Efficiency and Technical Innovation. For the Alufoil Trophy 2019 there were nine winners.

High-resolution pictures can be downloaded and all winning entries can be viewed at trophy.alufoil.org

The European Aluminium Foil Association (EAFA) is the main trade association, specifically representing companies engaged in the rolling and rewinding of aluminium foil and the manufacturing of semi-rigid alufoil containers and household foil in Europe. With its more than 40 members, the organisation represents the total aluminium foil rolling market in Europe. www.alufoil.org

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