

Germany

Additional inspection systems boost Wiegand-Glas fleet

Worldwide glass container producer Wiegand-Glas has added more of Emhart Inex's MiniLab inspection systems to its existing fleet of measurement technology equipment.

The long-standing partnership between the two companies enabled Wiegand-Glas to use Emhart Inex's MiniLab glass container measurement technology shortly after its introduction.

Features of the MiniLab include a non-contact, camera-based platform that is able to test more parameters at higher speeds. The system uses high-resolution cameras, precision optics and a data interface package that outputs cavity-correlated measurements.

Emhart Inex markets the MiniLab as 'a complete sampling solution' due to its ability to handle two

different containers simultaneously and automatically. Managing Director of Wiegand-Glas, Oliver Wiegand, added: "Another benefit of this system is its flexibility and quick changeover."

The product's technology is also capable of inspecting Wiegand-Glas' range of glass styles, including flint, amber and green glass in a variety of shapes.

MiniLab offers the latest configurable technology in glass container sampling and measurement on the production floor. ▼



UK

Ardagh sees 38% increase in profit

Ardagh Glass Group of the UK has increased its 2007 profit by 38% to 232 million, closing the gap on

its US rival Owens-Illinois. The company has been expanding rapidly since acquiring Rexam in 2007.

Ratings agency Standards & Poor's has given Ardagh a positive outlook, claiming that it is capable of growing earnings having passed on higher raw material costs to customers. The agency commented: "The positive outlook reflects our expectation that the ratings on Ardagh could be raised by one notch in the near to medium term if the group maintains its positive operating trend and its credit measures continue to demonstrate sustained improvements."

Turkey

Sisecam secures IFC loan

Turkish glassmaker Turkiye Sise ve Cam Fabrikalari (Sisecam) has informed the Istanbul Stock Exchange that it has secured a \$40 million loan from the International Finance Corporation (IFC).

The loan will reportedly be used by the company's tableware

subsidiary in Russia, Posuda, which Sisecam acquired in 2004, for the investment of a second furnace.

The loan, which will mature in seven years, is to be guaranteed by Sisecam and its group company Pasabahce Cam.

APPOINTMENTS

Change at FEVE



Adeline Farrelly.

European Container Glass Federation FEVE has announced the appointment of Adeline Farrelly as its new Secretary General following the retirement of Andrew Somogyi. Mr Somogyi held the position for 16 years and was instrumental in the growth of the association into what now represents 59 companies across 22 European countries.

Adeline Farrelly now joins the Federation following her role as Communications Director of the European Biotechnology Industry, EuropaBio.

SGD appoints leader

The SGD packaging group (formerly Saint-Gobain Desjonquères), which specialises in the production of glass packaging for the perfumery, cosmetic and pharmaceutical sectors, has appointed Michel de Rosen as Chief Executive Officer.

Allied adds to team

UK-based Allied Glass has added to its team with the appointment of David Kirk as its Knottingley site's Quality Assurance Manager. Previously a quality assurance manager within the steel sector, this is Mr Kirk's first position within the glass industry.