

Packaging for the world

C2 paid a virtual visit to Bischof + Klein

Bischof + Klein (B+K) is a leading, globally active full service supplier of flexible packaging as well as technical films made of plastics and composites. At five European sites in Germany, France, Great Britain and Poland, B+K employs more than 2700 people. C2 planned to pay B+K a visit at the company's headquarters in Lengerich, Westphalia, but the coronavirus pandemic put a spoke in our wheel. So we instead decided to run a virtual interview with the packaging experts.

In Lengerich, all process steps for the production of flexible packaging are bundled under one roof. Therefore, technicians and development engineers can rely on a wide range of manufacturing facilities: The machine bank includes machines for mono-/coextrusion, gravure and HD flexo print, for solvent-less and solvent-based coating and laminating as well as extrusion coating and laminating. The diverse finishing options allow product-specific processing such as sealing, welding and adhesive technology.

Packaging for all applications

The product portfolio of B+K offers the entire range of flexible packaging solutions for different applications: from



The premises of B+K in Lengerich

traditional industry packaging to consumer packaging and special films for technical applications, from 2g portion packaging to flexible liquid liners for 1200l.

Clean room for sterile production

In its completely encapsulated clean room, B+K produces ultrapure packaging

solutions for particle-free and sterile packaging materials that meet highest security standards. The produced CleanFlex clean room packaging solutions and films offer individual and safe solutions for highly-sensitive and delicate filling goods.

B+K put special emphasis on growing ecological, social and economical



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The new coating line from Olbrich in action ...

INFORMATION

Here you can find an overview of the packaging solutions B+K has to offer for different industries:

Agriculture and horticulture – block bottom bags, open sacks and valve bags, FFS flat films

Chemicals and petrochemicals – technical films, e.g. adhesive-free and adhesive-based surface protective films

Construction and housing – surface protective films and technical composites as well as stretch hood films

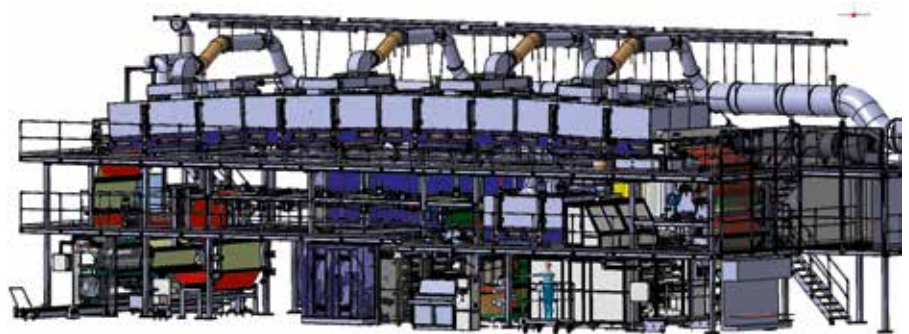
Hygiene – PE, mono and co-ex films

Metal – adhesive-based but also adhesive-less protective films for aluminium, stainless steel and varnished surfaces

Food stuffs – packaging solutions for food stuffs (also clean room) and flexible packaging for food of all kinds
 Pet food – flat films (mono materials and composites), block bottom bags, carry packs, stand-up pouches
 Photovoltaics – coextruded back sheet films for optimal electrical insulation, hydrolysis resistance and reliability

Mail order and e-commerce – packaging material based on polyethylene

Detergents and cleaning materials – stand-up pouches made of composites and side-gusseted bags



... and as a 3D model

challenges and established a comprehensive sustainability management system already back in 1987. Since then, the company has been publishing yearly environmental statements, which are EMAS certified since the mid 1990ies. Since 2011, the packaging experts have also published sustainability reports. In 2014, B+K was awarded with the CRS prize of the German government for its remarkable commitment.

New high-tech coating line of protective films

Recently and right before the worldwide corona lockdown, B+K put a new state-of-the-art coating line from Olbrich (Bocholt, Germany) into operation. This 35m long and 7,8m high line is mainly designed to produce protective film with low fish-eye count for silk-matt and high-gloss surfaces, e.g. for the furniture industry. "With the new installation, we have the next higher grade of quality in focus, as standstill means a step back for us," Peter Lehrter, division manager technical films explains in conversation with C2. Therefore, it is a perfect fit that Olbrich has already acquired

an outstanding reputation as a supplier of coating lines for protective films.

Norman Nötte, sales manager adhesive film and foil industry, adds: "For decades we have already successfully been active in the field of decor films. That was a good starting point for us to optimally detect and fulfil the demands of our customers in the field of protective films."

Rightfully, the machinery experts are very proud of the current results: The special coating line is capable of applying grammages of 0,5g/m², according to Nötte "next to nothing". Furthermore, the machine comes with a working speed of 250m/min and a working width of 2.20m. Especially remarkable is the coating accuracy and the fact that substrates can be coated and printed in one working step. A cassette quick-change system rounds off the equipment and allows fast and easy job changes during the production process.

That the total investment of €7M has been worthwhile, can be underlined by the fact that, according to B+K, the machine has been running in three-shift-mode since the day of its installation. ■



The team of B+K which runs the protective film production ...



... and a part of the responsible team at Olbrich.

HISTORIE

The family-owned business Bischof + Klein with headquarters in Lengerich looks back on 125 years of company history. In 1892, Alwin Klein and Herman Bischof founded the "paper mill and mint Bischof & Klein". Originally, the company was specialised in letterpress and art print. Due to the growing demand for paper bags and sacks from the neighbouring cement and chalk industry, B+K started to serve these industries in the 1920s. In 1922, the first paper bag was manufactured. Small-sized paper packaging and newspaper printing round off the range. In the 1960s, the company started to focus on the production of plastic packaging solutions and became one of the leading European full service suppliers for flexible packaging. In the recent past, B+K built up an international network through subsidiaries, shareholders and acquisitions.



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