

## Press release

Syntegon Technology

### Blister meets Paper: Syntegon wins German Packaging Award for sustainable tablet packaging

- Syntegon and Huhtamaki develop sustainable paper alternative to plastic blisters for tablets and capsules
- Jury emphasizes good functionality and look and feel of tablet blisters
- German Packaging Award confirms Syntegon's commitment to sustainable and innovative packaging concepts

Waiblingen/Germany, July 27, 2021. Once again, the German Packaging Institute (Deutsches Verpackungsinstitut e.V.) has honored Syntegon with the German Packaging Award – this time in the category “Sustainability”. The jury was impressed by the sustainability and good functionality of the paper-based packaging solution “Blister meets Paper”, which should also appeal to the health- and environmentally-conscious customer in terms of feel and appearance. Syntegon developed the innovative blister packaging together with the Finnish packaging material manufacturer Huhtamaki. “While eco-friendly and health-conscious customers can already find sustainable packaging solutions for a wide range of products, an environmentally friendly alternative for push-through packaging for tablets and capsules was not available to date. That's something we wanted to change with Blister meets Paper,” Torsten Sauer, Sustainability Project Manager at Syntegon, explains. The paper-based blisters are particularly suitable for nutraceuticals. In the submitted version, each blister has seven cavities for one tablet per weekday.

#### Sustainable and safe blister packaging

While paper-based packaging offers advantages in terms of sustainability, it requires additional barrier layers to adequately protect the product without compromising recyclability. In addition, the tablets and capsules have to be pushed out of the blisters without being damaged. “This challenge addresses both the material and the geometry of the packaging,” explains Matthias Klauser, Sustainability Expert at Syntegon. “Thanks to the combination of our TPU 1000 form, fill and seal machine for paper packaging, the 3D formable FibreForm® paper from BillerudKorsnäs, and the sealable barrier coating from Huhtamaki, we have succeeded in forming paper with the geometry required for tablets in cavities of three to four millimeters.” In the future, the paper blisters will also be available with diameters of six to ten millimeters to package larger tablets such as pain killers.

Packaging material expert Huhtamaki used the same sealable barrier coating for the blister's lidding material as in the base material, and finished it with a special process to push the tablet easily through the material. The environmentally friendly material concept consisting of a thermoformable base film and a push-through lidding film with barrier coating is marketed as “Huhtamaki Push Tab paper”. The thermoformable barrier and seal layer is also heat-sealable, which makes the paper blister packaging'

Chairman of the Supervisory Board: Marc Strobel  
Managing Directors: Dr. Michael Grosse,  
Dr. Walter Bickel, Uwe Harbauer, Johan Nilsson

Phone +49 7151 14 0  
E-Mail [press@syntegon.com](mailto:press@syntegon.com)  
Website [www.syntegon.com/press](http://www.syntegon.com/press)  
Twitter @Syntegon

Visitor address  
Stuttgarter Straße 130  
71332 Waiblingen

Syntegon Technology GmbH  
Postfach 11 27  
71301 Waiblingen  
GERMANY

s barrier properties comparable to classic blister packaging made of mono-PVC or aluminum. "At the same time, we never lost sight of the sustainability aspect: both the base and lidding material can be recycled," Sauer emphasizes.

### **Sustainable eye-catcher at the point of sale**

Blister meets Paper attracts attention at the point of sale – not only due of its sustainable material, but also because of its numerous design options. The paper blisters can be printed on both sides, while an embossed brand logo can be applied to the top. A Euro hole can be punched in the upper area of the blister, which saves large quantities of packaging material compared to conventional blisters in folding cartons. "This offers many opportunities for a successful product presentation that emphasizes the environmental friendliness of the product. Manufacturers can also add Braille to the blisters or print a QR code for further information. The latter saves on the package insert and the cardboard outer packaging," Sauer explains. "The result is a sophisticated all-round packaging concept for nutraceuticals that support customers in taking care of both their health and the environment."

### **The German Packaging Award**

The German Packaging Institute dvi has been awarding the German Packaging Award since 1963. The international competition is the most important European showcase of achievements in the packaging industry and is held annually under the patronage of the German Federal Minister for Economic Affairs and Energy. An independent jury evaluates the best innovations and solutions in a total of ten categories. Sustainability was one of this year's focal points.

###

### **Images:**



The paper-based solution "Blister meets Paper" from Syntegon and Huhtamaki won this years' German Packaging Award in the "Sustainability" category.



Syntegon's TPU, in combination with BillerudKorsnäs' 3D-formable FibreForm® paper, allows for fine embossing and tablet cup forming, while Huhtamaki's sealable barrier coating provides the necessary product protection.



Tablets and capsules can be easily pressed through the blister's cover material and removed.

## Contact

Jela Grubesa  
Spokesperson Product Communications Food  
+49 7151 14-2159  
[jela.grubesa@syntegon.com](mailto:jela.grubesa@syntegon.com)

## **About Syntegon Technology**

Syntegon Technology is a leading global process and packaging technology provider. Formerly the packaging division of the Bosch Group, the company, headquartered in Waiblingen (Germany), has been offering complete solutions for the pharmaceutical and food industries for over 50 years. About 6,000 employees at 30 locations in more than 15 countries generated a total revenue of 1.3 billion euros in 2020. The portfolio of intelligent and sustainable technologies includes stand-alone machines, as well as complete systems and services. Fields of application in the pharmaceutical industry are the production, processing, filling, inspection and packaging of liquid and solid pharmaceuticals (e.g. syringes and capsules). In the food industry, the portfolio includes process technology for confectionery as well as packaging solutions for dry foods (e.g. bars, bakery products and coffee), frozen foods and dairy products.

[www.syntegon.com](http://www.syntegon.com)

## **About Huhtamaki**

Huhtamaki is a key global provider of sustainable packaging solutions for consumers around the world, enabling wellbeing and convenience. Our innovative products protect on-the-go and on-the-shelf food and beverages, ensuring hygiene and safety, and help prevent food waste. We embed sustainability in everything we do. We are committed to achieving carbon neutral production and designing all our products to be recyclable, compostable or reusable by 2030.

We are a participant in the UN Global Compact and as of 2020, we received an MSCI ESG Rating of A, on a scale of AAA - CCC. To play our part in managing climate change, we have committed to set science-based targets through the Science Based Targets initiative. Huhtamaki has been awarded the Silver medal by EcoVadis for performance in sustainability.

With 100 years of history and a strong Nordic heritage we operate in 36 countries and 81 sites around the world. Our values Care Dare Deliver guide our decisions and help our team of 18,200 employees make a difference where it matters. Our 2020 net sales totaled EUR 3.3 billion. Huhtamaki Group is headquartered in Espoo, Finland and our parent company, Huhtamäki Oyj, is listed on Nasdaq Helsinki Ltd. Find out more about how we are protecting food, people and the planet on

[www.huhtamaki.com](http://www.huhtamaki.com).