

Contract manufacturer automates packaging process.

Excelvision, based in Annonay, France, is a family-owned company belonging to the Fareva Group. They manufacture vial cards in bulk, each containing five blow-fill-seal single-use vials. The company provides contract manufacturing services for liquid eye drop plastic vials to numerous companies in France and further European countries.



CHALLENGE

Prior to working with Syntegon, Excelvision relied on individual vertical form, fill and seal (VFFS) machines to package each vial card. However, this approach required vial cards to be manually fed into the system. At peak capacity, production only reached approximately 60 cards

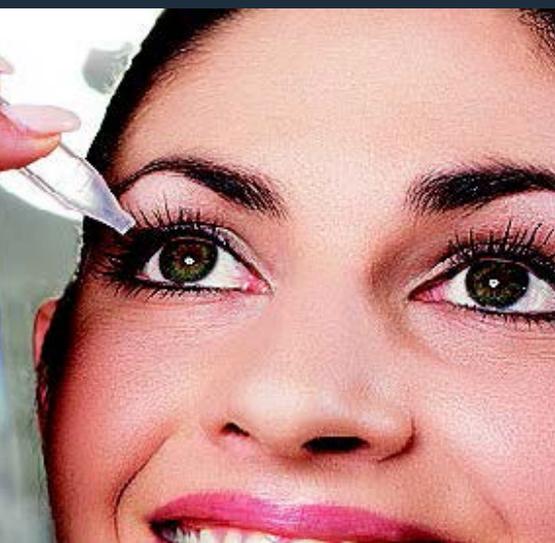
per minute, not fast enough to keep up with current demand, let alone plan for new market expansion. This is why Excelvision decided to look for a solution giving them the flexibility to react to changing demands of their customers.



PROJECT

To increase production and capitalize on additional contract manufacturing opportunities, Excelvision reached out to Syntegon Packaging Systems in Beringen, Switzerland about how to automate operations for its eye drop packaging line. With significantly higher output capabilities, the company expected to increase production by nearly five-fold. Syntegon's complete line solution allows them to use one storage tray type for all product formats.

The line provided the necessary flexibility to separate the vial cards and then package them appropriately for each customer. Also, as demand for single dose packaging was increasing and still does so, the new line enabled them to adapt production to future market requirements. This investment into the future already turned out to become true which motivated them to purchase a second line identical to the first one.





„With the acquisition of the first complete highly automated packaging line from Syntegon we were able to comply more flexibly with the requirements of our customers. This is why we decided to go for a second line absolutely identical. As a result we can satisfy the high expectations of our clients regarding product quality and efficiency.”

Philippe Pensuet,
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SOLUTION

The bulk vial cards are manually loaded, separated and transferred via a feeding wheel to the Sigpack LDF delta robot which picks them and places them into the infeed chain of the wrapper. Products then move along to the Sigpack HSL horizontal flow wrapper with a long dwell sealing unit for extended sealing time resulting in hermetically sealed flow packages.

Afterwards the Sigpack TTM topload cartoner picks the flow-wrapped products out of the grouping chain and places them into cartons. A key advantage of the Sigpack TTM is the ability to make quick and tool-less changeovers for up to four different carton formats, giving Excelvision the flexibility needed to accommodate diverse customer needs.



BENEFITS

- Flexible and complete line scope suited for Excelvision's co-manufacturing business model
- Unique handling and feeding of single vial cards to the horizontal flow wrapper
- Option to upgrade line to cut and flow-wrap single vials
- Quick and tool-less format changes



PRODUCTS

Complete packaging system consisting of

- feeding system
- Sigpack LDF delta robot
- Sigpack HSL horizontal flow wrapper
- Sigpack TTM integrated topload cartoner
- labeller