

Combinath to become a packaging specialist with global ambitions

40-004 vers. 3.0 and EN-PN 15593 underscore the high quality standards and competitiveness of the company. Combinath currently employs 96 individuals and is a "Supported Employment Enterprise" providing jobs for people with disabilities.

Further investments are planned. At present Combinath is working on the "introduction of a new technology for the production and manufacture of specialised f-wave greased and silicon-coated cardboard with special applications and properties", according to official company information. This would enable Combinath to fill customer orders for special end products such as paperboard sheets and rolls that are grease-resistant and contain silicon as well as products in special customised shapes specified by the customer. The portfolio also includes highly special, sophisticated products where customers are supervised individually. Combinath also sees itself as a design and production studio for individualised packaging and a company that serves all industries, in particular the cosmetics and confectionery industries.

In the cosmetics segment almost all packaging is an individualised creation specified by the respective company's own designers for each bottle or box. Combinath also works for the confectionery industry, particularly for the baked goods sector where grease-resistant bowls and silver cake

board for direct contact with food are produced in accordance with the strictest European regulations.

This packaging manufacturer supplies the following types of packaging: inserts for perfumes or cosmetics boxes, hygienic cardboard, Fasson packaging, gift packaging, boxes from the FEFCO catalogue and two-layer cardboard rolls and sheets. Combinath's unconventional approach enables the company's Research and Development department to come up with unusual, sublime forms and to quickly create prototypes in accordance with customers' wishes.

Cardboard for the growing market for convenience food

The "hygienic cardboard" product group is comprised of greaseproof cardboard that can be used for protective bases for pound cakes and cake rolls, as baking trays or as a material for practical, decorative packaging for baked goods. This type of cardboard is a reaction to the growing market for convenience food.

Combinath creates gift packaging from open flute cardboard, decoratively augmenting the gifts thanks to the exclusive character of the raw material in environmentally-friendly styles. The packaging can feature product visibility windows in interesting shapes as well as hot stamping along with grey kraft paper cardboard in combination with single-colour prints boasting impressive modern, simple graphics that convey a sense of elegance.

Combinath has an international focus and is continuously developing new markets. At present the company has customers in France, Germany, Switzerland and Austria as well as Norway, Lithuania and Denmark. Combinath is supported in its export activities by the export company Polish Sweets Sp.z o.o.

www.combinath.pl
Dr Henriette Ullmann



Sophisticated wooden boxes from APU Vintore

The Polish packaging company APU (Artystyczna Pracownia Upominków / translated: Artificial Gift Article Workshop) Vintore was founded in 1994 by Adam Pociot in the town of Torun. Today it is headquartered in nearby Gorsk. Along with Adam Pociot, his wife and daughter work alongside twelve full-time and eight seasonal employees. APU Vintore has specialised in wooden boxes for wine and recently also in wooden boxes for confectionery. Thanks to its high quality and great value-for-money this family-operated company has now established itself on many European markets.

According to official APU Vintore information, the company's boxes cover at least 10% of the alcoholic beverage segment in Poland. Recently it has also added new customers from the confectionery and souvenir sectors as well. Vintore works together on this with the Polish export enterprise Polish Sweets Sp.z o.o. which supports the packaging manufacturer in the opening and development of new foreign sales markets.

In the gift packaging segment Vintore's clients include carmakers Toyota and Volvo as well as local distributors of regional souvenir articles from the city of Torun, known for its gingerbread. 20% of the company's total production is exported to Germany. Another 10% goes to the remaining EU countries, above all United Kingdom. Customers can choose customised packaging, a service frequently used by the souvenir and confectionery industries in particular.

Vintore is equipped with the latest generation of marking and cutting machinery, offering a virtually unlimited range of design possibilities. This technical equipment also enables the company to make small batches of boxes for special occasions or events. Vintore decorates the boxes and cases with the aid of a UV printer, screen printing or a laser engraver. The company's own shrink-wrap tunnel allows confectionery for the decorative boxes to be packaged in a protective inner bag.

In designing its packaging the company's designers focus on the quality of the product to be packaged, enabling premium confectionery for example to feature more heavily engraved packaging with more carved and decorated areas. Printing machinery and lasers additionally allow Vintore to adorn its wooden packaging in special ways. APU Vintore has already received numerous competition awards for its solid crafting and well-conceived interior and exterior decorations.

Adam Pociot comments on his company saying, "We remain true to our motto 'Your Wooden Boxes – Our Gifts'. By identifying with his or her gift and accepting its aesthetic appeal and quality, the customer also confirms the quality and appeal of our packaging. All of this has resulted in success for wooden boxes for alcoholic beverages, and I believe that wooden boxes for confectionery will also work well".

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Constantia Flexibles introduces sustainable packaging solutions

The Austrian packaging holding Constantia Flexibles developed a new, more sustainable packaging line named Ecolutions in order to counteract the amount of waste being produced. The range includes the Mono PE laminate EcoLam, EcoCover and EcoTainerAlu. According to the company, the end consumers are becoming more aware of the need to reduce waste production too. When replacing one million standard aluminium lids with EcoCover, savings can be achieved equal the amount of CO₂ emitted by approximately one passenger car driven for one year.

According to a recent survey commissioned by Constantia Flexibles, 80% of end consumers prefer a eco-friendlier packaging over a regular one and would pay up to 15% more for recyclable and compostable packaging. Alexander Baumgartner, CEO of Constantia Flexibles, said, "As the world's fourth largest flexible packaging producer, we know about our responsibility towards the environment as well as the requests of the end consumers. Thus, our goal is to drive a change in the industry for more sustainable packaging solutions."

Ecolutions meets sustainable requirements, reduces the carbon footprint of packaging, focuses on recyclable solutions and decreases the impact on the environment. In addition to the sustainable characteristics, the packaging solutions have all the properties required to protect the packaged products. "Our packaging line for more sustainability will continue to be extended. At the moment, we are working on compostable solutions for small packagings such as stick packs which hardly can be recycled", said Baumgartner.

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The family-operated company Combinath Sp.J. was founded in 1998 by the couple Katarzyna and Edward Nath. Recently the company has made enormous investments at its headquarters in the Polish town of Torun, including in expanding its range of machinery and in the acquisition of several certificates. Today Combinath has a production hall of just under 2,000 square metres in size equipped with three modern production lines for the manufacture of corrugated fibreboard and subsequently the manufacture of various types of cardboard and promotional packaging.

The certifications in accordance with the BRC Global Standard for Packaging and Packaging Materials Issue 5, ISO 9001:2015, FSC-STD-

