

VETRO TIME

ENVIRONMENT
Sustainable
fleet

LIFELONG LEARNING
Group-wide training centre

MARKET
Refreshing
lemonade



04 EYE-CATCHER	Decorative glass
07 RECYCLING	“Close the Glass Loop”
08 MARKET	Sparkling sweet drinks in glass
14 TRADE FAIRS	Lots of interest in glass packaging
15 TRAINING	Highly practical
18 NEW DESIGNS	Diversity in glass
26 A SPOT OF CULTURE	Exhibition in Humpolec, Czech Republic

Imprint
 Editing and text:
 Corporate Communication
 Vetropack Holding Ltd, Bülach
 Design: Arnold & Braun
 Grafik Design, Lucerne
 Printing: Kalt Medien AG, Zug
 Paper: LuxoArt Silk, no ream,
 wood-free, coated on both
 sides, semi-matt
 This edition of Vetrotime
 is printed on climate-neutral,
 FSC-certified paper.



A direct link to Vetrotime: the new QR codes



Have you missed an edition of Vetrotime? You can access previous editions using the following QR code:



For the title image. Lemonade flavours and packaging could hardly be more diverse. Vetropack has a wide range of one-way and multi-trip bottles for lemonade, with white glass being the most popular. The drink’s wide variety of colours really comes into its own in these bottles. The glass packaging material fully meets increasing customer awareness of environmental issues, as it can be recycled time and again without compromising on quality.



Dear readers,

We can't simply shed our skin. That is something that struck me once again when I read the report on the Thai temple in Wat Pa Maha Chedi Kaew (page 4). It paints a wonderful picture, yet it breaks my heart a little to know that we are losing this secondary raw material. The value of used glass is something that the EU, too, is aware of, hence its aim to increase the collection rate across the whole of Europe to 90%. If you are interested in finding out more about this, please take a look at the report on this topic on page 7.



The pages to follow (8 to 10) carry on in a fascinating vein, with a sparkling touch. Carbonated soft drinks, such as lemonade, are not just the stuff of many childhood dreams. In this article, you will discover them in all their fruity variety. I was particularly impressed by all the different kinds of cola drinks available.

Our two most important trade fairs – the traditional Brau-Beviale in Nuremberg and SIMEI in Milan – took place in November 2019 (pages 14 and 15). And it was only a few weeks after that, in January 2020, that Vetropack and its trading company Müller + Krempel Ltd presented their diverse range of products at the Swiss fruit and wine-growing show Agrovina in Martigny.

I could offer you many more recommendations for what to read in this edition of Vetrotime, but I have something else I would just like to say: our new 2019 integrated annual report is online! This is a first for us – two firsts, in fact. For one thing, the business report and sustainability report have been merged to form a new integrated annual report because, after all, financial, environmental and social events and targets all exert an influence on one another and thus on the long-term success of a company. And for another, the integrated annual report is no longer being published in printed form. It is available exclusively online – on our website – with download options (see page 6).

As you will see, both Vetrotime and the integrated annual report promise to be a fascinating read. In this spirit, I would like to wish you plenty of inspiration and invigoration this springtime.

Kind regards

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "J. Reiter".

Johann Reiter
CEO Vetropack Holding Ltd

EYE-CATCHER



UPCYCLING I

The Temple of a Million Bottles

Wat Pa Maha Chedi Kaew is also known as the Temple of a Million Bottles. The Buddhist temple in Thailand's Sisaket province is made up of over 1.5 million empty beer bottles. Back in the 1980s, the monks behind this project were looking for a way to get actively involved in waste disposal. They therefore spent two years collecting bottles so they could start building the main temple structure. This was followed by further buildings constructed in a similar way.

Given by the sea

Inspired by the famous Tiffany stained glass technique, Ukrainian artist Kateryna Shelyhina has started creating various objects – including everyday items such as dishes, candleholders and lamps, etc. – out of pieces of glass collected by the sea. She has also produced a few street art projects in the parks of her hometown Odessa. Located on the north-western Black Sea coast, some of her pieces are on display for visitors to admire right on the sea shore.



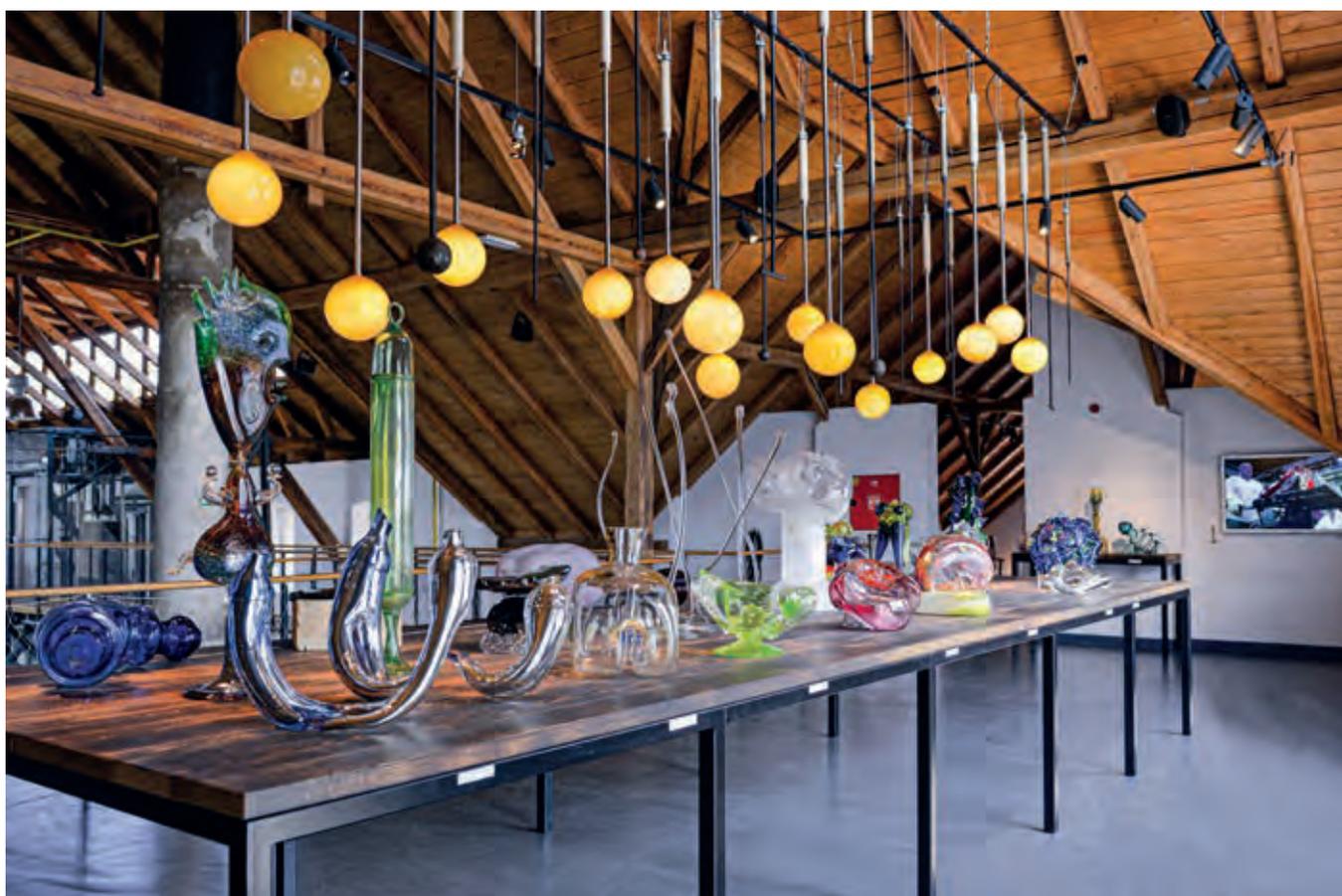


UPCYCLING II

Urban Gardening

Urban gardening is in vogue. The often small-scale use of urban spaces for horticulture is characterised by sustainable management and environmentally friendly production. Bottles cut lengthwise are ideal for plants that do not need that much soil to thrive, such as flowers, culinary herbs or even berries. Having a useful herb garden within reach is also visually appealing.

SENSUAL BEAUTY



The František glassworks in the Czech town of Sázava showcases both Czech and internationally renowned artists in its glass art collection. Visitors can see glassmaking for themselves on site and experience how delicate works of art are made from sand and other raw materials, while discovering glass with all their senses. The glass centre aims to preserve glass art – after all, it is known as the silverware of the Czech Republic.



ONLINE FIRST

Vetropack Group's first integrated annual report is online

For the 2019 fiscal year, the sustainability report will be integrated into the annual report for the first time and only published online. This step has been taken both from a sustainability point of view as well as also from the goal of networking information.

An integrated annual report which is only published online entails much more than simply creating a PDF file. Providing an integrated annual report online not only creates a digital user experience for a company's target group, with the transition to the newly designed online annual report, Vetropack Group has also said goodbye to its former print-first approach and has demonstrated that the company is looking to the future. The new annual report responds to the changing needs of the target groups and the desire to network information.

The benefits of digital reporting

An integrated annual report acts as a source of information for the various groups of stakeholders. The groups are interested in different areas and they all share the same need to find the information relevant to them as quickly as possible. The online annual report is an easy solution.

With new formats such as visuals or infographics, the sometimes complex data and contents can be presented succinctly. Using links makes navigating the publication easier or leads to more detailed information. Vetropack will publish its integrated report on a web subsite. The website is

responsive, meaning that it adjusts automatically to the device used.

A holistic perspective

For the first time, the Vetropack Group will provide a comprehensive report on its financial and non-financial performance for fiscal year 2019 within the framework of an integrated annual report. The company defined the focus of its reporting on the basis of a materiality analysis carried out in the year under review. Improving performance in the long term takes centre stage. Integrated reporting has gained importance because, for a few years now, the boundaries have increasingly become blurred. The topics of sustainability and responsibility are taking up more and more space in the annual reports, and the sustainability strategy cannot be reported on separately from the corporate strategy. The amalgamation of both report formats is therefore a logical step.

**Vetropack Group's
online reporting 2019**



“CLOSE THE GLASS LOOP”

The European glass packaging industry is targeting a 90% collection rate.

We are already at a stage where over 76% of glass packaging in the European market is collected for bottle-to-bottle recycling. The EU has now set itself the ambitious target of increasing its collection rate to 90% by 2030.

Glass is fully recyclable and can be reused time and again. This reduces the use of natural resources and leads to less waste and lower energy consumption, which is in line with the UN’s Sustainable Development Goal for ensuring sustainable consumption and production patterns (SDG 12). At the same time, glass recycling enables the industry to drastically cut its energy consumption and CO2 emissions.

Glass is the most recycled packaging material for food and drink in Europe, with the current collection rate standing at 76%. Even now, this puts the EU in a league of its own when it comes to the glass circular economy. But this is not enough for the European glass packaging industry: with the “Close the Glass Loop” scheme, it has now set itself the target of ensuring that a total of 90% of used glass in the EU is being collected and recycled by 2030.

Improving the quality of recycled glass

The initiative brings together various players from the glass collection and recycling loop in a joint European platform. The aim of this is twofold: aside from closing gaps in glass collection, the focus is also on improving the quality of recycled glass to ensure that the resources involved in the bottle-to-bottle recycling process remain productive.



As well as increasing the collection rate for glass packaging to 90%, the European glass packaging industry is aiming to improve the quality of recycled glass so that more of it can be channelled back into the production cycle.

Cooperation agreements are currently being negotiated with partners from the value chain, and the plan over the next few months is to hammer out the details of the programme with them.

“Our aim is, overall, to further increase the sustainability of the glass packaging solutions we offer to our customers and consumers”, explains Michel Giannuzzi, President of the European Container Glass Federation (FEVE). “We are proud to have come up with the ‘Close the Glass Loop’ industry initiative, which will bring real benefits for both the market and the planet. It is intended as a call to create and implement an ambitious action plan for the glass circular economy.”

It all starts with collecting used glass. The “Close the Glass Loop” programme promotes this and involves numerous dedicated

partners at both national and European level, such as municipalities, glass processing companies and industry clients.

FEVE

The European Container Glass Federation (FEVE) is an association of European manufacturers of glass packaging containers and machine-made glass tableware. Its members produce over 20 million tonnes of glass per year. FEVE has some 60 corporate members belonging to approximately 20 independent corporate groups. One such member is Vetropack.



NATURAL AND SWEET

Lemonade – the fizzy refreshment

Today, lemonade is much more than the mixture of water and diluted lemon juice conveyed by the original meaning of the word. It's not just children who find it refreshing, pleasantly fizzy and a joy to drink. The range of flavours and the packaging could not be more diverse. Refreshing sweet drinks are vying for a place in a competitive market, as these drinks have also not escaped the trend towards healthy nutrition.

Alongside fruit juice drinks, sparkling fruit spritzers and fizzy sodas, lemonade belongs to the category of sweet drinks. The alcohol-free, sweetened and carbonated water-based soft drink is available with or without fruit extracts. The soft drink can only contain natural ingredients.

Today, it is more difficult to market lemonade as it is regarded as fattening and we all know that we should not drink it too often. Some countries are already discussing the introduction of a sugar tax. And besides all that, hardly anyone drinks litres of lemonade every day.

A sector in flux

Awareness of good nutrition is not putting a stop to the drinks industry. Quite the opposite in fact, as creativity is now in demand. Even lemonade is now available with new sweeteners such as stevia. Sugar-free alternatives or drinks with natural caffeine like guarana are also available.

However, the water and alcohol-free beer sectors are experiencing growth and are also giving lemonade a run for



its money – as are ciders and shandies. Meanwhile, a cold summer poses another challenge to lemonade producers. But all this doesn't mean the industry should give up. Besides the health concerns already mentioned, our society has also become more environmentally aware. Glass as a packaging material is benefiting from this. Compared to previous decades, there has been a noticeable shift away from other packaging materials towards glass. Brand owners are also keen to emphasise the premium quality of their products, and glass is perfect for this.

Wide array of colours

In comparison with other packaging materials, glass boasts significant advantages in terms of food safety and product

quality. For example, glass is completely impermeable and inert. Glass packaging is "inactive", which means that it does not react with its surroundings. Glass is also odourless and tasteless so it retains the natural flavour and aroma of the lemonade. As a packaging material, glass is gas-tight and this means lemonade maintains its fizziness for a long time.

"When life gives you lemons, make lemonade."

Virginia Euwer Wolff (born 1937)
writer

Vetropack has a wide range of one-way and multi-trip bottles for lemonade. In the catering industry, multi-trip bottles are the most commonly used. White glass is the most popular in all the countries where Vetropack produces and exports glass. Lemonade's wide variety of colours really comes into its own in these bottles. These sweet thirst-quenchers



can be showcased in an attractive glass display on a beautifully laden table in a restaurant or at home. However, green and brown glass bottles are also available on the market. The typical size of a lemonade bottle is 0.33 l. Lemonade is also sold in half litre or even litre bottles.

Small manufacturers and regional suppliers are consistently gaining a foothold in the local craft lemonade market. An individually manufactured bottle underlines the uniqueness of the product, and the right packaging is needed to make the contents look as good as they taste. Vetropack produces standard and special models for its customers.

Awareness of sustainability

Glass as a packaging material is benefitting from customers' increased environmental awareness. It can be recycled time and again without affecting quality. In addition, sophisticated manufacturing processes are making glass more lightweight – without compromising on safety or quality! Lightweight glass reduces the use of raw materials and CO2 emissions, making lightweight bottles an important issue for many lemonade manufacturers and bottlers. Vetropack specialises in the narrow-neck press-blow technology that is used to manufacture lightweight bottles.



“Kracherl”

Lemonade is also known as “Kracherl” in Austria and southern Germany. The name is said to come from the original glass bottles that were used. Lemonade bottles were actually once sealed with glass balls. When they were opened, the ball was pushed into the bottle and this caused a pop (or “Krachen” in German), giving the drink its name. The bursting of the carbon bubbles might have had something to do with this too.

Cola – a stimulant with tradition

The story of how Coca-Cola was created by accident is well known. The American chemist John Stith Pemberton was actually intending to put a headache syrup on the market in the late 19th century. The result was Coca-Cola, which is by far the best known soft drink in the world. It has almost 100% brand recognition. There is hardly any other brand with a higher level of global recognition or greater market penetration.

Carbonated water forms the basis of cola drinks. The kola nut in combination with vanilla, cinnamon oil and clove oil as well as lemons and phosphoric acid give the drink its characteristic flavour. An additive is responsible for its famous dark colour.

Cola drinks are often criticised for their high sugar content. However, the market has responded to this by launching sugar-free colas as well as flavoured varieties with artificial sweeteners. Picking a preferred variety is a matter of taste. In any case, both options contain no sugar and are low in calories or are even calorie-free. Caffeine-rich plant extracts or chemically produced caffeine provide the drink's caffeine content. The combination of sugar and caffeine has a stimulating effect in general. However, the moderate consumption of cola drinks has hardly any effect on adults due to the low concentration of caffeine.

For many years, Coca-Cola was the epitome of the Western way of life. In recent decades, several popular alternatives have come to the fore in Europe. Choosing the packaging should not be left to chance in such a competitive market. Alternative

cola drinks are often notable for their high level of sustainability and organic ingredients. Glass bottles symbolise the high quality of the contents and underline the producers' sustainability efforts.

The Vetropack Group produces cola bottles for "Appenzell Goba Cola" from the Gontenbad Mineral Springs in Switzerland, among others. Tirola Kola enjoys great popularity in the Austrian market. Regionality is a factor here. This sustainable, regional approach involves both the ingredients and the use of pure mountain water or spruce needles. The drink is bottled in the Tyrolean Unterland, which reduces delivery distances.



INVESTMENTS

The biggest furnace in Gostomel gets an overhaul

The second half of 2019 saw extensive renovation work being carried out and successfully completed at five Vetropack sites. These investments aim to increase production output and product quality while reducing energy costs.



In the glass industry, sustainable increases in capacity have to be planned a long time in advance. It is therefore virtually impossible to fast-track any capacity expansions. Short-term peaks in demand can be covered by running down stock, but to ensure long-term organic growth, Vetropack is making targeted investments. Double-gob production is increasingly making way for triple-gob systems in the small items and lightweight glass portfolio, thus helping to boost output to the levels needed to satisfy increasing demand. Further modernisation measures are leading to more efficient information exchange between production and test technology.

Increase in melting capacity

Vetropack's largest coloured-glass furnace (in terms of area) underwent an overhaul between September and November 2019, and now boasts an average melting capacity of around 380 tonnes per day. On top of this, a new glass-blowing machine with 12 stations for double- and triple-gob production was installed on one line, while the existing 12-station glass-blowing machine on the other line was re-engineered in close cooperation with local companies and put back into operation on schedule.

Extensive renovation work was also carried out at Vetropack's plants in Kyjov, Nemšová, Pöchlarn and St-Prex. Thanks to the modernisation of the packaging and inspection technology at the cold end of individual plants, a perfectly coordinated exchange of information between production at the hot end and the inspection system can now be guaranteed. This will help to enhance product quality on a sustainable basis.

To minimise the environmental impact of glass packaging and meet the most stringent quality and efficiency standards, Vetropack is constantly investing into the heart of production – the furnaces. The energy efficiency levels achieved with new and well-maintained machines is higher compared to purely pneumatic systems thanks to the use of servo technology. Another well-known method for improving energy efficiency is to continuously increase the proportion of used glass employed in glass manufacturing.

SUSTAINABLE FORKLIFT TRUCKS

Conserving resources and improving ride comfort at the same time

In the Vetropack Group, sustainability has for some time no longer been limited to just the production process. All production workflows are regularly examined and adjusted with regard to their energy efficiency. For example, Vetropack's plants in Austria and Croatia are the first in the Group to switch to electric forklift trucks.

The Vetropack Group uses sustainable business practices to safeguard the success of its business. In an effort to conserve resources and achieve cost efficiency, all production processes and all the associated infrastructure are regularly checked for possible savings and improvements in energy efficiency across all the Group's plants.



As part of this, the forklift fleet at the Vetropack Austria plants in Kremsmünster and Pöchlarn were subjected to a close analysis. In both glass factories, the forklifts are mostly in use around the clock to transport manufactured products to the warehouse and to load them onto trucks or trains. They also carry all necessary operating equipment. In one year, a forklift will perform at least 1,500 loading processes and be in use for up to 5,000 hours. This adds up to around 20,000 hours of operation over the lifecycle of a forklift, which converted to a car motor equates to one million kilometres travelled.

Great potential for savings

Several years ago, Vetropack Austria began to switch gradually from traditional machines powered by diesel engines to electric forklifts. The advantages are very clear, as when comparing overall costs an electric forklift is up to 30% cheaper than one operated by diesel. And using electric forklifts reduces CO₂ emissions while also decreasing energy costs. Two thirds of the fleet have now been switched to electric in the Austrian plants. Diesel consumption has dropped significantly and will decline even further thanks to plans to acquire more forklifts. Fine dust pollution in the halls has also decreased.

The advantages outweigh the negatives

Electric forklifts do not create a lot of noise or vibrations and are therefore much more pleasant to operate for the driver. They do, however, pose a challenge in relation to occupational safety. As electric forklifts are barely audible, they are equipped with a blue spot and a flashing light on the roof. These light up when driving in reverse and there-

fore provide a warning to pedestrians. Another advantage is the lower maintenance cost. Nevertheless, depending on the temperature, it is necessary to change the battery after around five to eight hours. In both plants, in-house garages were fitted with charging stations for the electric forklifts. The power is drawn entirely from renewable energy.

A win-win situation in Croatia too

At Vetropack Straža, the working conditions are also regularly improved and redesigned to be more environmentally friendly. The first electric forklift was acquired back in 2008 for the cold end and more electric forklifts followed. In Hum na Sutli, the air quality in the production halls has been significantly improved. As such, there are plans across all departments to replace the conventional forklifts with the easier to operate and more environmentally friendly electric forklifts.



TRADE FAIRS

International industry rendezvous

What's the point of trade fairs if everyone can obtain information on the Internet nowadays? BrauBeviale and SIMEI, both in November 2019, were two of those industry events that showed why trade fairs are still worthwhile. Vetropack was there and took the opportunity to make plenty of new contacts.



Around 40,000 industry visitors travelled to BrauBeviale last November. The Nuremberg-based exhibition is one of the leading European trade fairs for the production and marketing of beer and non-alcoholic beverages. Trade fairs need their highlights. Attracting over 9,000 visitors, the guided tasting sessions involving beer and spirits, water, apple cider and soft drinks in the Craft Drinks Arena were certainly one of the highlights of BrauBeviale.

Proven standards alongside special solutions

The packaging scene is animated. Custom-made bottles, sometimes for one manufacturer, sometimes only for a very specific drink, were everywhere to be seen at the fair. When it comes to craft drinks, there were two topics driving the entire industry: the local sourcing of many products that are new to the market and the awareness surrounding individual

and sustainable packaging. The topic of sustainability unites special solutions with the proven standards and reusable packaging that have been successful in other segments.

Vetropack's booth at the trade fair demonstrated the Group's achievements in product development and its efficient production facilities for glass bottle design. A wide range of colours, shapes and closure variants for the key product areas of beer, soft drinks, fruit juices and mineral water were presented to visitors, who were also able to see for themselves that creative glass packaging is not only image-enhancing, but can also be produced economically and sustainably.

Italy, wine and the world

Also in November 2019, but with the traditional focus on winery and bottling technology, SIMEI opened its doors in



Rho, north of Milan. Although almost everything revolved around wine, Vetropack presented its entire product range: at a small separate exhibition integrated into the booth, Vetropack showcased not only wine bottles but also beer, spirits, juice, vinegar and oil bottles from the entire Group. The guests appreciate this comprehensive overview very much.

The bottle is now firmly established on the international wine market as an element that builds and supports a

brand. The question of “customised solutions” was one of the most frequent at the booth, but there was also a great deal of interest in high-quality traditional bottles.

An ideal communication platform

A trade fair is the perfect platform, especially for products that make a strong impression with their look and feel. Several hundred visitors stopped by Vetropack Group’s booth at BrauBeviale, many of whom wanted to engage in discussion. “We had a setting here for informal conversations away from day-to-day business. This leads time and again to successful joint projects”, reports Herbert Kühberger, Head of Marketing and Sales at Vetropack Austria.

The trade fair offers a fast and efficient way for both visitors and exhibitors to find out about the latest developments in the industry in a very concentrated forum. Vetropack uses the event as an opportunity to showcase technologies and design trends, hold technical discussions and forge contacts. A single visit to the trade fair means there is no need to make lots of individual trips, and it also makes the market appear more transparent and innovations more visible and available for visitors to experience first-hand.

AGROVINA 2020

Striking appearance

The fruit and winegrowing trade fair Agrovina is held every two years in Martigny in Western Switzerland. This is where Vetropack Switzerland and its trading company Müller + Krempel Ltd showcase their diverse range of glass packaging over the three days of the trade fair.

Vetropack Switzerland’s booth offered the 18,000 or so industry visitors the opportunity to find out about the latest trends right there and then. Visitors were given a glimpse into Vetropack’s extensive range of standard wine bottles. The lively exchange at the Vetropack booth reflected the keen interest of the fruit and wine growers in the latest developments.

The large-scale images portraying glass production projected onto the Vetropack booth were a crowd-puller.

The floor of the trade fair booth was modelled around the concept of fireclay bricks, which are laid in a real furnace – an impressive visual touch that brought visitors closer to the process of glass production. Customers also engaged in lively discussions at the open Müller + Krempel Ltd booth.



HIGHLY PRACTICAL

Group-wide training centre

The Vetropack Group training centre in the Austrian town of Pöchlarn is already starting its third year with very positive results so far. The on-the-job training courses for production employees are fully booked. Glass-specific know-how, efficiency, quality and output take centre stage.

Before training kicked off in the newly set-up training centre in 2017, intensive preparations were made for the internal training of employees from all Vetropack plants – and they paid off. Group-wide training modules in the various process steps and procedures of glassmaking were developed for the in-depth training of glass specialists as well as those new to the profession, career changers and trainees.

Employees familiarise themselves with the glassmaking process and learn to set up and use the existing technology correctly. The focus is on on-the-job training. A total of four learning stations were built, on which the various production



steps can be simulated. The participants can practise all the work stages at the hot end – this is the phase where the glass is moulded.

Interview with Martin Pejic, appointed head of the Pöchlarn training centre at the start of the year

**What is the main focus of the training?**

Above all, the training is about consolidating knowledge of the production machines at the hot end of a glassworks. It is important that the participants are familiar with how all

operating and control elements of these systems function in detail, while also understanding and learning to exploit the complex interaction between them. Currently, 15 different modules are being offered – from basic and safety training right up to very specific training for job modifications or dealing with feeder machines.

How exactly does the training work?

The training line is a fully operational production machine with four stations, where the various production processes such as blow-and-blow, press-blow, and narrow-neck press-blow for single-, double- and triple-gob production can be tested. The only restriction is that the machine operates without any glass.

The training generally lasts five days, although some specific training sessions can be for just one or two days. The prac-

tical training is the centrepiece, while the theoretical part of the training is kept as short as possible.

How are the numbers of participants developing?

We ran a total of 39 courses with around 350 participants in 2019 and they were fully booked. 45 courses with around 400 learners are planned in for the coming year. The participants in the training come from all Vetropack Group production plants, with a focus on the hot end and the IS workshop. However, we also train technicians, electricians and technical customer service agents – not forgetting the glass technician trainees from the two Austrian plants at Pöchlarn and Kremsmünster.

Is the Vetropack training centre a model for success?

The feedback from participants has been only positive up to now. The high level of practical relevance and the major em-

phasis placed on work safety are appreciated. The training enables activities that wouldn't be feasible during ongoing operations.

As training managers, we have also found the experience very rewarding. To do our work well, there needs to be close cooperation across the board between the training team and the technical departments at the Vetropack plants. We always have to look ahead to see what technological developments are in the pipeline and how we can incorporate these elements into the training programme. We are very flexible about how we shape the content of individual modules. I've never yet had two groups which have been the same. Each training course is tailored individually to the prior knowledge and specific needs of the participants, and this is one of the most important factors in its success.

Local training centre at Vetropack's Gostomel plant

The local training centre at Vetropack Gostomel opened its doors to the first trainees in March 2019. One year on, no fewer than 60 employees have successfully completed their training. Prior to the project, representatives from Vetropack Gostomel visited the Group-wide training centre in Pöchlarn to observe their Austrian colleagues at work. The Ukrainian training centre is based on Vetropack Group standards and complies with national regulations on improving professional skills.

The training centre includes activities at the hot and cold ends. Besides practical skills, theoretical background knowledge is also taught on the course. The training is also for employees who are already qualified – these employees are trained in topics such as occupational health and safety so they can continue to perform their work safely.



At the local training centre, employees have access to machinery and equipment such as the electronic layout of the control and packaging machine, and are supported by experts during each training stage. The successful pilot project is set to continue.



A VARIETY OF FLAVOURS

Tradition on a small scale

The Upper Austrian spirits manufacturer emil has added a new member to its bottle family. Vetropack Austria is producing the new eye-catching 0.35-litre bottle in white glass at the Pöchlarn plant.

Back in 2016, the glass specialists at Vetropack's Austrian plant in Pöchlarn teamed up with the distiller Emil Stegmüller to design a striking 0.7-litre spirit bottle with a screw cap. This has recently been joined by its "little sister", which boasts the same design but has a capacity of 0.35 litres. The "emil" brand logo is engraved four times around the lower part of the bottle, while a glass relief on the shoulder section echoes the mountain peaks printed on the label in a tactile way, thus reinforcing the highly recognisable image of this traditional spirit brand.

The 0.35- and 0.7-litre bottles for emil spirits, offering all kinds of flavour varieties, are available exclusively in retail outlets. The family enterprise has been distilling spirits based on an old tradition and putting a contemporary spin on them for 150 years.

FLATTERING

Fresh appearance

The philosophy of the Lithuanian brand Stumbras Vodka is based on a harmonious balance between tradition and innovation. The 500 ml bottle is used exclusively for "Klasikine Vodka". The producer is Vetropack Gostomel.

Remarkable things are often simple. Following this thought, the bottle of "Klasikine Vodka" from Stumbras factory was given a regular shape with smooth, simple lines in an emerald green colour, which reflects the naturalness of the product very well. The logo and slogan of the brand are embossed on both sides of the bottle, emphasizing the uniqueness of the glass packaging. The original design is completed by a screw cap, which makes the bottle modern and functional.

As the largest and oldest producer of spirits in the Baltic Sea region, Stumbras factory remains true to the unique recipes of the 19th century. The products are made from natural ingredients such as wheat, rye and potatoes. The use of advanced technologies allows the old classics to be tasted in a new way.



Looking for glass packaging for food or drinks? You'll find more than 900 items in our online catalogue. Just use this QR code.

**VITAL****Harnessing power**

The Secondo Marco agricultural enterprise has opted for a 750 ml Bordolese Elite bottle for its highly valuable Amarone della Valpolicella Classico DOCG wine. This bottle is produced by Vetropack Italia.

The Bordolese Elite is characterised by its slender, cylindrical shape and pronounced shoulders, with its straight neck topped off with a cork stopper. The design of this cuvée bottle combines elegance with vitality. Its sense of potency is also reflected on the label.

Secondo Marco is based in the heart of the Valpolicella Classico zone and blends modern viticulture with traditional values. The Amarone is the product of years of observation and fine adjustments. The pergola system originally used for growing the grapes has been developed and enhanced, bringing various benefits that have had a noticeable impact on the final product. Thanks to the fertile soil, the Amarone packs a powerful punch on the taste buds, giving drinkers a sense of the strength of the earth. At the same time, however, this red wine has an impressively elegant touch.

BRILLIANT**Rising sun**

Mikado plum wines inspired by Japan are very popular in Ukraine. Vetropack Gostomel has been producing the exceptional Mikado bottles in cuvée for about a decade. The bottle has recently been given a facelift to its unmistakable appearance. It is now produced in white glass and has a diamond engraving.

The sophisticated 0.7-litre bottle stands out for its gently curved lines and its aesthetics. The entire body of the bottle is decorated with crystal engravings, making it shiny and memorable. Another feature of the design is the Mikado brand name, which is embossed under the label surface on the front and back of the bottle. The bottle is both stable and beautiful and stands out on the shelves.

Mikado plum wine is produced in southern Ukraine from natural ingredients and using varieties such as Aligote, Riesling, Sauvignon, Chardonnay and Rkatsiteli. A rich taste and silky aroma with plum tones make this exquisite wine an ideal partner for many occasions.

**FRUITY**

As good as homemade

Vetropack Moravia Glass produces the new half-litre glass bottles for the various flavours of Kitl syrups. The bottles present themselves in an olive-green transitional colour, as they appear when the colour of the furnace changes.

The Kitl company attaches great importance to quality and craftsmanship in its syrups. These standards are just as high for the 500 ml glass bottle too. The olive-green glass bottle is topped off with a silver screw cap. The entire bottle is enclosed in a large paper label that emphasises the home-made character of the products and provides valuable additional information such as recipe recommendations.

Kitl's (Kitl Syrob) array of syrups taste as good as home-made, following traditional recipes. In addition to the raspberry variety, they also come in ginger, elderberry, mint, grapefruit, cherry or currant flavour. The thickened juices are produced in organic quality and contain a high percentage of fruit. Thanks to cold processing, the syrups are rich in taste and full of flavour.

ORGANIC

Create emotions

In cooperation with Raymond and Laura Paccot from Domaine La Colombe winery, Vetropack Switzerland developed a customised 0.75-litre wine bottle in the striking "Vaudoise" style. The bottle was produced in the colour cuvée – just around eight kilometres from Cave at Vetropack's plant in St-Prex.

Father and daughter Raymond and Laura Paccot paid just as much attention to detail when developing the bottle as they do when producing their wine. They agreed each special feature of the bottle with Vetropack's product designer Jean-Franck Haspel on site at the plant in St-Prex. And the result was worth it: a strong, evocative and subtle bottle. The 0.75-litre bottles in cuvée have turned out so well that they will soon be produced in another mouth (BV30H60).

And the Paccot family don't just pay attention to the packaging of their precious drops: their grapes thrive high above Lake Geneva, grown in organic quality. In Féchy, a small village on the Côte vaudoise, the grapes have everything they need – but, above all, a lot of time to flourish. Only the grapes which have reached the right balance and optimal maturity are picked.



At a glance: the latest products



EASY TO HANDLE

Sustainable and convenient

The new jars designed for the internationally known spice powder Vegeta Maestro stand out for their attractive and modern look. Podravka developed the jars in cooperation with its long-term business partner Vetropack Straža.

The new spice jars appear to be larger than their predecessors, but they actually have the same diameter and hold the same quantity. This impression is created by the push-up floor. Vetropack Straža was able to use the narrow-neck press-blow method to produce this floor.

The new design provides more space on the label for communication with consumers. This allows them to see at first glance that the product contains 100% natural spices. There is also another new and very practical function. The cap of both the mills and shakers can be removed so that the jar can be refilled with spices from the bag. The shaker's cap has larger holes, which make it easier to use coarser spices. The new jars therefore fulfil customer requirements for sustainable and modern packaging which is easy to handle.

ELEGANT

Sunny salutations

Boasting seven centuries of winegrowing tradition, the Josef Brigl Winery is now investing in its future. The Pinot Bianco is filled in the 750 ml Borgognotta bottle, which is produced at Vetropack's Trezzano sul Naviglio plant.

The bottle's tapered shoulders and long neck lend it a distinctive air of elegance, further emphasised by its cuvée colour. The Borgognotta perfectly mirrors the fresh and fruity Pinot Bianco, which stands out thanks to its pleasantly sweet vanilla notes.

The Brigl winery in South Tyrol has been a symbol of the winegrowing and pressing tradition since the 14th century. The winery only uses grapes from its own vineyards and selected winegrowers to make its premium-quality wines. The production process blends tradition and state-of-the-art technology. The Pinot Bianco grapes come from the Haselhof Winery, located 550 metres above sea level in Colterenzio. The Burgundy's straw-yellow colour embodies the many days of sunshine that the cultivation area enjoys.

At your request, we can develop and produce the perfect customised glass packaging for you: coloured and finished – the choice is yours.



ENVIRONMENTAL AWARENESS

Vetropack Switzerland investing in new glass sorting machines

Recycling used glass has hugely improved the environmental footprint of glassmaking within just a few decades. However, the used glass contains a considerable amount of foreign substances that increase production costs. This is why the Vetropack plant in St-Prex purchased two glass sorting machines last year.



Glass is a natural material and is one hundred per cent recyclable without compromising on quality. Using used glass gives glassmaking a much smaller environmental footprint than using primary raw materials. In order for used glass to become a high-quality secondary raw material, however, all foreign substances and extraneous matter must be removed during processing. After being presorted manually, the used glass reaches the recycling station, where the glass is separated from the foreign substances using compressed air and other separation systems.

Between 300 and 350 tonnes of used glass is sorted and processed daily at Vetropack's plant on Lake Geneva. Used glass makes up substantial 80% of total production in St-Prex – more than anywhere else in Vetropack Group. This high used glass content allows for an energy saving of almost 25%.

The quality of recycled glass in Switzerland is higher than in other countries. Even in St-Prex, however, foreign substances can still make up some 9% of the used glass supplied to the plant. Impurities and bubbles in finished bottles are the result of foreign substances which were not filtered out. These bottles remain in quality control and are removed from the process. Only the best-quality glass packaging reaches the customer.

Increased efficiency

Filtering out foreign substances makes production more expensive. For this reason, St-Prex decided to purchase two Clarity glass sorting machines in 2019. One machine processes 14 tonnes of used glass per hour. Processing follows a two-shift pattern from Mondays to Fridays. The used glass then goes through several more stages of processing.

The new Clarity sorting machines made by Binder + Co do much more than just visual sorting: Clarity is also equipped with various sensors. Not only do these sensors work together, but the data they capture is also linked to evaluation algorithms devised specifically for this purpose. This enables simultaneous sorting of heat-resistant glass ceramic without using X-ray fluorescence. The high level of detection quality and rapid sorting diverter technology ensures a high degree of accuracy in the separation process. The two sorting machines process cullet sizes of between 10 and 20 millimetres and between 20 and 80 millimetres respectively.

This purchase allows Vetropack to work much more precisely with the technology currently available and spot even the tiniest bits of metal and aluminium using detectors. Clarity takes the burden off downstream process steps, increases production quantities and product quality and reduces processing costs.

Clarity 1400, 2-way

The following data is for a single machine.

Procurement costs:	EUR 220,000
Processing capacity per hour:	14 tonnes
Operating pressure:	max. 10 bar
Foreign substances and extraneous matter filtered out:	8% to 10% of the used glass supplied

FRAGMENTS OF CULTURE



REPURPOSING

Blurring the lines between the centre and the periphery



In Humpolec, halfway between Prague and Brno, is a former industrial area which has developed into a cultural site, giving visitors the chance to encounter contemporary art.

This former industrial area is also home to the building complex of the old Karel Trnka cloth mill, which specialised in manufacturing broadcloth from the end of the 19th century. After this was acquired by the state-owned enterprise Sukno, the cloth mill and the other companies taken over were given numbers. Drawing inspiration from the industrial era, the number eight is featured in the name of the present-day cultural centre 8smička. After the mill was closed at the end of the 1980s, the crumbling building complex was extensively renovated in 1995 and 2010 and repurposed as a cultural centre.

The former industrial area in Humpolec has developed into a cultural attraction which gives visitors the chance to encounter contemporary art. The 8smička art zone aims to generate momentum for the creation of a local community which is also open to all visitors from the area and beyond. Regular rotating exhibitions are held alongside lectures, themed evenings, programmes for schools and workshops.

Mirror of the soul

From 7 March to 7 June 2020, 8smička is inviting visitors to the glass exhibition "Time out of mind - mind out of time". The exhibition is based on the assumption that both free and applied art is not only a mirror to the artist's soul, but is also shaped by an array of cultural and social influences and

circumstances. The special exhibition does not aim to show the wide range of different glass processing techniques, but rather visitors can discover free, functional, historic and contemporary glass by established and emerging artists.





Contact addresses

Sales

Switzerland

Phone +41 44 863 34 34
marketing.ch@vetropack.com

Austria

Phone +43 2757 7541
marketing.at@vetropack.com

Czech Republic

Phone +420 518 733 111
marketing.cz@vetropack.com

Slovakia

Phone +421 32 6557 111
marketing.sk@vetropack.com

**Croatia, Slovenia,
Bosnia and Herzegovina,
Serbia, Montenegro,
North Macedonia, Kosovo**

Phone +385 49 326 326
prodaja@vetropack.com

Ukraine

Phone +380 4439 241 00
sales.ua@vetropack.com

Italy

Phone +39 02 458771
sales.it@vetropack.com

**Other Western European
countries**

Phone +43 7583 5361
export.west-europe@vetropack.com

**Other Eastern European
countries**

Phone +420 518 733 341
export.cz@vetropack.com