

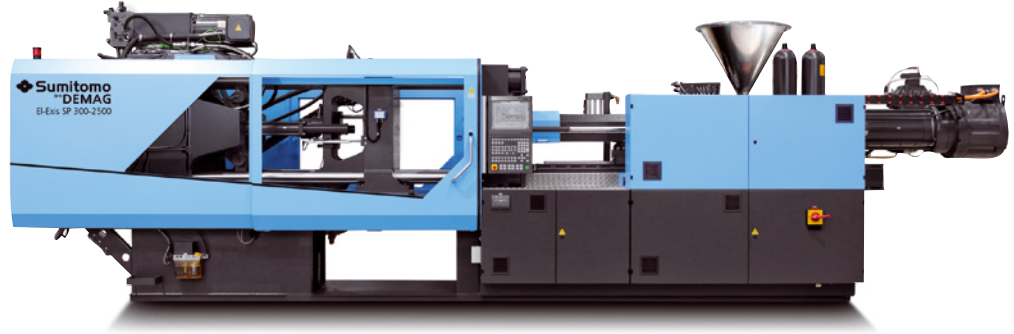
PACKAGING

Demag completes its EL-Exis SP family

Sumitomo (SHI) Demag Plastics Machinery will complete its recently launched EL-Exis SP high performance packaging line-up later this year with the launch of a 150 tonne model – the smallest in a range of nine machines extending to 750 tonnes.

EL-Exis SP machines are designed for cost effective, high speed production of beverage caps and closures and thin wall packaging items such as flower pots and buckets.

“The idea was to squeeze out the last tenths of a second, to make the injection moulding machine even more dynamic



A 150 tonne model will complete Sumitomo Demag's E-Exis line later this year

and faster and to produce parts with even thinner walls,” says Bernd Tröger, head of product management at Sumitomo (SHI) Demag.

Cycle time and clamp dynamic has been improved over earlier S-series machines

through optimisation of the electro-hydraulic five-point double toggle drive system, which combines a servo motor with a hydrostatic gearbox.

All models of more than 300 tonnes clamp also now include an enlarged opening

stroke. And the company has added a new control feature – ActivAdjust – which allows the user to optimise the dynamics of every machine movement to suit the specific application.

| www.sumitomo-shi-demag.eu

PROCESS OPTIMISATION

Screw upgrade increases output

UK-based garden products maker The Stewart Company has increased output by installing new high performance screws and valves on some of its injection moulding machines.

“Our business is extremely seasonal and once the first lawnmowers are out in earnest and spring is sprung, we need to be able to work around the clock to satisfy the growing garden centre demand,” says Paul Keeney,

operations manager at Stewart.

As part of a productivity improvement programme, the company installed Posi-Melt screws, which are claimed to improve melt consistency and speed recovery times.

“We conducted trials on a 1,100g shot product on a Krauss Maffei 800 tonne moulding machine. A multi-purpose Posi-Melt screw was used, together with an integral ‘P’ Melt mixer designed for

maximum throughput. This delivered a superior melt pool while lowering the RPM, screw recovery time and cycle time,” says Gemma McPeake at screw supplier Cooper Technology.

Stewart installed Posi-Melt screws and tips on two machines and reports a 20% improvement in output, resulting in a payback on its investment in just a few months, according to Keeney.

| www.coopertech.com

TEMPERATURE CONTROL

Progressive cuts cost of closures

Closure developers can benefit from the cost savings of standardised tooling sets by using the new ProtoBridge tooling systems from Progressive Components.

The US-based company says its pre-engineered ProtoBridge system has been designed specifically for closure development and sampling. It is suitable for use with both the company's DT series collapsible cores and with traditional jump thread designs.

It also provides the ability for conversion from one part to another in the moulding machine.

| www.procomps.com

MOULDMAKING

Miniaturised hot runner controller

Singapore-based Meiban International has launched what it claims is the world's smallest temperature

controller for hot runner manifold regulation.

PICCO is a compact unit measuring 97mm by 61mm by

30mm that is designed to be mounted directly on the mould.

| www.imt.com.sg