

UMA Group Adds 4th Unit in Gauhati:



For Last Thirty years, Uma Group has emerged as a leading manufacturer and exporter of Flexible Packaging Materials having a wide range of products and customized packaging solutions for application in various segments including Food, Beverages, Personal Care, Household, Pharmaceuticals, Industrial Products and many more. Since inception, we have never looked back and progressed from strength to strength in our pursuit for Pinnacle of Excellence and Customer Satisfaction.

UMA GROUP (UMA Polymers& UMAX Packaging) of Companies has got state of art infrastructures and across 20 Sprawling lush green acres in the middle of the desert. One of the Pioneers of flexible packaging in India, the company has been a leading name in packaging solutions for over 30 years. The group has 4 manufacturing units in MOGRA, JODHPUR, ABU, and GUWAHATI& offices in Noida, Gurgaon, Jodhpur, Mumbai, Bengaluru, Chennai, Calcuttaand Guwahati.

To meet the increasing demand, Uma group has recently set up fourth unit at Guwahati with an installed capacity of 500 Metric Tons per month. The production has already commissioned in the IV unit in March 2017. With this new plant, the total groups installed capacity is 3200 Metric Tons per month (38400) Metric Tons per annum

Scholle IPN eyes to tap Indian aseptic packaging market with new plant

Mumbai April 12, 2017

Scholle Palghar facility



The US-based Scholle IPN, a leading player in the global bag-in-box packaging market, is eyeing to tap the expanding aseptic packaging market in India, especially the fruit juices segment, with the establishment of its new manufacturing facility at Palghar near Mumbai. While Scholle IPN primarily focuses on bag-in-box production, it is also a growing force for spouted pouch packaging and injection moulding of precision fitments for flexible packaging.

The Indian packaging industry has been showing robust growth with the central government predicting a climb from \$25 billion to \$35 billion over the next three years. From the product side, India is a very large producer of mangos and other tropical fruits which require aseptic packaging to effectively and economically distribute them throughout the supply chain. And this is an area of opportunity, which Scholle IPN aims to tap with the new facility.

“Currently, all aseptic drum bags are imported. So, to resolve this difficult supply chain issue, we chose to install production capabilities in country. We already have facilities in other parts of Asia, and with the sizable market requirements and growing industry, India really seemed like the next, best place to build infrastructure,” commented Dhandutt Shah, managing director of Scholle IPN India Packaging Pvt Ltd, in a press statement.

The new 6,000 square meter facility is fitted with 25 injection moulding machines and has the ability to manufacture aseptic bag-in-box packaging. Till now, for Indian customers, Scholle IPN used to meet the requirements of bag-in-box packaging for aseptically-processed fruits & vegetables, and post-mix syrup for soft drinks through import. With the opening of new Palghar facility, these requirements will be fulfilled locally.

Shah informed, “Our location will help to build the industry within this area and those surrounding. But that’s not it. On top of creating bags, our new facility also plans to encourage and explore new flexible packaging applications and uses. Scholle IPN has a long history of pioneering unique, better packaging solutions and, in India, we are well-resourced to continue doing just that.”

The Palghar facility will be primarily focusing on making aseptic drum bags for the tropical fruit juice industry. The bag-in-box manufacturing machine at the facility will allow the company to manufacture bags ranging from 3-liters to 220-liters, with a variety of barrier layers including: aluminium foil, metallised polyester, and even co-extruded nylon. Additionally, the bag-in-box manufacturing machine will be equipped with special neck band and delta seal features required in this market.

“While we will primarily focus on aseptic drum bags, this facility is unique in that we will also manufacture spouts and even build our own product moulds for flexible packaging components like connectors, caps, and dispensing fitments,” explained Shah.

Through this new investment in India, Scholle IPN wants to be a vital ally in innovation and production of leading flexible packaging solutions in the country. He added, “By producing cost-effective fitments and bag-in-box packaging in regions where our customers are growing, we will support Scholle IPN’s overall strategy towards continued leadership in producing safe, natural, economic, and sustainable flexible packaging solutions.”

Amcor's new generation of Metal-Free Packaging

Amcor's new range of metal-free AmLite packaging materials is a breakthrough innovation in high barrier plastics.

Instead of aluminium or metallised films, AmLite uses a micro-thin barrier layer that is deposited on a PET or PP base web. The result is a transparent packaging material with high barrier properties and a high-performance sealant.

The AmLite material is more flexible and, under extensive Gelbo Flex testing, shows a resistance to the initiation of pinholes and micro cracks that undermine the true performance of metallised barrier layers.

AmLite also offers excellent sealing properties and a variety of pack formats, including regular, stand-up and spouted pouches, as well as flow packs, sachets and more.

The three products in the AmLite range include:

- **AmLite:** Ideal for liquid or dry products that are stored at ambient temperature and need strong barrier protection.
- **AmLite HeatFlex:** Ideal for products that are filled using heat processes, such as pasteurisation or heat sterilisation.
- **AmLite Ultra:** Ideal for liquid or dry products that are more sensitive to oxidation or undergo higher levels of real-world stress and require greater barrier protection.

Dual MRPs: Maharashtra, Karnataka top the list

April 11, 2017

Centre had directed all state govts and UTs to stop the practice of dual MRPs for same commodity: **Maharashtra has booked the most cases for dual pricing of a packaged commodity in violation of maximum retail price (MRP) rules.**

According to data furnished by the government recently, around 3,725 cases were booked for dual MRPs in Maharashtra from 2013-14 to 2015-16. Karnataka had registered 2,538 cases. These constituted around 25 per cent and 17 per cent, respectively, of complaints registered across the country under dual MRPs.

The Legal Metrology (Packaged Commodities) Rules, 2011, makes it illegal to charge different prices for a packaged product within a state.

For example, a one-litre bottle of packaged mineral bottle might cost more in cinemas, railway stations, malls, multiplexes, airports, etc, than at a roadside shop. Sometimes the manufacturers themselves print a different price on products, while some dealers also do it. In both cases, it ends up harming the interest of consumers.

The Centre had in a letter issued in December 2016 directed all state governments and Union Territories to stop the practice of dual MRPs for the same commodity within the same state. The directive was issued after it got several complaints from consumer rights activists and others that many cinemas, stadiums, multiplexes and other places within a city or state were charging

dual MRPs for the same packaged food items. It was also found that at airports and movie halls, packaged food items were being sold at a higher rate than outside. Hotel owners, on their part, had justified selling such goods at a price higher than the MRP because they provide additional services such as air-conditioning, sitting, etc.

The Maharashtra government had subsequently cracked down on the practice and booked 134 establishments for violation of the packaged commodities rules.

Five manufacturing companies were also asked to explain within seven days why varying rates were being charged for the same product. Officials said investigations had showed that many malls and multiplexes in and around Mumbai sold packaged aerated drinks and mineral water at 10-30 per cent more than the printed MRP.

The state government had also asked the Board of Control for Cricket in India (BCCI) to direct all its stadiums and sister associations to stop this practice during cricket matches.

Later, Rajasthan and Delhi also ordered a crackdown on such dubious practices.

Cosmo Films to invest Rs 250-cr to set up speciality polyester films plant

The BOPET films plant, to be located in Maharashtra, will have a capacity of 36,000 metric tonne
Mumbai April 10, 2017

Cosmo Films Limited, a manufacturer of multiple types of bi-axially oriented polypropylene (BOPP) and cast polypropylene (CPP) films, is planning to invest Rs 250 crores to install a new production line for speciality polyester (biaxially-oriented polyethylene terephthalate or BOPET) films by the third quarter of 2018-19.

The new line, to be commissioned at the Waluj plant site in Aurangabad (Maharashtra), will have a capacity of 36,000 metric tonne per annum (MTPA). This plant already houses BOPP lines, extrusion coating lines, chemical coating lines, metallisers and a CPP line. The new production line will complement the existing BOPP capacity of 200,000 MTPA and allow Cosmo Films to offer a more comprehensive speciality product basket to flexible packaging, labelling, lamination and industrial applications.

“Speciality BOPET is one of the fastest growing substrates and we anticipate a strong demand for these films. This will enable us to do import substitution as well as take global market share,” said Pankaj Poddar, CEO, Cosmo Films Ltd.

Biaxially-oriented polyethylene terephthalate (BOPET) films offer high tensile strength, chemical and dimensional stability, transparency, reflectivity, gas and aroma barrier properties and electrical insulation.

Klockner Pentaplast buys packaging films producer Linpac Group

The deal will create a rigid & flexible packaging films firm having annual revenues of above \$ 2 bn

April 12, 2017



The Klockner Pentaplast Group (KP), the German provider of rigid plastic films and packaging solutions, has agreed to acquire Linpac Senior Holdings Limited, an important films producer and converter for food packaging in Europe. Financial terms of the transaction were not disclosed.

The transaction will create a global leader in the rigid and flexible packaging films market, with combined annual revenues exceeding \$ 2 billion.

“This is a highly complementary acquisition that will help KP expand our technological capabilities and presence into the food industry and the rigid and flexible film market, as well as

further develop our offerings in end markets such as pharmaceuticals, food and beverage, and consumer and industrial products. KP will be enriched by Linpac's innovations, adjacent products and know-how. We are excited about the new opportunities that lie ahead of us," said Wayne Hewett, CEO of Klockner Pentaplast.

Daniel Dayan, CEO of Linpac, added, "We are excited to join forces with KP and believe this transaction will significantly accelerate Linpac's geographic expansion. Merging these two market leaders into one company will create strong opportunities for all involved and we look forward to working together."

The combination of Klockner Pentaplast's films production with Linpac's highly innovative films production and conversion capabilities will create a one-stop-shop providing complete packaging solutions to customers. The acquisition of Linpac will further strengthen KP's customer-centric business approach, a key pillar of the company's strategy.

The acquisition will also enable KP to expand its technological capabilities further into the rigid and flexible films market. This market benefits heavily from megatrends including customers' desire for healthy and safe food with an extended shelf life.

By bringing together two innovative firms in the film and packaging industry, Klockner Pentaplast would create a true R&D powerhouse. By leveraging KP's and Linpac's combined and diverse customer universe, KP will be able to develop products, solutions and design capabilities that are tailor-made to address customer needs and will unlock further growth potential.

ONGC Petro's Rs 30,000-cr petrochemical complex

The Dahej complex to have capacity to produce 14 lakh tonnes of polymers & 5 lakh tonnes of chemical
March 8, 2017

Prime Minister Narendra Modi yesterday dedicated ONGC Petro additions Ltd (OPaL) petrochemicals complex, located at Dahej (Bharuch, Gujarat) to the nation. OPaL is a joint venture company promoted by ONGC, Gail and GSPC, implementing a grass root integrated petrochemical complex located in Special Economic Zone (SEZ) under Petroleum, Chemical and Petrochemical Investment Region (PCPIR) at Dahej, Gujarat.

This is the single largest petrochemical plant in India and at full capacity, will annually produce 14 lakh metric tonnes of polymers - viz. linear low density polyethylene (LLDPE), high density polyethylene (HDPE), polypropylene (PP) - and 5 lakh metric tonnes of chemicals such as benzene, butadiene, and pyrolysis gasoline. The product warehouse is one of the largest in India with an area of 128,250 square metres.

OPaL would use ONGC's captive feed of C2+ streams (ie, ethane, propane and butane) from C2-C3 extraction plant, and naphtha from Hazira & Uran to produce polyethylene (PE) and polypropylene (PP).

Set up with an investment of Rs 30,000 crore, the plant is strategically located in the petrochemicals and chemical hub of the country with excellent connectivity, creating an integrated ecosystem.

The project will further result in the growth of new downstream plastic processing industries in the country, generating further investment of Rs 40,000 crore and over 20,000 indirect employment opportunities, giving major thrust to government's Make in India programme. The increased use of polymers will also reduce burden on traditional materials like wood, paper, metal and will help in conserving natural resources like water and energy and promote food safety & food conservation.

OPaL is targeting to corner a marketshare of 13 percent in the polymer sector by 2018. The company would also contribute in encouraging polymer consumption in the country & its products will be used for important sectors like infrastructure, housing, packaging, irrigation, automotive, healthcare etc.

The average per capita consumption of polymers in India is 10 kg, compared to a world average of 32 kg. There is tremendous potential for growth of the sector catalysed by growth drivers such as increasing middle class, higher disposable income and urbanisation.

The petrochemical sector in the country has witnessed a robust annual growth of 10-12 percent in the last decade, and is expected to grow at a rate of 12-15 percent in the next decade.
