Innovation in the European aerosol industry

October 24, 2022



(https://metalpackager.com/2022/10/innovation-in-the-european-aerosol-industry/)

Dominique Huret, a freelance journalist, who was on the panel of the European Aerosol Federation (FEA) Global Aerosol Awards 2022, gives The Metal Packager the rundown on some of the innovative aerosol products, which caught the panel's attention. They were launched on the market between July 2020 and June this year.

The FEA Global Aerosol Events were held in Lisbon, Portugal. The FEA represents 18 European countries, which include more than 350 small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs) and multinationals active in the aerosol industry.

The overall unit production of European aerosol products remains stable this year, at 5.2 billion, according to the FEA's annual report, citing reported national fillings. It's a robust industry, where innovation is often technical but not always. The jury of seven independent industry experts and journalists was chaired by Alain D'haese, secretary general of the FEA.

Commenting on the health of the aluminium aerosol industry for The Metal Packager, D'haese said: "What we're seeing at the moment is the cumulative effect of several crises (rising energy prices, inflation and skilled labour shortage). However, aluminium aerosols have a bright future ahead of them. The jury

highlighted the significant sustainable achievements from can makers, such as the entries from Ball Aerosol Packaging (alu), Colep Packaging (tinplate), and Linhardt (alu)."

Urs Hauser, FEA president, was able to add similar views: "We all have the same interests, and are committed to high standards on product safety and manufacturing, a relationship with authorities at eye level, promoting the use of aerosols and enabling growth of our industry. We're also facing challenges in the areas of transport of dangerous goods, chemicals policy, circular economy, and climate-neutrality, to name a few. It's up to us to turn these challenges into golden opportunities."

Here is a digest of some innovations that featured at the FEA Global Aerosol Events:

Church & Dwight launched its plant-powered Batiste Dry Shampoo range made with 100% natural extracts. It comes in a lightweight can consisting of 25% recycled aluminium made by **Ball Aerosol Packaging**, with Ball's proprietary ReAl alloy.

Cosmosol, a contract filler specialised in aerosol production for cosmetic products and medical devices, entered with its Eco Spray Natural Protection. This is a nitrogen based eco-spray antiperspirant without aluminium salts. The daily production output per shift for this can is around 110,000 cans, on six production lines divided between traditional aerosol and bag-on-valve (BoV) technology.

SOPPEC PureSPRAY System designed a complete aerosol line marking solution for the use of aerosol paint for applications where it's currently marginally used or considered unsuitable. For instance, either outside or inside industrial or public buildings, the use of aerosols is restricted. This complete system with a marking trolley, with aerosols paints and the spraying system, the PureSPRAY nozzle and the adapted application tool allows for a very high performance in terms of visibility and resistance.

Whale Spray and its brand of Synctech aerosols for the maintenance of electronic equipment appealed to the judges. Most cleaning products are often 'unsexy'. But over the years, gaming has gradually evolved. It has become extremely popular and established itself as a way of life, part of the daily lives of approximately three billion people. The jury welcomed the identification of this segment with a great potential for aerosol dispensers. Special mention was given to this product and others capitalising on gaming, generally making unpromoted technical aerosol products attractive to young consumers.

Embossing is not new in the segment, but **Aryum**, an innovative aluminium can solution provider, chose its Oval Emboss can to celebrate Junaid Jamshed, a deceased Pakistani musician and fashion designer. It was approached by J., Pakistan's premier fashion and fragrance brand by J. Junaid Jamshed Pvt Ltd., for this premium women's body spray project.



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