

STOELZLE expands decoration capacity and variety at all its sites

Packaging



As a glass manufacturer and one-stop-shop for the design, development, production and decoration of high-end packaging glass, STOELZLE strives for different product types in order to provide appealing solutions - each one well-suited to customer needs.

PACKAGING

The Stoelzle Glass Group manufactures a broad range of products, whether in standard designs or customised shapes - thus catering to a huge variety of branches and applications. Based in Europe, it seeks to prioritise both the emotions and ideas promised by its products - always with a keen attention to what's most sustainable and technically-feasible.

GROUP EXPANSION

With the demand for decorated glass containers constantly on the rise over the past few years, Stoelzle has been investing in all three of its decoration facilities in Poland, UK and France - all to offer enhanced capacities and modern processes and technologies for a broad range of applications destined to international markets.

In March 2022, a new high-speed spraying line was started up at the decoration site in Stoelzle Częstochowa, Poland. Being the fourth spray line at the Polish site, technically this one's state-of-the-art in every respect - including performance, efficiency, automation and sustainability. Here the company relies upon its CSR strategy, to which Stoelzle has been committed for a couple of years already after abandoning solvent-based colours at all three of its decoration sites as it

insists on using only eco-friendly, water-based inks.

Equipped with an automatic loading and unloading system, the new spraying line also takes advantage of fast-curing by infrared lamps, which enhances production capacity still further.

The high-speed line, set up with an investment of EUR 1M, is forecast to reach a daily output of more than 100,000 sprayed bottles whilst being technically adapted to process containers of up to 200 mm in size.

Stoelzle offers an array of traditional, trendy and innovative techniques that range from silk screen printing to spraying, frosting, hot foil stamping, digital printing, decals and accessory application for spirits bot-

ties, perfumes, cosmetic jars and pharmaceutical glass containers.

PUTTING SUSTAINABILITY FIRST

The group continues to be driven by a conviction that glass remains one of the most sustainable packaging materials, given that it's made from 100 percent natural raw materials and is inert - meaning that glass has no impact upon its contents. But that's not all. In rendering the final bottle as sustainable as possible it's always been just as clear to consider the ecological aspects of the decorating itself. Here Stoelzle's R&D team has leveraged its collective intelligence to arrive at both energy saving and CO₂ reduction solutions within every area of pro-





duction and decoration - including batch optimisation, melting process, and all the technologies used at the Hot and Cold End of glass production. Indeed ongoing investments in sustainable technologies and processes remains a solidly-integrated part of the group's CSR strategy - all with a view to reducing CO₂ emissions 50 percent by 2030 while becoming CO₂ neutral by 2050. As more than 370 million bottles are decorated by Stoelzle every

year, the importance of providing eco-friendly, sustainable decoration is equally important. Here's why an innovative Recycled Ink, namely the eco-friendly powder coating Quali Glass Coat 2.0, as well as Tigital, are among the latest developments in decoration.

RECYCLED INK

In partnership with a British supplier, Stoelzle's innovation team has developed a brand new eco-friendly black-screen printing ink. The Recovered Carbon Black — as basis of the company's new inks — is derived 100 percent from end-of-life tyres. This recycled ink is available in dark black (matt and shiny) as well as different shades of grey - and more colours besides (red & white) will shortly be developed from other waste materials. Given that decoration contributes circa 15 percent to a bottle's CO₂ footprint, screen printing decoration with recycled ink helps to significantly reduce it without

compromising on high decoration quality. Not only. The ink will contribute towards avoiding rubber waste as well.

QUALI GLASS COAT 2.0

Quali Glass Coat 2.0 is a special powder-coating technique which, at very high mechanical resistance, achieves an infinite variety of stunning effects. Moreover, the process is definitely more sustainable and eco-friendly than standard lacquering with liquid colours. Here the powder coating uses solvent-free colours while helping to save in raw material by producing zero-waste colour. To list the main advantages of this new technique: there's 77 percent less CO₂ emissions as compared with conventional spraying, zero VOC release (Volatile Organic Compounds) and lower costs in terms of decoration.

A new radiating glass type, NRG 4.0, is a phosphorescent glass decoration. This special





Quali Glass coat 2.0 will show off such changing Stoelzle-patented colours as night colour schemes.

Digital technology brings yet another powder-based decoration, allowing for the realisation of photo-realistic artworks while saving 85 percent in CO₂ emissions as compared with classic screen printing - a technique that's well-suited for very small lots and will allow for a high level of flexibility.

EFFECT LACQUERING

Other standard processes, such as lacquering, have been developed to achieve some stunning new effects. Here bottles can be sprayed, for example, to

resemble carbon, ice, concrete or velvet - thus gaining not only visually but also in terms of tactile appeal. To say more here: a metallic finish can be achieved, as well as gradient colours, crackled or glitter effects.

ENHANCED PRINTING

Printing on square containers is no longer limited to one side of bottles alone. Now it can also be done across sharp edges - thereby creating a 360° all-round visual. Here there's Quadrichromie, a CMYK print performed on a screen-printing basis, which achieves fine, detailed artworks with photorealistic looks. Digital printing is a super option for

single and individually-customised small lots. It's very fast and unlimited in colour, design and/or 3D-effects. A very trendy and cost-effective decoration process is the so-called 'relief lettering' which will give bottles a relief effect via application of a transparent material. In sum, there's a high infinite variety of decoration options, all of which can be chosen to enhance the beauty of bottles and so rendering them unique.

SOME FACTS

- 3 in-house decoration facilities in France, Poland and UK
- 370 mio decorated bottles per year
- ~500 employees (working in decoration) ■



ABOUT STOELZLE GLASS GROUP

The Stoelzle Glass Group is a family-run company with six European production plants, another in the US, and three decoration sites. The group has been producing high-quality glass packaging for the spirits, pharmaceutical, perfumery & cosmetics, food & beverage sectors for over 200 years now. Here Stoelzle covers all areas from product development, production, decoration to the delivery of closures.



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