

Press release

Experience and state-of-the-art technology: Unterland Flexible Packaging celebrates its 50th anniversary

The packaging company from Kufstein, Austria is one of the largest producers of plastic film in Europe and stands for innovative competence and stability.

Vienna, October 07, 2009 – This year Mondi Consumer Flexibles celebrates the 50th anniversary of its largest production plant, the Unterland Flexible Packaging GmbH. The company located in Kufstein (Austria), was founded in 1959 by Dr. Alfred Labek and has continuously grown to be a specialist for the production and processing of film made from polyethylene and polypropylene.

Long-standing experience and individual solutions are the key to success since the establishment of company in the 1950's. "Our customers especially appreciate the innovative competence, the flexibility, the quality of service and our reliability", Jakob Mosser, CEO Mondi Consumer Flexibles states. And continues, "in the upcoming years the plant will have a stronger focus on processing, printing and converting. With this, the entire production process can be carried out in our plant - establishing an even more competitive edge."

In 1972, a new, larger production site was built in Langkampfen, near Kufstein and took already then a pioneering role for LLDPE (linear low density polyethylene), shrink and stretch film. The innovative competences of the company also led to the early decision to invest in stretch-wrap film for agricultural applications.

Today, Unterland Flexible Packaging is one of the largest producers of agricultural stretch-wrap – also known as Agri Stretch – in Europe and takes benefit from the optimal geographic location of the plant. The company was certified for production of film with clean room technology as first plant in Austria. Since then, high-quality cast-polypropylene (CPP) film is produced for the medical and pharmaceutical as well as the food industry and marketed under the brand name Clean Cast Technology®.

Since 2007 Unterland Flexible Packaging GmbH is part of Mondi, a global paper and packaging group, and completes the product portfolio of the business unit Consumer Flexibles within the Europe & International division.

The reorientation of the company led to several modernisation projects and investments in new technologies and machinery, such as new multilayer extrusion facilities, a 10-colour flexo-printing machine and high-performance converting equipment. „Following the internal realignment the site in Kufstein was established as Consumer Flexibles competence centre for „wicketed bags“, plastic bags for the food and hygiene industry. This has also led to a reinforcement of our position in Austria“, Manfred Schlapps, Managing Director of Unterland Flexible Packaging explains.

One major success factor is the investment in employees. The focussed schooling and development of apprentices as qualified production operators plays an essential role. Continuous training and education of all employees is a matter of course. „A large number of our employees has been working in the company for many years and has a great wealth of experience as well as new insights to help shape the successful future of the company“, Manfred Schlapps points out.

The product portfolio of Unterland Flexible GmbH contains transport- / safety- and film packaging for industrial products, agricultural packaging as well as packaging for consumer goods and medical engineering products. More than 80% of sales by Unterland Flexible Packaging are generated outside of Austria, with increasing involvement in the Asian and North American markets in addition to the main sales markets of Germany, Switzerland, Great Britain, Scandinavia, Poland and Hungary.

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About Mondi Consumer Flexibles

Mondi Consumer Flexibles is an innovative supplier of active and convenient packaging for the pet food, food & non-food, confectionary & snacks as well as medical & pharmaceutical industry. Within this business area Mondi has 8 production sites, which all are certified according to EN ISO 9001 and most are certified according to BRC/loP, as well as a R&D Centre to develop customised solutions. The product portfolio contains high-quality monofilms and printed laminates, industrial and agricultural packaging, high-barrier films, paper and plastic bags as well as stand-up pouches. In addition, Mondi Consumer Flexibles provides a variety of specific product features and services such as barrier properties, professional printing and end-user functionalities such as easy-opening, pourability and microwaveability.

About Mondi

Mondi is an international paper and packaging group and in 2008 had revenues of €6.3 billion. Its key operations and interests are in western Europe, emerging Europe, Russia and South Africa.

The Group is principally involved in the manufacture of packaging paper and converted packaging products; uncoated fine paper; and speciality products and processes, including coating, release liner and consumer flexibles.

Mondi is fully integrated across the paper and packaging process, from the growing of wood and manufacture of pulp and paper (including recycled materials) to the converting of packaging papers into corrugated packaging and industrial bags.

Mondi has production operations across 35 countries and had an average of 33,400 employees in 2008.



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Photo



Unterland Flexible Packaging GmbH from Kufstein, Austria is one of the largest producers of plastic film in Europe.