



Press Information

Innovative screw cap based on new technology

Now in France: Eckes-Granini launches combiSwift on the fruit classic Réa

July 2006. Eckes-Granini France, the biggest supplier in the fruit-based drinks sector, is launching the new combiSwift spout on the French market. The spout innovation from SIG Combibloc celebrates its French premiere with the juice classic Réa in the combibloc *Magnum* carton pack.

With combiSwift, the aseptic carton pack gains a lightweight advantage that satisfies the demand for convenience. combiSwift's impressive easy-opening mechanism is based on new technology. The three-part spout is fixed into a hole with a light coating over it. To achieve this, holes of the correct size are cut into the carton at SIG Combibloc's packaging plants, before the unprocessed carton is coated with aluminium and polyethylene. After the carton packs have been filled at the customer's plant, combiSwift is set precisely into the overcoated hole – a process that makes it possible to open the seal easily and effortlessly.

Easy opening

combiSwift consists of a flange with integrated cutting ring and a screw cap. With a single twist of the cap, the ring integrated into the flange cuts the extremely thin aluminium and polyethylene layer, effortlessly and cleanly on the first opening. This ease of handling is sure to make combiSwift a favourite with consumers. Comprehensive handling tests and consumer surveys confirm the ease and convenience of the opening process, as the cardboard layer has already been removed and only the thin aluminium and polyethylene layers need to be cut. The clean, rim-free cap opening ensures smooth, even pouring.

combiSwift is equipped with a three-stage tamper-evidence feature which shows at a glance whether the carton pack still has its original seal. To close, the cap is simply screwed back on, guaranteeing the requisite tightness.

With an interior diameter of 18mm, combiSwift has proved to be a convenient, flat sealing system for liquid milk products, as well as fruit juices and other non-carbonated beverages. combiSwift is available in a range of colours, so that it can be perfectly matched to suit different package designs.

combiSwift can be applied using SIG Combibloc's proven seal applicators. The new mechanism is therefore not just an attractive sealing solution for new customers. Even companies which already use caps from SIG Combibloc can continue to use their existing equipment, after simple, rapid and low-cost modification, for the application of combiSwift, with the same level of efficiency on the filling lines.

combiSwift is now available in France on Réa's Smooth Orange, Multivitamin Cocktail, ACE Cocktail, Pineapple, Grape and Apple juice flavours. Réa is a member of the Eckes-Granini Group. The Group is Europe's market leader in the fruit-based drinks sector. The company has a total annual turnover of more than EUR 700 million.

Caption 1:

Eckes-Granini France, the biggest supplier in the fruit-based drinks sector, is launching the new combiSwift spout on the French market. The closure innovation from SIG Combibloc celebrates its French premiere with the juice classic Réa in the combibloc *Magnum* carton pack.

Photo: SIG Combibloc

SIG Combibloc is one of the world's leading systems suppliers of carton packaging and filling machines for beverages and food. Employing approx. 3,940 people, the company recorded sales of EUR 1,097 million in 2005. SIG Combibloc is a division of SIG Holding AG, Neuhausen am Rheinfall.

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