

To your health

The Red List, Germany's best known catalogue of drugs, contains 8,280 drug entries in around 10,200 dosage forms. Packaging these quantities reliably calls for innovative machine technology and optimum process technology. An example is the high-performance blister machine from Uhlmann Pac-Systeme, featuring the fastest cartoner in the world and sophisticated valve terminal technology.

Whether oval, rhombic or biconvex, tablets come in a wide range of shapes and sizes. While tablets in the USA are normally packaged in bottles, blister or push-through packs are more usual on the European drug market. The new B 1660 blister machine from Uhlmann Pac-Systeme produces up to 750 of these blister packs per minute. The connected C 2504 cartoner then packages them in up to 500 folded boxes per minute.

Benefit of the valve terminal solution

When it came to developing the new machines, the engineers at Uhlmann put a great deal of emphasis on minimising tubing and wiring. To achieve this, the company turned to valve terminal technology from Festo. The standard valve terminal VTSA is ideal for Uhlmann's high-performance packaging machines. It ensures a reliable supply for both vacuum generators and cylinders, while the high flow rate of the size 26 VTSA (up to 1,100 l/min) makes it perfect for vacuum generation. The VTSA also offers the option of vertical stacking and realises special functions such as different pressures in cylinders, for example. The individual blisters are drawn in and repositioned in the system using vacuum. The pressure for individual cylinders can be independently adjusted and a separate gauge can be installed for each valve in the terminal. The displays on the pressure gauges are installed



“The valve terminal VTSA is the perfect solution for our pneumatic circuits.”

Hubert Schmid, Designer
Uhlmann Pac-Systeme



Efficient and reliable production: Uhlmann B 1660 blister machine with the C 2504, according to Uhlmann currently the fastest cartoner in the world.



Variety of shapes: packaging for drugs



High flow rate is the decisive factor: the valve terminal VTSA's outstanding performance in the cartoner.

back-to-front to enable them to be read precisely from the rear.

Benefit of the safety valve

The folding box magazine at the cartoner is raised for maintenance work using two standard cylinders DNC. The cylinders are securely equipped with two channels, one pneumatic and one electric, to protect the fitter during maintenance. This can be easily done with the valve terminal VTSA and ensures that the requirements of the new Machinery Directive are met. In addition, the entire machine is safely exhausted using an MS6 safety valve in the event of an emergency stop. This ensures that no uncontrolled movements take place during troubleshooting, and also addresses the requirement to provide protection against unexpected startup.

Benefit of worldwide service

Since Uhlmann generates 85% of its turnover overseas, a global service network was an important criterion when it came to selecting suppliers. Festo's worldwide sales and service network was thus a major point in its favour. Well before the two companies started working together, Uhlmann had analysed which pneumatic components were needed for the packaging systems in order to achieve optimum machine performance. The components used today range from sensors, cylinders and valves to accessories such as tubing and fittings. ■

is 2.11-04

Standard valve terminal VTSA

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Field of activity:
Manufacturing systems for
packaging drugs for the
pharmaceutical industry

