

years, but they have previously only been available in Japan, China and the US.

The GL30, which will be demonstrated at K2019, is a 30-tonne hybrid machine suited to the production of very small, high-precision parts for the medical sector. Unlike the traditional reciprocating screw and check valve, Sodick machines use the V-Line injection method to accurately prepare the shot by weight, filling the component in a precise and repeatable process. Sodick says this results in more accurate filling and pressurisation of the component. Accuracy is further enhanced by the linear motor drive system which governs the injection plunger, which travels at high speed to reduce the viscosity of the melt.

The GL30 is capable of linear injection speeds in excess of 1,300 mm/s and can achieve and maintain this speed within a 5mm shot size whilst accelerating and decelerating within 1mm of plunger movement.

➤ www.sodick.org

Stork IMM and **Brink** are combining their expertise at K2019 in two automated IML packaging demonstrations. A 7,000 kN clamp force, Stork Food-Line hybrid machine with an electric clamp is being shown with side-entry Brink IML and take-out automation. The cell will highlight high-speed performance in producing a 250 g food container in an 8-cavity mould.

In the second demonstration, a fully electric 4,400 kN Stork Food-Line machine is shown with a side-entry Brink IML and take-out automation cell. This system is producing a 1.5l cheese container in a 2-cavity mould with reduced energy consumption.

➤ www.storkimm.com

➤ www.brinkbv.com

Sumitomo (SHI) Demag says it will “unveil its fastest, most energy efficient, sustainable, data-driven integrated machine line-up at K2019”. Spotlighting the digitalised production trend, a connected

cell will feature the latest remote diagnostics, online support, document tracking and spare part ordering. Visitors to the company’s stand will be able to use connected terminals to see how its myConnect software will enhance customer service and help enable future data-driven efficiency improvements.

In September, Sumitomo (SHI) Demag started selling its new all-electric IntElect Multi machine for multi-component moulding. The series is initially available in three machine sizes - 100, 130 and 180 tonnes. For moulders who want the option of transforming their existing moulding system into a multi-component machine, it is launching the eMultiPlug at K2019. This “plug-in” unit can be retrofitted to an existing machine, making multi-component injection more cost-efficient and feasible.

Sumitomo (SHI) Demag is bringing two energy-enhanced El-Exis SP machines to K2019, consuming up to 20% less energy than its predecessors. In automotive, the group will demonstrate a new “touchfoil” interactive decoration for a vehicle console on an IntElect 500 machine being unveiled at the show.

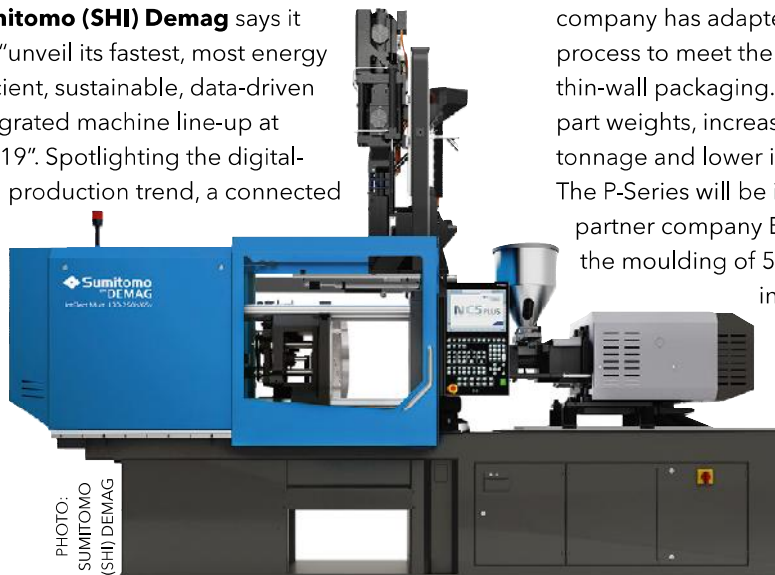
The group will also demonstrate its technical LSR capability by moulding light guides for a matrix light on a special version of the IntElect 130. The IntElect S 180-tonne is another new machine being unveiled. It is targeted at mass manufacturers of medical plastic components and has been designed for narrow-tolerance applications requiring fast cycle times between 3s and 10s.

➤ www.sumitomo-shi-demag.eu

Trexel says the first live demonstration in Europe of its MuCell P-Series for micro-cellular foam in thin-wall packaging will happen during K2019. The company has adapted its MuCell gas dosing process to meet the demands of fast cycling thin-wall packaging. MuCell P-Series enables lower part weights, increased L/T, reduced clamp tonnage and lower injection pressures, says Trexel. The P-Series will be in operation on the stand of partner company BMB, where it will be used in the moulding of 500g margarine tubs. Partners in the in-mould labelling cell include StackTeck, Machines Pages, Verstraete and Borealis.

Trexel will present on its stand an expanded range of the TecoCell line of advanced chemical foaming products, which it developed to complement the

Right: Sumitomo (SHI) Demag has started selling its new all-electric IntElect Multi machine for multi-component moulding





MuCell physical foaming technology. Through the exclusive use of nano-sized (≤ 0.08 micron) CaCO_3 particles, TecoCell produces the smallest cell size and highest quality surface appearance achievable through chemical agents, according to Trexel.

The company's MuCell Tip Dosing Module has a design that is gentle on fibre-filled resins, provides greater output and requires less space compared to traditional MuCell screw designs. The smaller footprint allows for the option to bolt the TDM onto an existing barrel in place of the endcap to easily upgrade an existing injection moulding machine with MuCell.

> www.trexel.com

Wilmington Machinery is using K2019 to explain how it meets specific application needs of customers in structural foam moulding of large products. In illustration, the company says it recently built and installed two vertical structural foam presses for a customer looking for a machine with ease of mould setup, reduced mould costs and reduced floor space.

The two vertical low-pressure structural foam presses have a 125 lb shot capacity each. They accept from one to six moulds mounted and produce from one to 20 components on each cycle. Each of these moulds is filled independently and precisely by Wilmington's Versafil injection system that sequences the mould fill and provides individual shot control to each mould. The machines also have energy saving servo hydraulics.

> www.wilmingtonmachinery.com

At K2019, **Wittmann Battenfeld** will for the first time exhibit in Hall 15 (on Stand C06), which provides the company with an additional 120m² of exhibition space. It says it will showcase intelligent machines with adaptive algorithms, which adjust themselves to the ambient conditions. This will be demonstrated with an all-electric EcoPower 55/350 machine equipped with the software packages HiQ-Flow, HiQ-Melt and HiQ-Metering. A W918 robot and all auxiliary appliances connected with the machine, as well as the TEMI+ MES system, are integrated in the machine's Unilog B8 control system via Wittmann 4.0. The electronic mould data sheet will also be used on Unilog B8. The



production cell linked together via the Wittmann 4.0 router is able to check whether the connected auxiliaries are sufficient for the selected product data set, or if additional equipment is needed.

Demonstrating the HiQ functions, an EcoPower 55/350 machine will produce PC clothes pegs.

The HiQ-Flow function will automatically compensate the effect of material viscosity fluctuations, ensuring stable parts quality and eliminating scrap. To avoid plastic waste, pieces of sprue and bad parts deliberately produced for demonstration purposes will be re-granulated in the new G-Max 9 granulator from Wittmann, and then directly returned to the machine hopper via the vacuum conveying device connected with the granulator.

New machine launches at K2019 include the VPower Combimould vertical model for multicomponent moulding. The VPower 120/130H/210V will make a plug in PA and TPE for the automotive industry in a 2+2-cavity mould. The automation system involves a Scara robot and a WX142 linear robot, which insert the wrap pins, transfer the preforms, then remove and deposit the finished parts.

A medical version of the high-speed EcoPower Xpress 160/1100 machine will produce PET blood tubes in a 48-cavity mould. A special drying hopper is mounted above the injection unit, where the granulate is dried by a frequency-controlled Drymax 300 dryer from Wittmann. In automotive, Wittmann Battenfeld will demonstrate its Cellmould structured foam technology, using a MacroPower 1100/12800 with servo drive to produce a seat bench support for a German sports car in PP.

One of Wittmann Battenfeld's main application technology themes at K 2019 will be silicone injection moulding. Using an EcoPower 160/350 machine, it will produce an LSR valve for medical technology.

Wittmann's wide range of robots and auxiliary equipment will also be represented at K2019. An example is the new Temprom plus D100 temperature controller. Like other Wittmann auxiliaries, the unit can be fully integrated in the control system of a Wittmann Battenfeld injection moulding machine. (Read more about Wittmann in the Materials Handling feature.)

> www.wittmann-group.com

Left: The new Wittmann Battenfeld VPower 120/130H will be shown at the group's new stand in Hall 15