

PRESS RELEASE

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**FachPack 2018:
Industry gathering of packaging specialists**

- **Innovative packaging solutions for consumer & industrial goods**
- **Spotlight on sustainability, digitalisation and design**
- **Packaging material production and machine exports continue to grow**

On 25 September 2018, FachPack, the European trade fair for packaging, processing and technologies, will open its doors at Exhibition Centre Nuremberg. Over a three-day period, 1,644 exhibitors (2016: 1,542) will showcase innovative packaging solutions for consumer and industrial goods for the first time in 12 exhibition halls. More than 40,000 trade visitors will take advantage of the opportunity to get comprehensive information on the new German packaging law before it takes effect in January 2019. Sustainability, digitalisation, e-commerce and packaging design will be the hot topics discussed at the stands and at numerous forums, special shows and events.

“This year too, the lifeblood of FachPack is the highly efficient German packaging industry represented by 1,021 exhibitors. However, there is a noticeable trend towards a more European flavour,” says a delighted Cornelia Fehlner, the new exhibition director for FachPack. This year, 623 exhibitors will travel to Nuremberg from other European countries, primarily Italy, the Netherlands, Poland, Switzerland, the Czech Republic, Austria and Turkey. The total 1,644 exhibitors consist not just of established companies but also a number of start-ups. At the pavilion in Hall 3A subsidised by the German Ministry of Economic Affairs and Energy, 16 young innovative companies will get the opportunity to present themselves and their products to the professional community.

Products on display represent the packaging process chain

FachPack covers a comprehensive range of products along the packaging process chain, from packaging materials and machines to printing and processing, logistics systems and services.

**Veranstalter
Organizer**
NürnbergMesse GmbH
Messezentrum
90471 Nürnberg
Germany
T +49 9 11 86 06-0
F +49 9 11 86 06-8228
fachpack@nuernbergmesse.de
www.fachpack.de

**Vorsitzender des Aufsichtsrates
Chairman of the Supervisory Board**
Dr. Ulrich Maly
Oberbürgermeister der
Stadt Nürnberg
Lord Mayor of the
City of Nuremberg

**Geschäftsführer
CEOs**
Dr. Roland Fleck, Peter Ottmann

**Registergericht
Registration Number**
HRB 761 Nürnberg

The largest exhibition segment, consisting of a total 780 exhibitors, is dedicated to packaging materials and packaging (e.g. paper, cardboard, paperboard, plastic and glass) and packaging accessories (e.g. labels, caps and closures). There will be 560 exhibiting companies showcasing the technical side, i.e. machines for producing and processing packaging, labelling and marking technology, and equipment for quality control, testing or recycling. There are also another 297 firms from the logistics segment with solutions for the storage, loading, order picking and transport of packed goods. Another 224 exhibitors will show the options available for the printing and processing of packaging.

Professional audience from commerce and industry

FachPack is an interesting event for all companies that produce and/or pack consumer or industrial goods. It attracts manufacturers and users of primary, secondary and tertiary packaging along with their sub-suppliers and equipment providers. They come primarily from the food and beverages, pharmaceuticals and medical technology, cosmetics, chemicals and automotive sectors.

Informative and inspiring supporting programme

Numerous forums and special shows offer education and in-depth knowledge on the various aspects of packaging. The two forums TechBox und PackBox, consisting of more than 90 presentations by renowned industry experts, are a real crowd-puller. The **TechBox Forum** in Hall 3 puts the spotlight on packaging technology and logistics and covers topics such as intelligent packaging carriers, data security on packaging lines, or the “Digitalisation Campaign”. The **PackBox Forum** in Hall 7 focuses on packaging topics like printing and processing and includes presentations on innovative packaging solutions for e-commerce, the packaging design of the future or sustainable trends in the European packaging market. All items on the programme are free and there is no need to register. Simultaneous German/English translation will be provided.

Premium packaging in Hall 8

How can design help create a successful brand image? What are the trends in brand communication? And what new packaging materials and technologies are available? Issues such as these will be explored in the

newly populated **Hall 8**, where more than 90 exhibitors will highlight various aspects of high-quality **packaging design, printing and processing**.

Centrepiece of the hall is the **special show “Premium Packaging”** (booth 8-314). Organised in partnership with bayern design, it features around 40 innovative exhibits from all around the world that are sure to impress through their outstanding design or ground-breaking materials. The items on display include: the packaging for an exclusive bottle of wine in the form of a gnarled vine; “smart” food packaging consisting of an innovative sealing film that shows the consumer when the use-by date for the food has expired; or the biodegradable household cleaner “Clean the ocean”, which comes in readily degradable porcelain bottles in various shades of blue.

Award-winning packaging innovations 2018

The exhibition stand of the Deutsches Verpackungsinstitut (German Packaging Institute, dvi) in Hall 6 (booth 6-459) is always well worth a visit, as it displays the winning products from the **German Packaging Award 2018**. This award acknowledges outstanding and innovative solutions from the entire packaging supply chain in 10 categories, including functionality/convenience, sustainability, design/processing, young talent. The award ceremony will be held at 16:00h on the first day of the fair. On the third day at 10:00h, the results will be presented and discussed at the PackBox forum in Hall 7.

Other highlights from the FachPack **supporting programme**:

- Theme park “Packaging in medical technology and pharmacy” (Hall 3A)
- German Ministry of Economic Affairs and Energy (BMWi): Young Innovative Companies Pavilion (Hall 3A)
- Experience the world of solid fibreboard (Hall 9, 9-451)
- “Labels & More” pavilion (Hall 9)
- Robotik-Pack-Line (Hall 3)
- Pavilion of associations (Hall 6)
- Marketplace “Sustainability and plastics – no contradiction” (Hall 7)
- Corrugated Cardboard Forum (26.9.2018, NCC Ost, St. Petersburg Room)

Detailed information is available from: www.fachpack.de/en/events

Continued growth for German packaging market in 2017

According to information from the Gemeinschaftsausschuss Deutscher Verpackungshersteller (Joint Committee of German **Packaging Producers**, GADV), the packaging market grew again in 2017. Around 19 million metric tons of packaging was manufactured. The production volume increased by 1.1 percent and sales rose by 4.6 percent to around EUR 33 billion. Similar to previous years, plastic packaging was the biggest earner at around 44 percent; in terms of volume, packaging made from paper, cardboard and paperboard took the lead over all other packaging materials at around 47 percent.

In respect of production, the strongest growth was in plastic packaging, which was up 2.1 percent, followed by paper, paperboard and cardboard packaging (+2 percent) and glass (+1.7 percent). All packaging categories saw increased sales: In 2017 metal packaging enjoyed the highest growth (+7.8 percent), followed by paper, paperboard and board (+5.6 percent), plastic (+3.9 percent), aluminium (+3.2 percent) and glass (+2.4 percent).

Strong export performance for food processing and packaging machines

German packaging machine manufacturers are in a good position worldwide. According to the VDMA Food Processing and Packaging Machinery Division, they generated more than 80 percent of their revenue abroad. By way of comparison, this is the case for only 73 percent of general machinery manufacturers. For a long time, and with a share of currently 21 percent, Germany has been the largest exporter of food processing and packaging machinery. In 2017, the worldwide export volume was in the region of EUR 41 billion. The sector is benefiting from the growing middle class worldwide. In India and China in particular, millions of people are managing to move up into higher income classes, a development that is associated with increased consumption.

Towards the middle of 2018, exports of food processing and packaging machines were also enjoying guaranteed demand. A low volume of domestic orders was more than compensated by the demand from overseas, so that order inflow grew by 3 percent from January to June 2018 compared with the same period in the previous year. The prospects for the year overall are equally positive. Also sustained by international business,

order inflow for packaging machines (excluding beverage packaging machines) saw real growth of 1 percent compared with the previous year.

Output for food processing and packaging machines rose by 4.8 percent to EUR 14.9 billion in the previous year. This makes this segment the fourth strongest in a total of 32 machine engineering sectors. Exports increased to EUR 8.5 billion (8.4 in the previous year) and the biggest customers were the USA, France and China. Packaging machine production alone grew by 3 percent to EUR 6.6 billion (6.4 in the previous year), of which beverage packaging machines account for EUR 2.2 billion (2.1 in the previous year).

Contact for press and media

Katja Feess, Jasmin McNally

T 49 911 86 06-85 21

F 49 911 86 06-12 85 21

jasmin.mcnally@nuernbergmesse.de

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