

Take a deep breath

Inhaler systems on the march

Whether for the treatment of asthma, chronic bronchitis or diabetes II, the application areas for inhaler systems are constantly increasing. The Freedonia Group predicts an annual average growth rate of 11% to the year 2010.

Basically, inhaler systems can be characterized as nebulizers, dry powder inhalers or metered dose inhalers. For nebulizers, glass or blow-fill-seal ampoules are used as the primary package. On Bosch compact lines, glass ampoules are cleaned, depyrogenized, filled and closed, followed by marking, checking and labelling. Today, environmentally friendly, mono-material boxes are frequently used for the follow-on secondary packaging. Bosch has also developed line solutions for blow-fill-seal ampoules, in which the ampoules are cut out, individualized and then packaged as flowpacks and finally into folding cartons. Metered dose inhalers are assembled

prior to packaging and, with relatively complex geometry, can present a major handling challenge. With dry powder inhalers, there is the additional requirement of reliable protection for the powder dosages. Here, blister-packaged, hard gelatin capsules, as well as dental cartridges, are used. These can be packaged, either individually, or together with blister trays, on Sigpack Systems' horizontal bag makers, in hermetically sealed aluminum laminate bags. A dry powder inhaler packaging solution for Novartis, in England, was introduced in the 2/2006 issue of Packazine. In this issue we take a look at Adamed of Poland.

Adamed – a growing company

Founded in 1986, by a family in the medical profession, Adamed conducts its own research, as well as developing, producing and marketing generic and licensed pharmaceutical drugs. Adamed is one of the largest pharmaceutical companies in Poland, with 500 highly qualified employees and an 88 million USD turnover. Besides two factories in its Polish homeland, Adamed has a site in both the USA and the Ukraine. The company's growth is continuing, with a plant in Spain already being planned. One of the core principles at Adamed is the uncompromising adherence to

Maciej Adamkiewicz, owner and CEO of Adamed





quality standards. All production is carried out in accordance with the requirements of the European Union and GMP (Good Manufacturing Practice). In addition, research and development into new products is an integral part of the company philosophy. In the last three years alone, 20 new patents for active substances and new formulations have been registered.

Adamed is a partner in many national health education programs. One of these is the “Deep Breath” program, which is concerned with “chronic obstructive pulmonary disease” (COPD). This program provides public education on the symptoms, causes and consequences of

the disease, as well as offering information on the diagnostic and treatment possibilities.

Inhaler packaging at Adamed

For packaging dry powder inhalers and blister strips into a folding carton, Adamed uses a horizontal cartoning machine from the Bosch CUT series. Currently, the inhalers are manually placed on the blister stacks. However, equipped with seven servo drives, the CUT can be easily adapted to fit new requirements and is already set up to accept the retrofitting of an automatic infeed.

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Inhaler and blister in the packaging machine – reliably guided for an efficient and troublefree production run.

