

HollisterStier Contract Manufacturing Partners with Bosch Pharma on New Filling Line



When HollisterStier decided to expand its contract fill and finish facility, it selected long-time partner Bosch Packaging Technology.

Decades of experience

HollisterStier Contract Manufacturing is a customer centric group of professionals dedicated to the contract manufacture of high quality sterile injectables for the global pharmaceutical and biopharmaceutical markets. Its multidisciplinary teams provide solutions to customer specific project goals, from clinical trial products through commercialization. HollisterStier is using its decades of experience with the sterile fill market to provide contract customers with a high quality service that reduces time to market and lowers risk.

As part of their commitment to exceptional service, HollisterStier is growing their knowledgeable staff and facility. The company added approximately 70 people last year, bringing the organization to 500 employees at the 172,000 square feet manufacturing facility in Spokane, Washington, USA. Having operated as privately owned company since a management buyout from Bayer in 1999, HollisterStier was recently acquired by Jubilant Organosys in June of 2007. Jubilant is continuing their investment in the Spokane site, which has recently completed the construction

of a 25,000 square feet multi-level office complex and quality control laboratory.

A good investment

In 2006, HollisterStier began a \$30 million expansion, which includes the addition of a commercial manufacturing area and Bosch filling line. The line purchased begins with the **RRN 3084** rotary vial washer followed by the **HQL 4680** depyrogenation tunnel. Filling is accomplished with a **FLC 3080** filling machine using an 8-head rolling diaphragm dosing system. Rolling diaphragm dosing was selected for its gentle product handling

FLC Vial Filler, TRL Trayloader and VRK Capper





and HollisterStier's long history in using this system. After filling, the vials are capped using a **VRK 4010** rotary capping machine. The line ends with a **GLT 4040** tray loader, which can simultaneously load four trays of vials for storage before downstream processing. The line is enclosed in a barrier system to mechanically isolate the process from operators and the surrounding room.

The new Bosch filling line will be ready for production in the second quarter of 2008. Construction for a new packaging line is also currently underway and is expected to be qualified for operation

by the second quarter of 2008. An additional investment of \$3.5 million will add further high speed packaging applications at up to 400 vials per minute.

Long-time partner Bosch

There are a multitude reasons why HollisterStier chose Bosch as the production line supplier for this critical expansion project: (1) diaphragm pump technology, (2) long history of excellent service and spare parts availability out of Minneapolis, Minnesota, (3) Bosch's willingness to implement custom design features that HollisterStier was request-

ing (4) state-of-the-art design features of the production line and (5) maintaining the rolling diaphragm filling technology provides regulatory and client perception advantages for product transfers from the existing HollisterStier Bosch Filler to the new Bosch **FLC 3080** filler.

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