

GLASS News



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Bi-lingual

FIRST-EVER VIRTUAL EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING OF THE AIGMF

Due to the current developments regarding COVID-19, first-ever virtual Ex Com Meeting was held on April 20. The meeting was held over the video-conference facility as the Ministry of Corporate Affairs (MCA) has allowed companies to use video meets, other audio-visual means.

The Executive Committee of the AIGMF also met virtually on May 30 and June 29 to discuss Industry issues including the Pandemic situation.

On April 20, Mr. Manas Kumar Chaudhuri, Competition Law Practice at Khaitan & Co, was invited to apprise members on the use of the



communication both during now and later, extra care be needed to communicate via WhatsApp/Zoom/ Digital platform, etc.

On May 30, Mr. Vikas Guliani – VP (BD & Regulatory) Indian Gas Exchange, Delhi made a presentation on India's first online natural gas trading platform. Mr. Guliani briefed that the exchange will be a nationwide automated spot gas trading platform for physical delivery of natural gas and is expected to go live shortly.

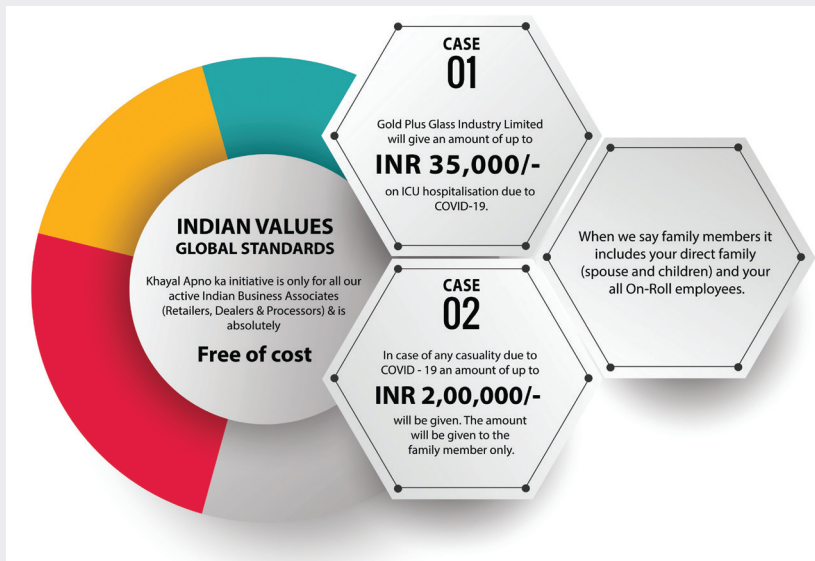
GOLD PLUS CARES

(Khayal Apno ka...खयाल अपनों का)

Gold Plus Glass Industry Limited, a 100% truly Indian float glass producer has come out with a unique welfare initiative during this Pandemic Covid-19 scenario, keeping you and your family members in mind.

To get benefit of this initiative one needs to enrol and provide complete details of direct family members and all on-roll employees and ensure that they are active business associates every month.

A group of panel consisting of processors, dealers and Gold



Plus team will decide suitable compensation on the reported

incidents. The decision of panel will be final.

PIRAMAL GLASS GIVES AWAY GROCERY AND SANITIZATION KITS

Piramal Glass Ltd., HR Teams along with Employee Social Impact Champions and Union Committee Members at their Flacconage manufacturing plants, decoration plant, Packaging & Film Units in Kosamba, Jambusar mobilised resources and reached out to vulnerable groups in nearby community quickly. They distributed 2675 'Grocery Kits' to the needy people in surrounding villages; in collaboration with Chiefs of local village bodies, Government Officials and Members of State Legislative Assembly. The beneficiaries included elderly & homeless people, casual labours.

Their teams also organized stitching of 'Cotton Masks' made through their CSR centres run by women of nearby community. More than 6000 Cotton Masks were distributed in nearby villages, Police & Government Offices.

Additionally, Piramal provided 850 Sanitizer bottles, supported in sanitization of entire village, arranged meals for the poor people at Kanzat village for 4 days, provided food packets for on duty Police staff.

The company organized special transport facility and ensured social distancing for local villagers to attend their duties.

Occupational Health Centre teams organized more than 200 awareness sessions in nearby villages and distributed awareness material based on Government of India Health Guidelines.

Mr. Vijay Shah, Vice Chairman, Piramal Glass said, "For us in Piramal Group; we always strive to support the community; where we operate. During these unprecedented Covid19 pandemic days;



our teams got into action to support needy people from surrounding villages immediately".

"Even though our plants were being managed with the limited manpower; our teams gave equal importance to take care of needy people and made efforts by partnering with local authorities. In no time; they got into action and arranged grocery kits, meals, sanitizers, masks. In fact, our teams had started with awareness sessions in nearby villages; prior to announcement of nationwide lockdown. In addition to contribution of Rs 25 crores to PM CARES Fund by "Piramal Group"; our employees volunteered for contribution to "Gujarat -Chief Minister Relief Fund".

"Responding to COVID-19 is a team effort that we all need to contribute to. Giving back to the community doesn't

just help others – it's a great way to help our community and remain inclusive".

AGI GLASPAC'S HELP TO UNDERPRIVILEGED FAMILIES

AGI glaspac distributed essential commodities to each of the under privileged family from the areas around its factory. The company distributed essential commodities to 1100 families that included 5 kg Rice, 5 kg Aata, 1 kg Dal, 1 kg Oil, etc.

The distribution ceremony was carried by Mr. Madavaram Krishna Rao Garu, Member Legislative Assembly (Kukatpally), and AGI glaspac's President Mr. Rajesh Khosla.

AGI glasspac established in 1972 and is one of the leading container glass manufacturers engaged in the manufacture of high-quality glass



containers to meet the stringent and demanding quality standards of the packaging needs of the Food, Pharmaceuticals, Soft Drinks, Spirits, Beer, Wine and other Industries. Apart from the host of the multinationals who comprise a part of AGI's Indian market, it also has a large customer base in North America, Europe, Africa as well as APAC regions.

GERRESHEIMER PLANTS IN KOSAMBA HELP PEOPLE IN NEED

The company supplied 500 food packages to employees and migrant workers affected by the travel ban due to border closures.

"These 500 food packages will help families to get through what is an extremely difficult time for them. They will continue receiving these packages for as long as the lockdown continues. We have also started a One Day salary Challenge with nearly 350 of our company employees, challenging them in a positive way to donate one day's worth of their basic salary for this cause on a voluntary basis," said Mr. Lakshmananarayanan Reddy, Plant Manager for Gerresheimer in Kosamba.

"By doing this, we are supporting people in these times who have found themselves in this situation through no fault of their own and now simply need our help."

Gerresheimer produces glass containers for liquid and solid medicines in accordance with international standards at its ISO-certified plants in India.

The range includes glass containers such as glass injection vials and ampoules.

With its facilities for producing glass pharmaceutical containers, Gerresheimer's base in Kosamba is



one of the largest employers in the Indian state of Gujarat.

"We are happy to support the community around us during difficult times of COVID-19. Being a Global Pharmaceutical Packaging manufacturer and our employees are committed to serving a continuous process by following social distancing norms, Hygiene practices for continuation of Operations. Our commercial staff from Mumbai office continue to support from home for uninterrupted supplies to Pharma customers in India and around the world. We continue to support the community directly and indirectly for their health and well-being" said Mr. Khasim Saheb, Managing Director Gerresheimer India.

HNG DISTRIBUTES DRY RATION / SANITIZATION KITS & MASKS

HNG, the leading glass company is

deeply concerned and has taken many steps for the welfare of its employees and the neighborhood public at large as the whole world is suffering from the Novel Coronavirus Pandemic. The company continuously supplied the glass bottles to its esteemed customers in food, pharmaceutical, water, energy & health drinks, vials and sanitizers during this period of crisis so that the public is not suffered due to non-availability of essential products which uses its product as a packaging medium.

The company has distributed dry ration kits, sanitization kits & masks to its employees and in the neighborhood areas. Within the company premises, all the employees and family members have been provided with masks, gloves, aprons, shoe covers with foot operated hand washing stations, sanitization



stations, sanitization of all incoming vehicles including the commercial vehicles amongst various steps taken to supply the Covid-19 products. Fumigation was done in all the nearby areas. Pamphlets were distributed and almost 100 sign boards were put across the city to create awareness in the public about the Pandemic and measures to safeguard the precious life of the human beings.

HNG also provided medical kits for doctors who are the warriors in fight against the Pandemic and respected their contribution for the society. Dry ration kits and face masks were provided to the needy people through the SDM Bahadurgarh. The company also contributed generously to the fund which was required for the stay and boarding of the para military forces. Various ayurvedic products, homeopathy medicines were also provided to the employees and nearby people to boost the immunity and maintain the critical body parameters.

The efforts were appreciated by Deputy Magistrate – Distt Jhajjar, SDM Bahadurgarh, DIC Bahadurgarh, Chairperson Municipality Bahadurgarh and host of leading and respected people of the area. HNG is pleased to contribute to the society in all its manufacturing units and offices across India on similar lines. HNG wishes to join the fight against the Pandemic with the people and the Govt for the welfare of mankind.

SGD PHARMA DONATES MASKS AND SANITIZERS

India is going through a difficult period with the outbreak of Corona virus Pandemic. Many organizations have come forward to make their contributions in this challenging time.

An important initiative was taken by SGD Pharma, by donating masks and sanitizers to the healthcare workers, task force and government officials in

इमर्ज ग्लास कंपनी प्रबंधन ने तहसीलदार को सौंपे 50 हजार के मास्क



केशवाना औद्योगिक क्षेत्र स्थित इमर्ज ग्लास कंपनी प्रबंधन ने तहसील प्रशासन को कोरोना वायरस से लड़ने के लिए 50 हजार के मास्क सौंपे।

महाप्रबंधक सुनील अग्रवाल ने तहसीलदार अनूप सिंह को मास्क भेंट किए। इससे पहले कंपनी ने राशन किट जरूरतमंदों को वितरित किए थे।

Mahabubnagar, Telangana. The local authorities expressed their gratitude for contribution against COVID-19.

“We are very thankful for the valuable donations made by SGD Pharma during this difficult time” said Mr. Ala Venkateshwar Reddy, Member of Legislative Assembly, Devarkadra, Mahabubnagar, Telangana.

AGI GLASPAC UNVEILS ANTIBACTERIAL FOOD GLASS JAR, WATER BOTTLES

AGI glaspac, a manufacturer of integrated container-glass, has launched its antibacterial range of food storage glass jars and bottles, through its retail segment Greendrop Glassware.

The antibacterial jars and water bottles are infused with ‘Germ Guard Technology’. This new line of product will be available for sale on e-commerce sites such as Amazon, Flipkart, Snapdeal, and in PayTM Mall.

Germ Guard technology is a nanotechnology-based anti-microbial composite that inhibits and destroys the growth of deadly bacteria, fungus and moulds. This has been tested earlier for various norms and compliance procedures in Biotech Testing Services, Mumbai. It showed the efficiency of 99.99 per cent against the microbes under numerous test procedures.



These are inorganic in nature, non-toxic, heat and non-corrosive and has stability of up to 1300 degrees Celsius.

AGI glaspac has also used active silver technology, which is behind these germ-free products.

Mr. Rajesh Khosla, President and CEO of AGI glaspac, in a statement said, *“Due to the on-going Pandemic, consumers are in a lookout for sanitised and germ-free products. We added these antibacterial food glass jars and water bottles to our growing list of innovative product launches. We are happy to enable end-consumers to make improved lifestyle choices and help in achieving our commitment to creating a healthy and safe environment.”*

This new range of products will add to AGI glaspac’s foothold in the glass packaging industry. These airtight products can be used to store dry groceries, snacks, pickles, savouries and more and will help the consumers opt for a healthier lifestyle.

ARDAGH GROUP: SURGE IN DEMAND FOR GLASS MILK BOTTLES IN THE USA

Ardagh Group, Glass – North America, a business unit of Ardagh Group and its long-term partner Stanpac are providing glass milk bottles to meet increased demand during the Coronavirus Pandemic.

“Stanpac has been working 24/7 to keep up with the consumer demand for our customers’ dairy products across the country,” said Mr. Murray Bain, Vice President Marketing at Stanpac. *“It has been a challenge, but so critically important to keep our customers serving consumers across the nation in a challenging time.”*

Consumers are becoming more committed to environmental sustainability and prefer products and packaging that complement this

lifestyle. Glass bottles are 100 percent recyclable and can be recycled endlessly without any loss in purity or quality. Returnable glass milk bottles are a clear choice for a sustainable future, as they can be refilled and reused, cutting down on the amount of waste sent to landfills, helping to keep approximately 500,000 pounds of milk containers out of the landfill each year, according to Straus Family Creamery’s website, an organic dairy in Northern California that also uses glass refillable bottles.

“Ardagh takes great pride in working alongside Stanpac to provide sustainable glass packaging for dairy brands across America,” said Mr. John T Shaddox, Chief Commercial Officer for Ardagh’s North American Glass business unit. *“Glass packaging is increasingly being recognised as the right choice for brands to strengthen their business and their own sustainability platform, while delivering consumers the best in product integrity, safety and environmental excellence.”*

US INVESTS IN DRUG VIALS TO SUPPORT CORONA VIRUS VACCINE PUSH

The U.S. Government is handing hundreds of millions of dollars to help two manufacturers of drug vials dramatically increase production, part of an expansive and ambitious effort to prepare for the success of a Corona virus vaccine.

Drug developers like Moderna, Pfizer and AstraZeneca are quickly advancing experimental vaccines through clinical trials, readying manufacturing in parallel should testing prove a candidate safe and effective.

In separate contracts announced, the the Biomedical Advanced Research and Development Authority, or BARDA, and the Department of Defense agreed to provide \$204

million to New York’s Corning, and \$143 million to the Auburn, Alabama-based SiO2 Materials Science.

Collectively, the leading Corona virus vaccine developers are projecting to make more than 6 billion doses of their experimental candidates through next year, a staggering total that would stretch drug factories across the world to the limit.

Most vaccines won’t succeed, or at least not on the highly ambitious timelines their developers have now sketched out. But their projections give some sense of the enormous manufacturing challenge that stands in the way of global inoculation.

With the help of government funds, drug makers are refitting existing factories and securing production capacity with contractors to ensure they can produce their vaccines at scale. But to get any successful vaccine to hundreds of millions of people, companies will also need vast quantities of vials.

Pharmaceutical company CEOs are also concerned. Some, including the heads of Pfizer, Johnson & Johnson and AstraZeneca, are considering whether they could fit five or even 10 vaccine doses into a single vial to conserve supplies.

The BARDA grants to Corning and SiO2 should help increase the number of vials available, at least in the U.S. Funding is part of ‘Operation Warp Speed,’ a Trump administration initiative that aims to ready a vaccine for use by Americans at the end of this year, or early next.

Corning, a large glass manufacturer that already works with pharma, will use the money to scale up tubing and vial manufacturing at its plants in New York, North Carolina and New Jersey. Vaccine developers designated by BARDA will get priority access to this additional supply, the company said, a

potentially significant benefit to being chosen for Operation Warp Speed.

No drug makers were specified, but Corning recently signed an agreement to provide glass vials to Pfizer, which has partnered with the German BioNTech on a Corona virus vaccine.

"SiO₂ will use BARDA's cash to scale up capacity to make 10 million vials per month by November," said Mr. Lawrence Ganti, the company's Chief Business Officer.

"Three Corona virus drug developers are currently working with SiO₂," said Mr. Ganti. The company, which is private, has previously received investment from Novartis, and works with a number of other drug makers on medicines in development for diseases other than COVID-19.

SiO₂ is also planning to hire 200 engineers and scientists as a result of the BARDA grant, additions that would roughly double its current workforce.

GLASSTEC 2020 POSTPONED – NEW DATES: 15 – 18 JUNE 2021

The effects of the Corona virus have now also impacted glasstec 2020, which will be postponed to 15 to 18 June 2021. In view of the continued uncertainties in terms of travel restrictions and quarantine provisions in the core target markets Messe Düsseldorf has opted in favour of these new dates in close coordination with the trade fair's advisory board and all partners involved. The world's No.1 trade fair for the glass industry was originally planned to take place from 20 to 23 October. Messe Düsseldorf is already busy cooperating with the associations to offer digital service formats for 2020 with the aim of bringing customers and exhibitors together and digitally place the information and ranges available at glasstec at the disposal of interested trade visitors on the original trade

fair dates. Further details will follow shortly.

"The economic crisis caused by the Corona Pandemic has also hit the glass industry and its machinery and equipment manufacturers hard. Many companies are forced to switch to crisis mode and put all investments – including trade fair participations – to the test to mitigate possible negative economic impacts. Potential travel restrictions and the protection of visitors' and exhibitors' health will have an impact on visitor numbers. A smaller glasstec 2020 with markedly fewer visitors would in our view not do justice to the trade fair. glasstec has been and will be the most important global event for the glass industry, mechanical engineering and skilled crafts; and since it should continue to be that way we decided to postpone. In 2021, we expect a strong glasstec with high international attendance, ideally in perfect sync with a phase of economic recovery after Corona," says Mr. Egbert Wenninger, Chairman of the glasstec advisory board and Chairman of VDMA's Glass Technology Forum.

Commenting on the re-scheduling Dr. Johann Overath, Director General of the Federal Association of the Glass Industry (BVG e.V.) says: *"glasstec is the leading trade fair for glass. It thrives on the international cross-section of its visitors and brings together people from throughout the world with a passion for the material that is glass. Many companies and visitors, however, will abstain from participating this year in the face of the Covid-19 Pandemic and/or heavily cut down their engagement at the trade fair for economic reasons. We therefore back the decision taken by Messe Düsseldorf to not hold glasstec this year. glasstec should be postponed to a point in time where glass rather than the Coronavirus is centre stage."*

Thankful for the cooperation of all partners in this special situation, Mr.

Werner M. Dornscheidt, President & CEO of Messe Düsseldorf, says: *"In close consultation with the industry associations, major exhibitors as well as many other partners, we have succeeded in agreeing on these new dates. We are happy to help all parties involved reliably plan with this joint decision. Needless to say, we are also in close contact with the hospitality sector and all other industries and trades affected by the re-scheduling with a view to coming up with viable solutions".*

Mr. Dornscheidt goes on to say: *"The safety and health of our visitors, exhibitors and employees will, of course, also be our highest priority at the upcoming event. Appropriate precautions are being developed and taken in partnership with our conceptual partners (the Mechanical Engineering Industry Association VDMA, the Federal Association of the German Glass Industry and the Federal Guild Association of the Glazier Trade). The Düsseldorf Exhibition Centre continues to be characterised by a high degree of hygiene as well as good medical care for the upcoming fairs in autumn 2020. We are closely monitoring current developments and are in direct contact with the authorities for that matter. This ensures that any new findings are exchanged quickly and measures can be adapted."*

GLASS EXPERTS HELP TO SECURE NEW £1.5 M PROJECT FUNDING

Researchers at UK based Glass Technology Services have secured funding as part of the Innovate UK 'Transforming Foundation Industries: Fast Start Projects' funding call for a number of projects as part of a wider consortium of companies.

Four project bids were successful in receiving over £1.5m to deliver the new projects. Awarded by Innovate UK and UK Research and Innovation, the aim of the funding is to bring businesses from different foundation

industries together to work on common resource and energy efficiency opportunities.

Glass Technology Services will lead one of the awarded projects – EnviroAsh – Development of new waste-derived raw materials for the Foundation Industries – whilst supporting the delivery of the further three projects providing glass industry access and expertise.

Senior Technologist, Dr. Owen McGann from Glass Technology Services commented, *“The funding secured by Glass Technology Services and our partners in the transforming future industries (TFI) call will enable us to continue working with the glass industry in reducing its energy demands and generation of carbon dioxide”.*

“We will collaborate in four distinct projects which all seek to lead to positive change in the glass industry; identifying routes to convert waste streams into new raw materials, enhancing inspection techniques to reduce costly post processing, developing new techniques for forming glass components with lower energy use or through the direct harvesting of energy from industrial heat emissions.”

“We believe, alongside our collaborators, that these projects will directly benefit both the glass industry and wider foundation industries. Through these projects Glass Technology Services is maintaining its position at the forefront of research and development in the UK glass sector”.

The EnviroAsh project brings together partners from across six foundation industries – glass, ceramics, steel, paper, cement and chemicals – as well as the energy sector, academia and the waste and raw material supply chain.

The project will identify opportunities to take waste ashes, slags, mineral by-products and filter dusts from across

the foundation industries and convert them into new raw materials for a range of products in the glass, ceramic and cement industries and is a follow on from a current Glass Technology Services’ project EnviroGlass2.

Another goal of the project will be to explore how these new feedstocks might create opportunities to improve product performance in a cost-effective manner. Using practical lab demonstrations and commercial-scale demonstrations, the consortium will assess how the new- waste materials can be incorporated into existing products and processes.

Work on this project is due to kick off in July 2020.

Dr. Marlin Magallanes, Project Lead for EnviroAsh said, *“We are delighted to receive funding to expand upon an established consortium introducing new partners from others foundation industries. The work we have undertaken can revolutionise glass manufacture by using waste materials and can support the important goal to decarbonise the glass industry.”*

The EnviroAsh consortium, led by Glass Technology Services includes Sheffield Hallam University, The University of Sheffield, Power Minerals, Glassworks Services, Glass Futures, Encirc, Saica Paper, Drax Power, Wienerberger and Castle Cement.

HAL A GLOBAL PROVIDING LEADER WITH OVER 24+ YEARS’ EXPERIENCE

Heat Applications India Pvt. Ltd., has expanded its global network into Australia with its new arm, Heat Applications Global Pty Ltd. Having its base in Sydney to serve the Australian & South East Asian Market, HAL has an unparalleled count of over 3000+ successful projects in the Glass industry across the globe, ranging from Float Furnace’s to Container Furnace’s, HAL delivers its expertise in controlled Furnace Heat-up & expansion control, Rapid Cullet Filling, High Speed Draining for up to 25 Tonnes per hour, Controlled Furnace Cool Down & Contraction Control, Rapid Furnace Cool Down, Hot/Cold Drilling for Booster, T/C, Bubbler Installation, Thermal Decongestion of Regenerators, Full end to end Turnkey Operations on Glass to Glass Projects along with detailed Furnace inspections.

HAL Chairman Mr. Tony Kirkham, originally from the UK, has teamed up together with three generations of his family members, all working closely together in unity with over 100+ years of combined experience and expertise, HAL has a team of more than 70+ professionals throughout the industry providing day to day answers & solutions



to most complex challenges. A worldwide network of experienced professionals, along with the highest quality obtainable in the industry of specialised burner management control systems, HAL has over 300+ sets of portable heating appliances around the globe providing with reliable, trustworthy, and consistent on time deliveries, superior technology makes HAL as one of the leaders in providing solutions to the Glass Industry. The Hallmark of HAL is its ability to respond to clients' needs, and requirements across the globe, 24 x7 and provide with value-added solutions.

ADANI GREEN WINS WORLD'S LARGEST SOLAR PROJECT WORTH \$6 BILLION

Adani Green Energy Ltd., has bagged a manufacturing-linked solar contract from the Solar Energy Corporation of India (SECI) to develop 8 GW of projects. The transaction is valued at ₹ 45,000 crore, or \$6 billion, according to a stock exchange filing.

As part of the order, Adani Solar will establish 2 GW of additional solar cell and module manufacturing capacity.

With this win, Adani Green will have 15 GW capacity under operation, construction or under contract. The company targets achieving an installed generation capacity of 25 GW of renewable power by 2025 at an investment of ₹1.12 trillion, or \$15 billion, in the renewable energy space in the next five years.

"We are honoured to be selected by SECI for this landmark solar award. In today's world, climate adaptation cannot be considered independent of economic development priorities and both, job creation as well as decarbonisation must be simultaneous objectives," said Mr. Gautam Adani, Chairman of the Adani Group.

"India made a commitment at the 2015 United Nations Climate Change Conference in Paris that it would lead the climate change revolution and today is the leader among the just eight nations on track to meet their COP21 commitments," Mr. Adani added.

Based on the awarded agreement, the 8 GW of solar projects will be implemented over the next five years. The first 2 GW of generation capacity will come online by 2022 and the subsequent 6 GW capacity will be added in 2 GW annual increments by 2025.

The projects will include a variety of locations, including a 2 GW single-site generation project. The solar cell and module manufacturing capacity of 2 GW will be established by 2022, and along with the existing 1.3 GW of capacity, will make the group India's largest solar manufacturing facility.

ARDAGH GROUP SUPPLIES GLASS BOTTLES TO HERITAGE DISTILLING CO. FOR HAND SANITIZER

Ardagh Group, Glass – North America, a business unit of Ardagh Group has partnered with Heritage Distilling Co. to produce and supply glass bottles for hand sanitizer during the Coronavirus Pandemic.

Shortly after COVID-19 was declared a Pandemic, Heritage Distilling Co. switched from producing and bottling spirits to producing and bottling FDA- and WHO-compliant hand sanitizer for consumer and business use at their Gig Harbor, Wash., and Eugene, Ore., distilleries.

The hand sanitizer is packaged in the 750 ml Inspiration Stelvin ECO Series® glass bottle, manufactured in the U.S. by Ardagh. This ECO Series bottle is developed and designed to maintain high-quality appeal while lessening the overall environmental

impact by requiring less energy demand, transportation impact and CO₂ emissions.

PIRAMAL GLASS SEES SURGE IN VIALS DEMAND DUE TO COVID-19

India's Piramal Glass Pvt. Ltd., has seen a 30% jump in sales of specialty vials used to bottle medicines in the June quarter, led by a surge in demand as more drugs are being made to combat the COVID-19 Pandemic.

The privately held Mumbai-based firm, part of Indian billionaire Mr. Ajay Piramal's drugs-to-financial services conglomerate, is projecting a 30% jump in revenue from Type I borosilicate glass vials in 2020-21.

"There has been an upsurge in demand because of some adjunct therapies being used in hospitals for COVID patients," said Mr. Vijay Shah, Vice Chairman, Piramal Glass.

Mr. Shah assured it was in a position to double output of borosilicate glass used in vials to 90 tons per day, if given a month's advance notice. The firm, one of the world's largest glass packagers with four plants, now produces 45 tons per day of such glass, translating to about 1.2 million vials a day.

The projections come as drug makers warn of a potential shortage of specialty glass vials to store future COVID-19 vaccines.

"News that there may be a shortage of vials is unfounded, because there is sufficient capacity in the industry to increase production, if needed," said Mr. Shah.

The firm has been in talks with France's Sanofi and Indian firms Cadila Healthcare, Bharat Biotech, and state-run BICCOL for possible deals.

Mr. Shah said Cadila had asked Piramal Glass to reserve production for hundreds of thousands of vials

for the next three months for dexamethasone, a steroid hailed as a breakthrough for seriously ill COVID-19 patients.

"Bharat Biotech - which is developing a potential COVID-19 vaccine - and BIBCOLD asked Piramal to reserve output for tens of millions of vials", said Mr. Shah.

PASSING AWAY OF AJIT KUMAR GUPTA

Mr. Ajit Kumar Gupta, Former Hon. Treasurer AIGMF (2011-12) and MD Prashant Glass Works (P) Ltd., passed away on June-25 at Varanasi (Uttar Pradesh).



A one-minute silence was observed for the departed soul in the Executive Committee Meeting of AIGMF held on June 29.

PROF. (DR.) VINAY KUMAR SINGH, IIT (BHU) APPOINTED AS MEMBER EDITORIAL BOARD, KANCH

On the retirement of Prof. Devender Kumar, Prof. (Dr.) Vinay Kumar Singh, HoD, Dept. of Ceramic Engineering, IIT (BHU) Banaras Hindu University was appointed as Member Editorial Board, Kanch.

Prof. Singh holds B.Tech., M.Tech. and Ph.D I.T. degrees, all from the Dept. of Ceramic Engineering, Banaras Hindu University. His areas of interest are Bio-Ceramics, Cements, Dental Materials, Glass, Refractories, Metal-

Ceramic Composites, Whitewares and Ceramic Coatings, Ceramic colours and frits, Abrasive products, etc.

GLASS PACKAGING IS THE TOP CHOICE FOR ENVIRONMENTALLY CONSCIOUS CONSUMERS, NEW SURVEY REVEALS

As industries, businesses and politicians make strong commitments to initiatives like the European Green Deal and the UN Sustainable Development Goals, consumers all over Europe are taking more and more steps to reduce their environmental footprint – and latest figures from the glass industry show that awareness of recycling and environmental impact is increasingly driving everyday purchasing decisions.

An independent consumer research survey carried out among more than 10,000 consumers across 13 European countries, commissioned by Friends of Glass and the European Container Glass Federation (FEVE), reveals that people are buying more glass than ever before: half of consumers are now buying more products in glass packaging than three years ago. At the same time, 9 in 10 people would recommend glass as the best packaging material to friends and family; an 11% increase compared to 2016.

These findings are driven by the high recyclability of glass, along with a growing consumer awareness of its environmental credentials. With an extensive network of local recycling facilities and made from recycled glass and raw materials (sand, soda ash, limestone) found in nature, glass is 100% and infinitely recyclable in a local closed loop system, making recycled glass a vital resource for new production. In fact, 2 in 5

consumers actively choose glass over other packaging materials specifically because they see it as more recyclable than any other packaging.

According to the survey, the environmental impact of packaging is seen as an important decision driver in food and beverage purchases, with the majority of consumers (3 in 4) 'highly concerned' about littering of food containers and 1 in 3 respondents citing this as their most important consideration. At the same time, 46% of Europeans state that they have significantly decreased their consumption of plastic to prevent littering in the environment.

Glass consistently scores as the most environmentally-friendly packaging material: overwhelmingly, it comes out on top in addressing contamination and environmental issues, particularly when it comes to avoiding food littering (glass rated 'best in class' by 43% of respondents), avoiding packaging waste (by 43% of respondents) and addressing climate change (by 48% of respondents).

The findings also reveal that the vast majority of consumers are recycling their glass packaging: 84% of Europeans state that they collect their glass separately for recycling, with 8 in 10 correctly disposing of caps and lids separately. Taking used glass to a local bottle bank is considered the most convenient disposal method across Europe.

All these figures mark a step in the right direction towards a Circular Economy in Europe and achieving important sustainability goals, such as a real glass recycling rate of 70% by 2025, and 75% by 2030 per country. To this end, the glass industry is rolling out 'Close the Glass Loop' – an industry platform to increase the quantity and quality of recycled glass by establishing a material stewardship programme that will result in more post-consumer

collection and bottle-to-bottle recycling. This includes industry and municipal efforts to establish separate collection networks, coupled with communication tools to engage citizens to separate and sort their glass waste for recycling. The results are released on the same day that ‘Close the Glass Loop’ stakeholders are holding an online conference to discuss how to improve collection and recycling of glass throughout the value chain.

In parallel, the industry is making rapid strides in becoming climate neutral: for the first time ever, a large group of European container glass manufacturers have joined forces to build the ‘Furnace of the Future’ – the world’s first large-scale hybrid electric furnace to run on 80% green electricity, set to replace current fossil-fuel energy sources and cut CO₂ emissions by 50%. Due to be operational by 2022, the furnace will be able to melt all kinds of glass together with recycled glass – thereby dramatically reducing CO₂ emissions.

Commenting on the survey results, Mr. Michael Delle Selve, Senior Communications Manager of FEVE, the European Container Glass Federation said: *“As we prepare to mark another Earth Day, it’s heartening to see that not only is glass recycling on the rise across Europe, with a collection rate of 76%, but that the benefits of glass packaging and recycling are strongly resonating with consumers. Our ambition is to achieve both a collection rate of 90% by 2030 and full recycling of collected glass packaging – so that people don’t just recycle, but recycle more and better. At the end of the day, we all get out what we put in, which is why we’re urging everyone to join us in our effort to collect and recycle every single glass bottle. It’s simple, easy to do and it’ll make a huge impact on our planet and a huge difference for future generations.”*

HEYE SWABBING ROBOTS COMMISSIONED IN CHINA

The latest production expansion at one of China’s leading beer bottle producers features three swabbing robots and Press Duration Control PDC equipment sourced from Germany’s Heye International GmbH. The swabbing robots are the first to be installed by Heye in the country.

Shandong Jingyao Glass Group Co. Ltd., has invested strongly in the high speed production of lightweight bottles in recent years. As well as supplying bottles for China’s iconic Tsingtao beer, the company has emerged as an important source for such global brands as AB InBev, Carlsberg, Heineken and Snow Beer.

The glassworks in Linyi City, Shandong Province features four melting furnaces and 16 high speed production lines, with a combined nominal capacity of 1000 tons/day.

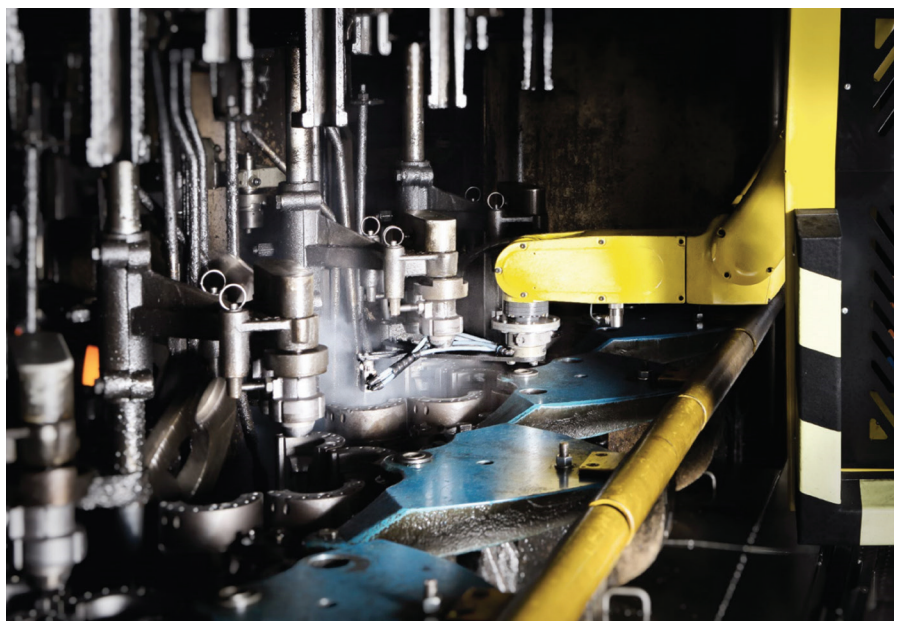
Some of the world’s most advanced Narrow Neck Press and Blow process glass container production technology is operated at the site, including a series of advanced Heye International IS machines and associated equipment.

As part of the company’s ongoing investment programme, Shandong Jingyao Glass has worked closely with Heye International to install China’s first automatic swabbing robots and to guarantee that machine operators are properly trained to operate the equipment effectively. The robots deliver zero rejects and avoid section stops during swabbing. Compared to conventional swabbing methods, lubricant savings of up to 75% are possible.

According to Heye’s Mr. Andy Lee, improved operator safety is assured, with stable and repeatable volume, thickness and location of swabbing provided, making more time available for operators to focus on production optimisation. *“Installation and commissioning of the three robots and associated process controls was successfully realised in close collaboration with the customer,”* he confirmed.

Separately, the glass maker has invested in a PlantPilot information technology solution from Heye International and initiated a technical assistance agreement with the production technology specialist to improve and optimise NNPB technology at the site ■

(News Source: AIGMF Research Team / World Wide Web)



3rd AIGMF Glass Awards

Supported by:



In recognition of its tremendous contribution to Indian Glass Industry, The All India Glass Manufacturers' Federation (AIGMF) announces C K Somany Award for Innovation & Technology and Balkrishna Gupta Award for Exports.

C K Somany Award for Innovation and Technology will be given to an individual who has made significant contributions to the glass industry in the field or fields of manufacturing, product development, environmental factors, business performance/growth, research and development and/or science/technology.

Balkrishna Gupta Award for Exports will be given to an individual/firm by considering following factors: who have contributed towards identification or growth of new potential markets/volume of exports/reaching no. of countries or any other area showcasing valuable contribution in Glass Exports.

Winners of 2019 Awards

CK Somany Award for Innovation and Technology: Mr. B.L. Kheruka of Gujarat Borosil Ltd.
Balkrishna Gupta Award for Exports: M/s Firozabad Glass Shell Industries

Winners of 2018 Awards

CK Somany Award for Innovation and Technology: Mr. S K Jhunjhunwala of La Opala RG Ltd.
Balkrishna Gupta Award for Exports: M/s Piramal Glass Ltd.

Referral applications can also be submitted by Regional Associations: U.P. Glass Manufacturers' Syndicate (UPGMS)- Firozabad; South India Glass Manufacturers' Association (SIGMA)- Hyderabad; Western India Glass Manufacturers' Association (WIGMA)-Mumbai; Northern India Glass Manufacturers' Association (NIGMA)- Bahadurgarh, Haryana and Eastern India Glass Manufacturers' Association (EIGMA)- Kolkata, who may give recommendation for giving award to a likely individual.

AIGMF may also take help of Banaras Hindu University (BHU-Ceramic Glass Division), CGCRI (Central Glass and Ceramic Research Institute), CCPS (Confederation of Construction Products and Services) and FOSG (Federation of Safety Glass), for identifying suitable candidates for the award.

3rd Awards in these categories are likely to be given during Annual General Meeting in Sept 2020.

The jury for awards will comprise of:

- Dr. K. Annapurna, Senior Principal Scientist, Glass Division, CSIR-Central Glass & Ceramic Research Institute (CSIR-CGCRI), Kolkata
- Mr. Dave Fordham, Publisher, Glass Worldwide, London (UK)
- Mr. Bharat Somany, Senior Vice President AIGMF and Vice President HNG Industries Ltd., Bahadurgarh (Haryana)
- Mr. M K Bansal, Executive Committee Member AIGMF and Partner, Shri Sitaram Glass Works, Firozabad (UP)
- Mr. Vinit Kapur, Secretary AIGMF, Delhi

Applications are invited at info@aigmf.com from within India from all those connected with glass industry who may submit a brief write-up/CV in support of their candidature latest by August 15, 2020 ■

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will carry detailed coverage of the AIGMF Executive Committee and Annual General Meetings, 3rd Drawing/Painting Competition, AIGMF Glass Awards, Glass Protects- an exhibition of drawings and paintings by school children, Technical Articles, Glass News, other supported Events and more.

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