Henkel presents product innovations and its food safety commitment at Interpack 2017

Mastering food safety in adhesives for packaging and labels

Protecting brands and consumers is at the heart of Henkel’s packaging adhesives business. With its Food Safe Packaging Initiative, Henkel takes a closer look at adhesive-related aspects of food packaging. Striving to constantly improve safety and sustainability of packaging, Henkel invites collaborators along the food packaging value chain to an open dialogue at this year’s Interpack fair in Düsseldorf from May 4th until May 10th. At Interpack, Henkel presents product innovations that, in addition to being food safe, increase production efficiency and operational safety for its customers.

“Packaging is the unsung, versatile hero of the food supply chain: It has to be attractive and convenient. Most of all, however, it has to keep the food safe and protect it from adverse environmental factors like light, pressure or contamination. Of course, packaging also has to be food safe itself”, Dr. Monika Tönnießen, Manager Product Safety and Regulatory Affairs at Henkel says. She explains: “Food safety in this sense means minimizing the risk of undesired substances migrating from packaging into the foodstuff. Migration of so-called chemicals under discussion is a complex field. And the regulatory legislation is of equal complexity. This is leading to a need for guidance and transparency in the market. Therefore, creating transparency for our customers is at the heart of our commitment to food safety.”

For Henkel, this commitment to transparency includes broadening its communication on food safe packaging to address a wider range of stakeholders – from experts like packaging developers and food safety managers to generalists like plant managers, brand owners, retailers – and even consumers.
It means sharing adhesive expertise right from development phase of packaging, through to running safe processes during packaging operations to ultimately having the right documentation to prove safety for customers. Beyond this, Henkel is providing its customers with clarity on the ingredients of adhesive solutions.

**Meeting highest standards in food and occupational safety with Ultra Low Monomer Technology for flexible laminates**

Specifically designed for film-film and film-foil laminates, which have to show an increased resistance to aggressive fillings or hot water during boiling procedures, Ultra Low Monomer adhesives contain only a minimum amount of free isocyanate monomers. Thus they reduce the amount of primary aromatic amines (PAA) that could be formed from the outset. Loctite Liofol LA 3712 / LA 6222 is one of these adhesives. It is a 2-K solvent based laminating adhesive for medium to medium-high performance that is factually PAA-free right after lamination. It can be used for a large variety of laminates and thus sets a new industry benchmark in food safety. With an isocyanate monomer content far below 0.1%, it will be exempted from further regulation under the ECHA proposal for a restriction on diisocyanates, dated October 2016. Thus, application of this adhesive will not require any training for safe handling of diisocyanates. The new adhesive system also improves productivity in the converting process and allows for slitting within 24 hours.

**New Technomelt Supra applications – making machine maintenance safer**

To assist food producers and packaging suppliers, Henkel provides Technomelt Supra adhesives that fulfill the legal requirements on safety of food contact materials. Henkel has a triple safety evaluation competence for food contact intended adhesives: It includes the assessment of supplier information, analytical assessments of raw material and final products as well as toxicological checks. This approach ensures substances that can potentially migrate, including mineral oils, will not exceed specific migration limits stated in current legislation.
Henkel is extending its current product range by two new and innovative solutions with exceptionally clean running properties. The non-stringing products were designed to increase overall efficiency of packaging lines and reduce costs. Technomelt Supra 222 Plus shows high adhesion combined with high heat resistance. Technomelt Supra 200 Plus has been designed for very high speed packaging lines. Both products can be recommended for food packaging applications.

**Low temperature adhesives increase safety and improve sustainability**

Henkel’s new all-rounder adhesive Technomelt Cool 190 is an adhesive with a high adhesion potential and thermostability used in a wide range of paper boards. The low processing temperature of only 120 to 150 degrees Celsius leads to a significant improvement in occupational safety. Beyond minimizing potential injury risks for operators, the lower application temperature of Technomelt Cool 190 significantly reduces the energy consumption in the packaging process.

**New Technomelt Cleaner Pure – making machine maintenance safer**

With Technomelt Cleaner Pure, Henkel has introduced a new high performance surface cleaner that has a significantly lower CLP classification. It only carries an H319 classification – opposed to standard cleaners with H226, H317, H304 and H315 classifications. This means, operators only need to wear protective goggles when working with this cleaner. Hence, this cleaner reduces risks both to the operators and the environment significantly.

**Assuring high lamination quality “on the run”**

Henkel is also introducing a new inline, contactless and non-destructive coating weight measurement system for flexible laminates: Lio-Scan. This system can be retrofit in almost all common laminating machines. It significantly improves reliability of operations by immediately indicating any deviation from the specified coating weight, minimizing risks of potential claims and reducing material waste at the same time. For the measurement, Henkel’s innovative system is equipped with an automatically oscillating infrared sensor moving along the film sideways without contact to the material. This sensor measures the isocyanate content, thus achieving highest coating weight precision. The system covers the full width of the film. It is not
limited to transparent films but can also be used for printed or metallized films and aluminum of various thicknesses.

**Discover Henkel’s adhesive solutions at Interpack 2017**

Henkel will present more examples of product innovations and system solutions at Interpack from May 4th until May 10th. Discover Henkel’s adhesive solutions and learn more about Henkel’s commitment to food safe packaging in hall 7, booth C10.

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**About Henkel**

Henkel operates globally with a well-balanced and diversified portfolio. The company holds leading positions with its three business units in both industrial and consumer businesses thanks to strong brands, innovations and technologies. Henkel Adhesive Technologies is the global leader in the adhesives market – across all industry segments worldwide. In its Laundry & Home Care and Beauty Care businesses, Henkel holds leading positions in many markets and categories around the world. Founded in 1876, Henkel looks back on more than 140 years of success. In 2016, Henkel reported sales of 18.7 billion euros, adjusted operating profit of 3.2 billion euros. Its three top brands, Persil (detergent), Schwarzkopf (hair care) and Loctite (adhesive) generated more than 6 billion euros in combined sales. Henkel employs more than 50,000 people globally – a passionate and highly diverse team, united by a strong company culture, a common purpose to create sustainable value, and shared values. As a recognized leader in sustainability, Henkel holds top positions in many international indices and rankings. Henkel’s preferred shares are listed in the German stock index DAX. For more information, please visit www.henkel.com

**Photo material is available at http://www.henkel.com/press**

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Dr. Monika Tönnießen, Manager Product Safety & Regulatory Affairs

Henkel offers product solutions to help customers reaching the highest level of food safety