

Press release Syntegon Technology

A winning idea: Syntegon paper-ON-form tech garners IVS Innovation Award

- Schaffhausen banks recognize innovative Syntegon solution
- Paper-ON-form retrofit kit for packaging machines enables food manufacturers to transition from plastic to paper
- Syntegon donates CHF 10,000 prize money to Neuhausen-based go tec! lab, an initiative to get kids excited about technology and science

Beringen, Switzerland, July 13, 2023. On June 14, the paper-ON-form retrofit kit for packaging machines developed by [Syntegon](#) in Beringen took first place to win the IVS Innovation Award sponsored by Swiss banks. Syntegon's technology enables food manufacturers to retrofit their machines to handle special paper in place of plastic, thereby making their packaging far more sustainable. The company donated the prize money, 10,000 Swiss francs, to Neuhausen-based go tec!, a lab intended to spark local kids' interest in technology and science. "Our canton has long been known as an innovative and prosperous hub of business. It's important to us that we do our part to keep it that way. This is why we invest in the region's up-and-coming young talent – and thereby also in potential employees for Syntegon," says Stephan Schüle, head of product management at Syntegon.

Sustainable and simple

Most confectionery such as chocolate bars, cookies, and baked goods is sold in plastic film packaging. Plastic is flexible, does not tear easily, and protects products well, which makes it the most convenient and effective type of packaging for manufacturers. Materials researchers have come up with state-of-the-art papers made of up to 90 percent natural fibers. They are recyclable, protect sensitive contents just as well as plastic, and leave a much eco-friendlier footprint. However, legacy packaging machines have been unable to process paper – until now, that is. The paper-ON-form retrofit kit developed in Beringen solves this problem. Food makers can convert their Syntegon machines to easily transition from plastic to paper packaging. This combination of sustainability and utility also won over the Innovation Award jury.

An investment in the future

This was the eleventh time the jury had bestowed the IVS Innovation Award sponsored by Schaffhausen banks. First awarded in 2008, it recognizes the most promising innovations brought forth in the Schaffhausen economic region. With its end-to-end range of packaging solutions and services for confectionery and food manufacturers, Syntegon's Beringen site is a mainstay of local industry. Faced with a

Chairman of the Supervisory Board: Marc Strobel
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growing shortage of skilled workers, well-trained young professionals in the (information) technology sector are more important than ever to the company, so it has good reason to donate the prize money to go tec!.

An initiative of the Schaffhausen Association of Industry and Commerce (IVS), the go tec! lab works with schools and manufacturing companies to pursue its mission of honing kids' STEM skills. The team led by go tec! managing director Martin Sengel offers a wide range of courses and hands-on experiments to foster interest in tech careers, for example, by enabling kids to explore technology and experience how it works in everyday use cases. The initiative aims to set up a new range of IoT (internet of things) courses with the prize money donated by Syntegon. Martin Sengel says, "We are delighted that the Syntegon team is donating the prize money to go-tec!. It will enable us to further expand our range of courses and present a modern and innovative world of technology to children and young people. Technologies such as IoT will continue revolutionizing industry and are well-suited for providing a vivid introduction to – and a hands-on experience of – complex topics in the real world."

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Video



Syntegon marketing manager Michaela Schneider (left) and product manager Stephan Schuele (right) hand over the check to go tec! director Martin Sengel at the Neuhausen lab

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About Syntegon

Processing and packaging for a better life – this is what 5,800 Syntegon employees work for every day. Be it with individual machines, systems, or services, Syntegon helps its customers in the global pharmaceutical and food industries to improve people's lives. The company, which is headquartered in Waiblingen, Germany, looks back on more than 160 years of experience and achieved annual sales of 1.4 billion EUR in 2022. In the pharma sector, the company's intelligent solutions enable the safe and high-quality production, processing, filling, inspection, and packaging of liquid and solid pharmaceuticals. In the food industry, Syntegon's flexible and reliable technologies produce and pack confectionery, dry food, frozen food, and dairy products. With 1,100 service experts and a comprehensive service portfolio throughout the entire machine lifecycle from spare parts management to digital line optimization, Syntegon lays the foundation for smooth production processes for all customers. More than 35 sites in almost 20 countries keep a firm eye on Syntegon's impact on the environment and society. Syntegon is a leader in the development of sustainable packaging solutions, reduces the energy consumption of its machines and pursues ambitious goals to lower its emissions. www.syntegon.com