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Double chamber pharmaceutical blister acts as mixer and dispenser

An aluminium foil blister pack with several chambers, made of **Amcor Flexibles**' Formpack® bottom web and a lidding foil, has been awarded an Alufoil Trophy 2017 for Technical Innovation. The **Frangible Formpack® Blister**, jointly developed with machine builder **Rohrer - Leading Solutions**, enables moisture sensitive, dry drugs or vaccines requiring delivery in a liquid, to be contained in the same package safely, prior to mixing and dispensing from it.



One chamber is filled with a dry powder incorporating the active ingredient (highly moisturesensitive), the other one with a liquid. Thanks to the peelable frangible seal which opens the channel, both components are mixed by pushing on the cavities.

Guido Schmitz, Director of Packaging Design in Consumer Health, Bayer, the head of judging praised the highly innovative solution, "Sensitive dry medicines can be damaged by exposure to light, heat and, especially moisture. This pack goes a long way to solving all these issues, while offering a secure means of delivering it, in a liquid solution with sterile water, in almost any environment. This is a very well designed pack with much wider potential for application."

The new multi-chamber blister enhances drug stability and simplifies the supply chain by eliminating the necessity for cool storage and glass containers. It can also be used for point-of-care diagnostic testing in situations where a complex laboratory environment cannot be set up, say the companies.

Andrea Della Torre, Senior Director R&D at Amcor Flexibles Europe, Middle East and Africa said about the award, "Amcor is very proud that this blister has been recognized by the Alufoil Trophy jury. This pack represents a major step in the packaging of highly sensitive Active Pharmaceutical Ingredients."

Hans-Peter Rohrer, CEO Rohrer - Leading Solutions also commented, "We are delighted to accept the Alufoil Trophy with our collaboration partner Amcor. High functionality for the packaging of freeze-dried powders and liquids for vaccines or preservative-free eye care products are attractive for new single dose products and receiving more attention in the pharmaceutical and cosmetic industries."

The high special sealant layer developed by Amcor achieves both a frangible and tight seal by applying different seal temperature levels. So there are two distinct sealing plateaus, creating a defined transition from frangible to tight, which means it is easy to handle on form/fill/seal lines and ensures that the opening mechanism works correctly at the point of delivery.

The Alufoil Trophy is organised by the European Aluminium Foil Association. There are five categories – Consumer Convenience, Marketing + Design, Product Protection, Resource Efficiency and Technical Innovation. Judges also gave an award for Application Innovation. For 2017 there were 10 winners.

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High resolution pictures can be downloaded and all winning entries can be viewed at www.alufoil.org

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The European Aluminium Foil Association is the international body representing companies engaged in the rolling and rewinding of alufoil and in the manufacture of aluminium closures, alufoil semi-rigid containers and of all kind of flexible packaging. Its more than 100 members include companies in Western, Central and Eastern Europe.