

PRESS INFORMATION

Three-layer 40µm oxygen-absorbing film based on Shelfplus[®] O₂

- **Films with A/B/A and A/B/C structures: Active packaging solutions even without in-house extrusion**

Hamburg, 19. March 2015. ALBIS PLASTIC and jura-plast have joined forces to develop three-layer LDPE and PP films with oxygen-absorbing properties. The PE film can be used in bag-in-box applications, as lamination film for pouches, or as a barrier lid film. The PP variety is intended for use in sterilizing pouches and top films. It is available as either permanent-sealing or with "peel" against PP. Corona pre-treatment is also available on both films.

As Jürgen Müller, Managing Director at jura-plast, explains: "Excellent dispersion of the iron-based absorber makes it possible for us to go into layers just 20µm thick." An PE- or PP-based film of this type with an A/B/A structure has a total thickness of only 40µm. Other layer thicknesses are possible as well, however, and the films are also available with an A/B/C structure.

"We are pleased to have found a technically savvy and flexible development partner in jura-plast," says Roland M. Schultz, Marketing Packaging Director at ALBIS PLASTIC. "The A/B/A Shelfplus O₂ film enables bag, standup-pouch and lid-film manufacturers to realize active-packaging projects easily, even without their own extrusion operations."

The trend towards more natural foods with fewer preservatives, additives and dyes means increasing oxygen sensitivity, which is another reason to use oxygen absorbers. Even small seal defects of up to 10µm, so-called "pinholes", can be compensated over a longer period of time by using Shelfplus.

At the moment, ALBIS and jura-plast are working with German and French wine fillers to test Shelfplus films as inner bags for bag-in-box wine packaging. The goal is to increase shelf life while also reducing sulfur content. The initial test phase has already shown signs of success. The test bags significantly reduce wine oxygen content compared to standard bags. They also measurably reduce consumption of so-called free sulfurous acids, which clearly underscores Shelfplus' absorbing qualities. The conditions are thus in place for increased wine shelf life even with less added sulfur. This development is particularly

interesting for fillers of organic wines, which by nature are filled with less sulfur. European Wine Regulations EG 1493/1999 and EG606/2009 regulate limitations on added sulfurous acid.

The O₂ absorber is also currently being tested with other film applications. A five-layer composite film has been equipped with Shelfplus O₂ for use in tubes for the cosmetic industry. A Fraunhofer IVV study in this regard demonstrated an absence of oxygen forty-three days after filling.

Several variants of state-of-the-art Shelfplus sealing and laminating pouches are available starting immediately, and can be obtained directly from jura-plast.

ALBIS PLASTIC at a glance

ALBIS PLASTIC GmbH is an international organization specializing in technical thermoplast compounding and distribution. As a supplement to renowned plastics producers' product portfolios, ALBIS provides the plasticsprocessing industry with a broad spectrum of highperformance plastics, compound solutions, and masterbatches. During the last fiscal year (2013) the ALBIS Group employed a total of around 1030 people; its global turnover was €810 million. Seventeen subsidiaries represent the Hamburg-based organization in numerous European countries as well as in North Africa, East Asia, and North America. ALBIS produces plastic compounds and masterbatches at three European locations (Hamburg (D), Zülpich (D) and Manchester (UK)) and at its new site in the Chinese city of Changshu. More information is available under <http://www.albis.com>.

Enclosed picture material



Three-layer



Bag-in-box

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