

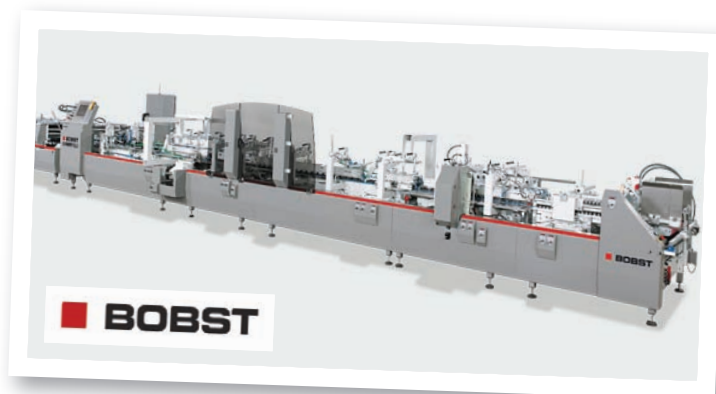
NEW GLUE LINE INVESTMENT

Chester Medical Solutions is continuing its major investment programme with the installation of a new Bobst Expertfold 110 Glue line at the company's advanced carton and leaflet manufacturing facility in Deeside, Flintshire.

The introduction of the line brings the total number of glue lines at the site to three and will effectively double the company's gluing capacity. It marks the latest phase in Chester Medical's ongoing schedule of expansion and improvement initiatives which have already seen the doubling of production floor space, the upgrading of its MRP system and, most recently, becoming the first UK carton manufacturer to offer digital braille.

The new glue line offers a number of productivity and quality enhancements, including glue presence detection. As with the existing lines, pharma code readers are also included for effective in-line inspection.

The investment programme underlines Chester Medical's position as the leading supplier of packaging solutions for the UK's pharmaceutical and healthcare industries. In addition to its carton and leaflet facility, the company's GMP Contract Packing division offers a variety of outsourcing services.



Above: Bobst Expertfold 110 Glue Line

"The pharmaceutical and healthcare industries have very high standards and it is important that we remain fully up-to-date with the latest developments in the market and ensure that we are always able to meet changing requirements," says Chester Medical's managing director David Patterson.

"The installation of the new glue line is further evidence of our commitment to offering the best and most up-to-date facilities in order to provide the quality, responsiveness and flexibility expected by our customers."

£2M EXPANSION PROGRAMME

Chester Medical are pleased to announce that work has now been completed on a £2m expansion programme for a new warehouse at our contract packing facility in Bromborough.

This has more than trebled our warehousing space, and features a loading canopy. Also as a result of the expansion we are building four new production rooms.



Above & Left: CMS Bromborough's new warehouse facility

Cancer Research Run

Employees from Chester Medical's Studio Department have helped raise over £6000 for Cancer Research UK.

Jenny Gillard and Huma Platt - accompanied by friends and family - ran 5k in the annual Race for Life around Birkenhead Park.

Jenny said "Staff at CMS were very supportive and generous in their donations."



FIRST UK CARTON MANUFACTURER TO OFFER DIGITAL BRAILLE

Specialist UK-based carton and leaflet manufacturer and contract packer Chester Medical Solutions is the first carton manufacturer to offer digital braille.

The £150,000 investment allows the printing of Braille dots onto a carton without the need for special tooling, which makes it suitable for short runs and digitally printed cartons.

The system uses a polymer 'drop on demand' nozzle to apply the Braille, which is then UV cured. After application, a vision verification system checks each carton for dot presence, height and circumference, and translates the Braille into human readable text for operators to check.

The company says print quality and resolution are excellent and the height of the dot meets all international requirements. Equally important, adherence of the dots to the carton is excellent and transit trials carried out by Smithers Pira have confirmed the robustness of the Braille.

The Braille typeface used is Marburg Medium, which is recommended by relevant European and North American standards for pharmaceutical packaging.

Chester Medical has installed the printer in its PS9000 certified digital production suite at its carton and leaflet manufacturing facility in Deeside, Flintshire.



Chester Medical's Managing Director David Patterson said: "This major innovation places us at the forefront of digital carton manufacture for pharmaceutical applications".

"It provides the final link in the production chain and further enhances our ability to offer a fast response and flexible service in the creation of packs that meet all international standards."

CMS ADDS FORM, FILL AND SEAL CAPABILITY FOR MEDICAL DEVICES

Chester Medical Solutions, has added to its already extensive range of medical packing capabilities with the installation of a new Multivac R140 Thermoformer.

Forming part of a new dedicated packing line, which is fully validated and GMP compliant, the Multivac machine has the ability to pack a wide range of medical and diagnostic devices into flexible, deep draw blister packs with peelable lids. The lids can be formed from paper, Tyvek or laminate materials.

The line has been installed in Chester Medical's ISO class 7 cleanroom, which means the company is able to handle the packing of terminally sterilised devices.

This latest investment underlines Chester Medical's ability to deliver a comprehensive range of packing services to the UK's pharmaceutical and healthcare industries – including blister packing, peel pouch packing, pot, bottle and sachet filling, and medical device packing and assembly – supported by its own PS9000 approved carton and leaflet manufacturing facility.

Recent investment at its carton and leaflet division has included a new Bobst Glue Line and a digital braille printer for cartons.

"We are committed to continuing to deliver the highest standards of service to our customers and it is essential that we support this with the best and most up-to-date equipment. To that end our significant recent investment drive at all of our sites is set to continue" comments Chester Medical managing director David Patterson.



"The new thermoformer will help to ensure we have the facilities and the flexibility to meet current and future market requirements."

Left: Multivac R140 Thermoformer

STOP PRESS - Good luck to Alan Clegg who retires after 13 years with the company. We wish him all the best!

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