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PRESS RELEASE

WITTMANN BATTENFELD at the K 2022 – Airmould 4.0

WITTMANN BATTENFELD has successfully launched its Airmould 4.0 internal gas pressure technology

After WITTMANN BATTENFELD first presented the new generation of the Airmould internal gas pressure technology to its customers at the Fakuma 2021, the development targets have now been reached, and the competitive system has already been installed and tested on the premises of several customers. With the further development of Airmould, an even more compact and user-friendly system has been created, which meets the requirements of the industry and offers its users a number of advantages.

Airmould is WITTMANN BATTENFELD's solution to meet the need for saving resources and for light-weight construction, and for extremely short cycle times as well. Airmould internal gas pressure technology is a process by which nitrogen is injected into a mold cavity either partly or completely filled with plastic melt to form an internal cavity structure. In this way, lightweight parts can be produced within a short cycle time and with high-quality surfaces, while also saving resources.

Since the end of the 1980s, WITTMANN BATTENFELD has been developing and producing the internal gas pressure technology at its facility in Meinerzhagen / Germany with the main focus on meeting the needs of its customers and markets. This applies equally to the new upgrade Airmould 4.0, by which WITTMANN BATTENFELD has taken an important step forward. Airmould 4.0 is the only internal gas pressure system which functions without having a large control cabinet which takes up a lot of space on the production floor. The modules required are also about 15% smaller than previous versions; they are very compact and can be mounted and used flexibly on every type of injection molding machine. Another great advantage of this system is that the technical expertise for the injection molding machine and the Airmould system both come from a single source, and Airmould 4.0 is optimally designed to meet the demands of the market. In fact, Airmould 4.0 can not only be integrated into the B8 control system of an injection molding machine for easier operation, but also into machines of other brands via the uniform operating panel of the WITTMANN Group. For example, at the company's long-standing Airmould

customer Oberland MV, where Airmould 4.0 has already been in use on one of their existing machines since mid-April.

The team members of Oberland MV commit themselves daily to keep on inspiring their customers with innovative ideas and excellent performance. To achieve this, they rely on Airmould 4.0 every day. Almost 80% of the reusable boxes produced by their company have been manufactured using the Airmould process for decades, so more than 120 modules from WITTMANN BATTENFELD are now in use there, from both the predecessor series and the new generation of Airmould 4.0. Weight reductions, component stability and minimization of sink marks are important arguments in favor of this technology, as these constitute an assurance of high-quality standards for the strong wall thicknesses of Oberland MV's products.

Innovative and ecologically sustainable, reusable solutions have made Oberland MV a leading manufacturer of packaging for the European beverage industry. They offer their customers system solutions which include product development, manufacturing and design as well as recycling. Prizes won such as the German Packaging Award and the World Star Packaging Award are tangible evidence of the company's commitment to high quality standards for more than 50 years.

Satisfied customers using internal gas pressure every day have confirmed to WITTMANN BATTENFELD that the development targets for Airmould internal gas pressure technology have been defined and pursued correctly. WITTMANN BATTENFELD looks forward to opening up further market potential with Airmould 4.0, especially under present production conditions, and to convincing users of the advantages of this internal gas pressure technology. After all, who would not prick up their ears when there are buzzwords in the air such as saving resources, minimizing energy consumption, simple workcell concept, intuitive operation, low operating costs and short cycle times?

Where necessary, customers will receive application technology support in introducing Airmould. This support may range from assistance with the machine layout right up to the pilot series in production, depending on the customer's requirements, since WITTMANN BATTENFELD not only offers the necessary components, but also application technology support, servicing of the equipment and spare parts. Moreover, prospective buyers can see the advantages of Airmould 4.0 for themselves on Wittmann Interactive.



Fig. 1: Airmould 4.0 pressure control modules, central unit and manual operating panel

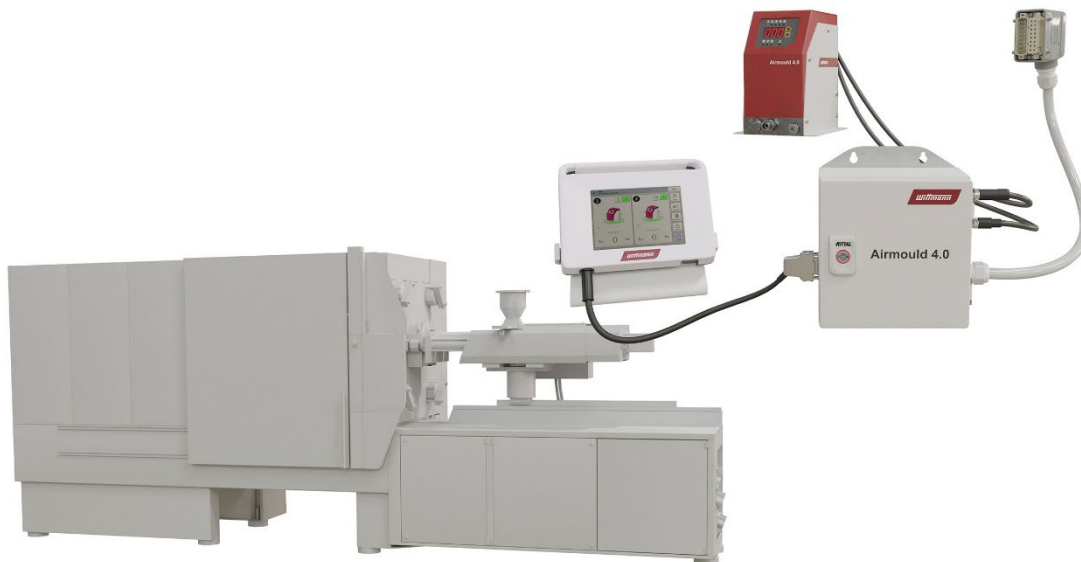


Fig. 2: Airmould 4.0 units in connection with any injection molding machine with EUROMAP 62 interface



Fig. 3: Airmould 4.0 modules, small and directly on the injection molding machine



Fig. 4: Airmould pressure generator and nitrogen generator for own nitrogen supply

The WITTMANN Group

The WITTMANN Group is a globally leading manufacturer of injection molding machines, robots and auxiliary equipment for processing a great variety of plasticizable materials – both plastic and non-plastic. The group of companies has its headquarters in Vienna, Austria and consists of two main divisions: WITTMANN BATTENFELD and WITTMANN. Following the principles of environmental protection, conservation of resources and circular economy, the WITTMANN Group engages in state-of-the-art process technology for maximum energy efficiency in injection molding, and in processing standard materials and materials with a high content of recyclates and renewable raw materials. The products of the WITTMANN Group are designed for horizontal and vertical integration into a Smart Factory and can be interlinked to form an intelligent production cell.

The companies of the group jointly operate eight production plants in five countries, and the additional sales companies at their 34 different locations are present in all major industrial markets around the world.

WITTMANN BATTENFELD pursues the continued strengthening of its market position as a manufacturer of injection molding machines and supplier of comprehensive modern machine technology in modular design. The product range of WITTMANN includes robots and automation systems, material handling systems, dryers, gravimetric and volumetric blenders, granulators, temperature controllers and chillers. The combination of the individual areas under the umbrella of the WITTMANN Group enables perfect integration – to the advantage of injection molding processors with an increasing demand for seamless interlocking of processing machines, automation and auxiliaries.

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