

# OYSTAR

## The Process & Packaging Group

*Photographs: OYSTAR*

The OYSTAR Group is one of the world's leading providers of packaging equipment and technology. With its headquarters in Stutensee (close to Karlsruhe) in the south of Germany, the group has 13 different manufacturing subsidiaries, employs 2100 people and supplies machines to companies operating all over the world.

The OYSTAR Group serves four key industry sectors: dairy, food, pharmaceuticals/cosmetics and consumer goods. Dairy is one of the Group's traditional strengths. Its French subsidiary, OYSTAR Erca-Formseal, invented form-fill-seal technology back in 1958. Today, OYSTAR Erca-Formseal's FFS machines are widely used by multinational companies to make dairy cups for yoghurts.

**FFS expertise**  
Form, fill and seal machines are also manufactured by one of the

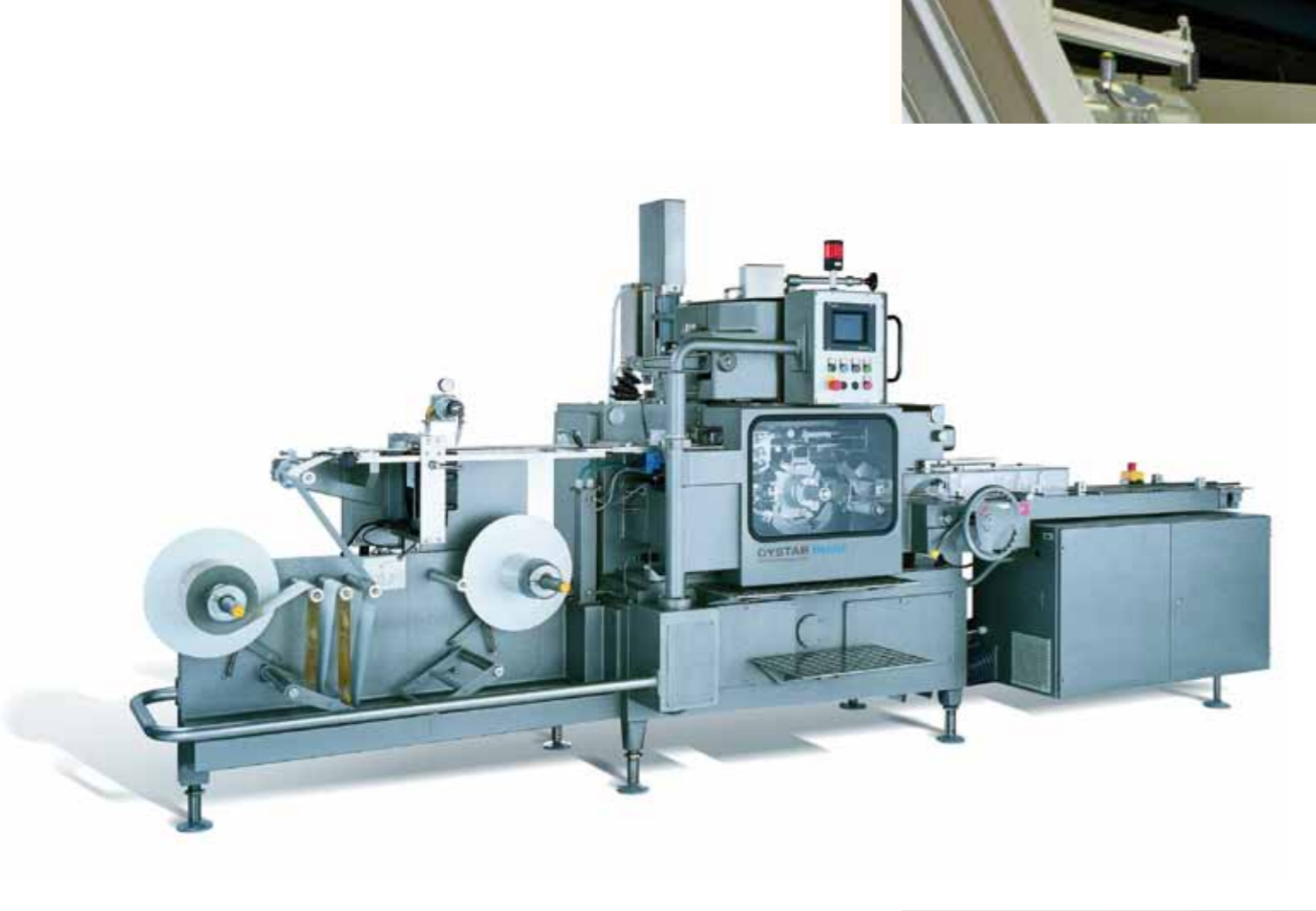
portions of butter, honey, ketchup or mayonnaise. The THL machines deliver a high degree of filling accuracy and produce a hermetically sealed pack that is easy to open. The cups can then be rapidly transferred into cartons with the aid of suction plates.

The company Nestlé has harnessed OYSTAR Hassia's expertise in FFS machinery in order to package coffee. It uses OYSTAR Hassia's technology to make the coloured capsules of individual servings of coffee for its Nespresso machines. The capsules, which are made from aluminium, are manufactured at Nestlé's Swiss facility in Orbe. While consumer expectations of coffee have been rising, the pace of modern life means that people do not always have the time to brew a whole pot of coffee. Products like Nespresso are designed to solve this problem, providing consumers with a quick, convenient way to make a single cup of great-tasting real coffee.

The OYSTAR Group manufactures machinery and equipment for both primary and secondary packaging, while one of the companies within the group, OYSTAR A+F, specialises in final packaging solutions and palletising systems.

Group's German subsidiaries, OYSTAR Hassia. OYSTAR Hassia pioneered the development of single-portion plastic cups for jams. OYSTAR Hassia's THL series is a series of FFS machines designed for packaging individual





Technologies for packaging yogurt, butter and cheese are valued everywhere. OYSTAR machines are used worldwide – wherever there is a cow! One important aspect is that people’s eating habits change, which means people want to buy new, trendy western yoghurts like Actimel. Within the last three years several OYSTAR Group companies have supplied packaging machinery to the Saudi Arabian dairy firm, Almarai. OYSTAR Benhil, a subsidiary based in Neuss (close to Düsseldorf), has recently sold machines to India that are used to package one of India’s best-selling brands of butter, Amul.



OYSTAR Hassia India, the OYSTAR Group’s Indian subsidiary, is actually doubling its production capacity.

One of the Group’s German subsidiaries, OYSTAR IWK, is particularly strong in tube filling machinery. Over the last ten years the speed of these machines has made them popular with toothpaste manufacturers, with the

result that OYSTAR IWK’s tube filling lines now cover 70 per cent of the world’s toothpaste production. Recently OYSTAR IWK has introduced a new tube filling machine, the TFS 80-8, that can fill and seal 750 tubes per minute. The machine has just been installed at a major toothpaste manufacturer for use in Brazil. ■

## Customer Support

During the last months OYSTAR has standardized the service structure across all brands. The “OYSTAR TOP SERVICE” group will assist customers around the world 24/7 with a comprehensive range of services. The TOP SERVICE mission is to help customers operate their machinery and systems at peak performance throughout the equipment’s entire life cycle. OYSTAR operates service centers at 19 locations across the globe.

The new concept is based on the three “TOP” pillars: Technologi-

cal Improvements, Operations Support, and Productivity Assistance. “Technological Improvements” focus on the optimization of machinery and systems through retrofitting, upgrading, and rebuilding outdated components.

“Operations Support” provides assistance for the customer’s production process. OYSTAR’s on-site technical support assists customers with installation and acceptance, performs regular equipment checks and offers emergency support and repairs during unplanned downtime.

The third pillar of service, “Productivity Assistance”, is geared toward training customers’ employees. Besides the basic training courses, machine audits also identify potential situations when further training can optimize machine performance.

The OYSTAR service team is always at hand to provide customers with recommendations for improved innovative packaging solutions and technologies.