

SUCCESS STORY
AROMA-SEAL VALVES FOR
THE FOOD INDUSTRY

MICHEL WERKZEUGBAU AG, SWITZERLAND



Krauss Maffei

Pioneering Plastics

THIS WAY COFFEE STAYS FRESH LONGER THE VALVE IS EVERYTHING

OVERVIEW

CUSTOMER: MICHEL WERKZEUGBAU AG
COUNTRY OR REGION: Switzerland
INDUSTRY: Packaging

APPLICATION: AROMA-SEAL VALVES

- Number of cavities: 36
- Material: PE, PP

MACHINE DETAILS:

CX AND PX 30 TO 120

- Clamping force: 300 to 1200 kN
- Screw diameter: 18 to 40 mm

CUSTOMER PROFILE:

Michel Werkzeugbau AG is part of the Wipf Group and delivers customized solutions for moldmaking and plastics technology.

www.michel-ag.ch

REQUIREMENTS:

- Fast cycle times in food packaging
- Energy-efficient production
- Fast support in customer service
- High reproducibility
- Constant manufacturing 24/7

CUSTOMIZED SOLUTION:

- Extended distance between tiebars
- Larger clamping platens
- Space for molds with up to 36 cavities

BENEFITS:

- High repeatability
- More output with the best quality
- Safe "ghost shifts"

Transporting coffee beans, leavened dough or other outgassing foodstuffs calls for aroma-seal valves, which allow gas to leave the packaging, but do not let any oxygen in. Just two centimeters in diameter, the valves have an unassuming appearance that betrays little of the painstaking process required to produce them.

For the aroma-seal valves, Michel Werkzeugbau makes the mold base body and the membrane holder from PE or PP with tolerances of 6/100 millimeters. Afterwards, Wipf AG handles installation of the blanks. Wipf supplies several hundred million aroma-seal valves per year to international customers and thus is number two on the world market.

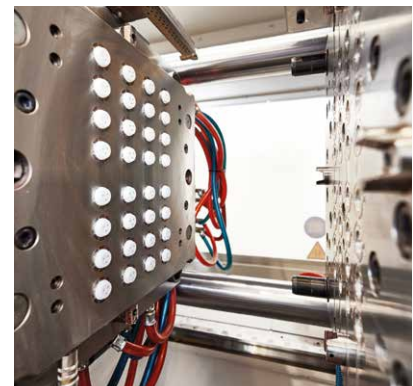
For a manufacturing operation in a high-wage country like Switzerland, it is indispensable for the machines to run 24 hours a day, 365 days a year. The day shift is present from 7 a.m. to 5 p.m., after which the "ghosts" take over and production is unsupervised. It is well known that the price-sensitive packaging industry needs fast cycle times – and efficient use of the staff on the shop floor. Michel employs a total of 20 employees and runs 23 injection molding machines, predominantly all-electric machines from KraussMaffei.

"The high repeatability, the output and the reliability of the PX are critical for us. Other suppliers have tried to manufacture more cheaply, but then the quality was never up to par."

Alexander Furrer, COO, Michel Werkzeugbau



The aroma-seal valves are used in packaging from major coffee companies



Multicavity molds make high yields possible



A strong team (left to right):
Timo Brugger, CEO, Michel Werkzeugbau AG
- Michael Furlan, Sales, Krauss-Maffei
(Schweiz) AG - Alexander Furrer,
COO, Michel Werkzeugbau AG -
Thomas Staffelbach, Head of Customer Service,
Krauss-Maffei (Schweiz) AG

AHEAD – KraussMaffei’s customer blog