

## PRESS ARTICLE

24/01/2017

### SIDEL STARLITE TROPICAL BRINGS INCREASED RESISTANCE AND STABILITY TO ALL PET BOTTLES FOR CSD



**This latest addition to StarLite™ range of bottle bases ensures better performance of PET bottles for carbonated soft drinks (CSD) produced and distributed in extreme environmental conditions.**

The new Sidel StarLite Tropical base is enlarging the family of StarLite bottle<sup>1</sup> solutions originally developed by Sidel packaging experts. This latest addition to the range is designed to offer a flexible solution for CSD, in all packaging sizes from 0.25 to 3 litres. Additionally, it is applicable to the different standard levels of carbonation. It is specifically designed for CSD bottles undergoing harsh conditions - for instance when produced and distributed in the supply chain at very high temperatures or in environments which are particularly humid. The end result is a PET bottle that offers improved resistance in terms of stress cracking and creeping, as well as better stability throughout the supply chain. It also avoids material waste during production and storage while offering a great consumer experience and – importantly - not compromising on the safety standards of the beverage inside.

#### **Improved bottle resistance and stability, tested by in-house experts**

The StarLite Tropical base has been designed to improve performance in terms of resistance. Its optimised geometry reinforces all the zones which are more susceptible to stress cracking due to

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<sup>1</sup> In 2013, the original StarLite base received the award for 'Best Environmental Sustainability Initiative' at the Global Bottled Water Awards.

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mechanical constraints. This avoids potential breaking of the PET bottle walls and base which can be caused by interactions with fluids or chemicals during the conveying stage.

The base has been evaluated and qualified under rigorous test protocols which are internationally recognised. It successfully completed a very demanding creeping test conducted over 72 hours under 38°C and 50% moisture conditions. This proved a good base roll-out resistance when the bottle is under pressure at high temperature and demonstrated that it is less likely to burst during production or to deform during transportation. Also, Sidel packaging experts conducted various trials through computer simulations, followed by real-world physical tests, to achieve optimum bottle strength. In those tests the StarLite Tropical design resulted in improved bottle stability and – again - more resistance to extreme temperatures (hot and cold). Vincent Le Guen, Vice President, Packaging at Sidel says, “The Sidel StarLite Tropical base is already in production in far-eastern countries by Sidel customers who have trialled the base and achieved great performance results, including significant improvements in resistance to stress cracking.”

The improved bottle stability is achieved through the enhanced base standing surface. High surface contact of the base’s feet ensures easy bottle transportation and smooth conveying, an efficient solution for even high-output lines. This prevents bottles falling when passing through machine interfaces within the PET bottling line and results in a higher production uptime. As Le Guen adds, “The new StarLite Tropical base takes all the benefits of the original StarLite base, enlarging them to all producers of carbonated soft drinks. Now, they can incorporate the large and stable base to their containers’ designs, to greatly improve bottle performance throughout the supply chain.”

### Base moulds for all production configurations

Having an enhanced venting design, the new Sidel StarLite Tropical base moulds are offering an optimised cooling capacity to further improve bottle base performances. Available for all Sidel moulds, they are easy to implement in PET production lines and can even be retrofitted to existing Sidel CSD moulds to adapt bottle designs. The new base can be applied to all lines equipped with any generation of Sidel blowers, in standalone - with an additional post-mould cooling base device - or Combi configurations. Line conversion is quick and, in some cases, only needing a simple adjustment to filling-levels.



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### About Sidel

Our purpose is to help brands protect the product inside, preserve the planet outside and touch the lives of millions of people every day.

We do so by offering complete and modular PET, can and glass packaging solutions, including people, services and equipment.

Sidel has over 165 years of industrial experience. With 30,000 machines installed in more than 190 countries, we have been helping producers fill beverage bottles for over 85 years, blow them for more than 50 and label them for more than 40. We have over 40 years of aseptic packaging expertise, and were one of the first companies to introduce PET bottles to the beverage industry over 35 years ago.

Part of the Tetra Laval group, Sidel has offices worldwide, including 8 production sites and 8 training centres. All our experts are committed to creating the optimum liquid-packaging solution.

We call it **A Better Match** - for our world, our customers and ourselves.

Find out more at [www.sidel.com](http://www.sidel.com) and connect with us



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