

PRESS ARTICLE

18/05/2023

Bottle Switch provides smart technology on blowers for ultra efficient changeovers and optimum production performance



With a focus on maximising production uptime and efficiency for the packaging industry, Sidel has leveraged the latest in automation technology to develop Bottle Switch- an innovative changeover solution.

Bottle Switch solutions have been designed for the Sidel EvoBLOW range and can specifically be applied to gravimetric preform feeders, ovens and blowing wheels to support a quick switch in preform neck finishes and bottle shapes. The innovative solution offers the possibility to select and apply the right equipment process and configuration efficiently for every Stock Keeping Unit (SKU), with shortened changeover duration alongside high-precision and repeatable operations. Perfect bottle quality and high production performance can be achieved immediately after every changeover with up to 98% efficiency.

Easy, precise and repeatable changeovers

Bottle Switch has been designed to deliver optimised changeovers and maximise the potential of Sidel's highly flexible blowing machines. Reliable and easy-to-use, Sidel blowers are proven to offer simplicity in operation without compromise on accuracy. Dedicated motors support the automatic, mechanical element positioning for the gravimetric preform feeder's infeed rails while also assisting the oven's heating modules and cooling shields horizontal adjustments. These factors are combined with simplified manual operations which require minimum human intervention. Digital clocks enable toolless manual positioning, instantly validating these new settings for the preform feeder roller adjustments as well as the oven's heating modules and cooling shields vertical adjustments. Bottle Switch has been developed to provide a fully robotised mould replacement, carried out by a double mould holder robot. It stores each SKU specification in the process recipes, which are all accessible through Human Machine Interface (HMI), therefore entire changeover programs can be saved and centralised to repeat at any time.

Significant time saving

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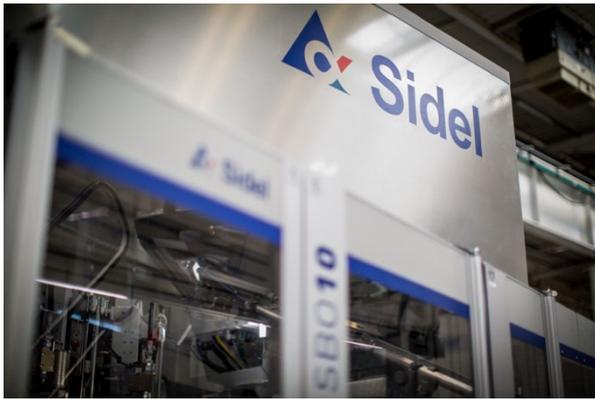
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The overall changeover time delivered by Bottle Switch, compared to a standard manual changeover, can be reduced by 75% and it has the potential to produce up to 13.2 million bottles per year (based on SBO 24 blower¹). When applied on preform feeder and oven, Bottle Switch enables changeovers to be completed in just 17 minutes (versus 1 hour 5 minutes manually). This automated and simplified system also reduces the changeover time per mould by 4 times, with just 30 seconds (versus 2 minutes for standard manual moulds changeovers). The service delivered through Bottle Switch therefore not only reduces the risk of accident, but also offers effective and optimised use of manual operators' resource.

1. Sidel company data 2022

Find out more about Bottle Switch and how you can access this kind of support for your business on the [Sidel website](#).

ENDS



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Sidel is a leading global provider of packaging solutions for beverage, food, home and personal care products in PET, can, glass and other materials.

Based on over 170 years of proven experience, we help shape the factory of tomorrow, through advanced systems and services, line engineering, eco-solutions, and other innovations. With over 40,000 machines installed in more than 190 countries, Sidel has 5,000+ employees worldwide who are passionate about providing equipment and service solutions that fulfil customer needs.

We continuously ensure we understand the evolving business and market challenges our customers face and commit to meeting their unique performance and sustainability goals. As a partner, we apply our solid technical knowledge, packaging expertise and smart data analytics to assure lifetime productivity at its full potential.

We call it **Performance through Understanding**.

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