

GEA Thermoformers

Innovative solutions
for food packaging

engineering for
a better world

gea.com

When it comes to packaging, we set the standard

Encompassing fully developed, highly individual solutions, GEA's thermoformers perfectly satisfy all food sector requirements.

Addressing every need

Packaging plays a key role in ensuring that food quality is maintained throughout the supply chain, from production to the consumer's table. The thermoformers built by GEA deliver the ideal packaging to achieve this goal. They incorporate the latest technology, individual efficiency-enhancing ideas, and expertise accumulated during years of collaboration with clients.



Expertise with powerful roots

Thermoforming now belongs to the GEA Food Processing & Packaging unit. This reorganised business segment is founded on decades of tradition with its origins in the fusion of several small and medium-sized processing and packaging machine companies. From this tradition - alongside continuously advancing technical expertise - comes one central insight. In today's world, a good personal relationship with our customers is the foundation of long-term success.

Leveraging the benefits of the global GEA Group

Within the international footprint of our diverse Group, GEA packaging machines are developed in the context of systematic innovation management. Our development engineers engage in a continuous dialogue with all the other Group business units. Solutions originated in an individual segment can therefore be applied quickly and efficiently elsewhere as well. This approach allows new opportunities to be explored, in particular along the value chain in the food industry.

What can we do for you?

We have produced this brochure to give you an overview of our thermoformers for the food packaging sector. Please get in touch if you need any further information or would like to make a personal appointment to discuss a solution tailored to your needs. Our contact details are stated on the back cover.



First-class in every respect

The quality of a packaging solution is determined by numerous factors. In the key functional areas, GEA thermoformers incorporate cutting-edge technology.

1 Film feed

Depending on the machine type and output, a wide variety of bottom film feed systems are available, from single and twin reel unwinders to a jumbo solution for a max. outside diameter of 1600 mm.

2 Preheating

A highly responsive heating system with uniform temperature profile perfectly preconditions the film for the production process.



4 Loading

The loading area can be customised to match the requirements of the packaged product. All types of upstream feed system can therefore be integrated in the thermoforming line.

5 Sealing

Single and multi-lane outfeed, MAP and vacuum packs, skin, TopForm and shrink – our thermoformers ensure the very best seal for every kind of product and packaging type.

6 Printing and labelling

Practically every printing process can be perfectly integrated in the packaging machine to produce and place labels with great precision on even the most sophisticated packaging.

7 Cutting or punching

Highly individualised longitudinal and cross-cutting to suit the packaging – from longitudinal knife and shear cutting to cross-cutting with a variety of perforations and circular cutting. For complex shapes complete cut punches are available as well.

FOR EVERY NEED AND PERFORMANCE CATEGORY

GEA offers two series of thermoformers to satisfy customers' varying requirements as regards output and flexibility.

GEA PowerPak is a highly configurable and capable packaging machine for production lines with a high throughput or frequently changing products.

For small production quantities and infrequent product changes, GEA DeltaPak provides an economical alternative without compromising quality.

Both machine series integrate seamlessly in any line, irrespective of the product feed (slicer, loader, picker etc.) or end-of-line equipment.

3 Forming

GEA thermoformers produce exactly dimensioned trays with a vacuum, compressed-air or Optiform plug system, resulting in uniform residual film thickness at the corners and edges.









Easy opening features

Numerous different peel corners and other easy opening features are available to satisfy every need.

The benchmark for innovative packaging

The GEA PowerPak series redefines the boundaries in food packaging to achieve uncompromising productivity and practically unlimited flexibility.



Maximum performance

The PowerPak development team focused their attention on providing durable productivity. GEA fully understands that users rely on consistent packaging quality and low maintenance.

- Sturdy frame
- Technical up-time up to 99%
- Components made in Germany
- GEA membrane seal system for consistent seal integrity
- Seamless mechanical and electronic integration with upstream and downstream components

Unlimited flexibility

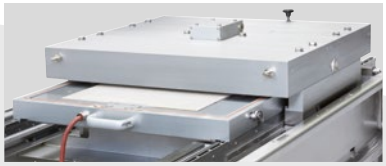
Despite the pace of change in market requirements nowadays, PowerPak thermoformers are built for a service life measured in decades. Their modular design is especially accommodating, allowing quick and simple modification in response to emerging challenges.

- Modular machine concept
- Short product changeover times
- Fast and easy retrofits and function upgrades
- Single machine for air, vacuum, MAP, steam and skin packaging
- Unique board/plastic composite packaging

Putting hygiene first

Hygiene is a key criterion whenever food is being wrapped or packed. Numerous features of the PowerPak ensure compliance with strict hygiene standards. These include smooth surfaces, easy access to interior components and a designated cleaning mode that protects die components against harmful effects.

- Hygienic equipment design
- Lubricant-free lifting systems
- Cleaning mode for dies and drives
- Workflow-optimised zones and easy-fit side panels
- Complies with 3A Dairy, DIN EN 1672-2 and NSF/ANSI 14159-1







USER-FRIENDLY DIE SET CHANGING

The sealing frame and sealing drive of the PowerPak are easy to separate for quick and simple cleaning and inspection. Maintenance and repair costs are reduced accordingly. In addition, changing die sets is extremely straightforward even in case of indexing changes.

À la carte packaging solutions

The GEA PowerPak embraces an abundance of packaging types in a single machine. Four of the options are highlighted below – but we are happy to meet you to discuss the others too.



UniPak

Designed for maximum diversity, this variant produces MAP and vacuum packaging, as well as VarioSkin and steam evacuation options. The application range spans sliced cheese and sausage, piece goods, pastries and vegetarian products. Good pack forming, easy opening features and excellent reclosing, depending on the application and material, are ensured as a matter of course. This machine is capable of handling medium to high capacities.



SkinPak

This application combines outstanding product presentation with a perfect seal in a package that is easy to open, highly practical and appealing to the eye. Thanks to top film preheating, the GEA PowerPak thermoformer practically rules out creases when placing the film over the product and tray. This process avoids weight losses and effectively enhances the product's appearance.



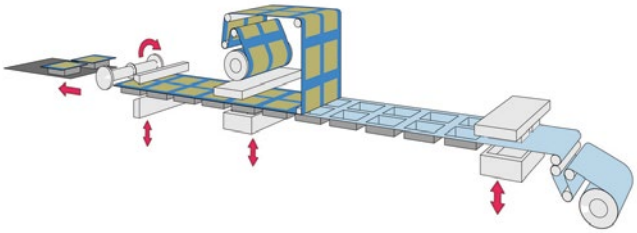
TopPak

By way of a second forming station for the top film, the GEA PowerPak produces a three-dimensional, reclosable TopForm pack. It is an ideal, attractive and individual package with an inline formed lid for sliced meat and sausage, sliced cheese, gourmet salads and snacks.



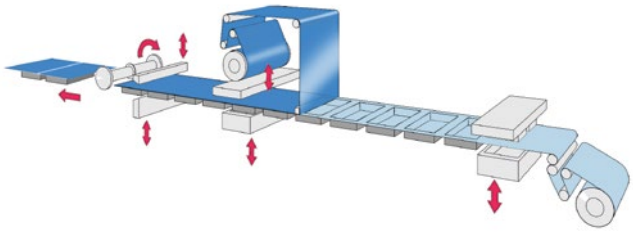
ShrinkPak

The GEA ShrinkPak is a thermoformer for shrink film that is equipped to overcome every packaging challenge, from large shipping units to small consumer packs. Thanks to the vacuum process, followed by shrinking in a water bath/spray tunnel, the film is wrapped skin-tight around the product without creasing. Contour cutting presents the final package with only a minimal visible sealing seam.



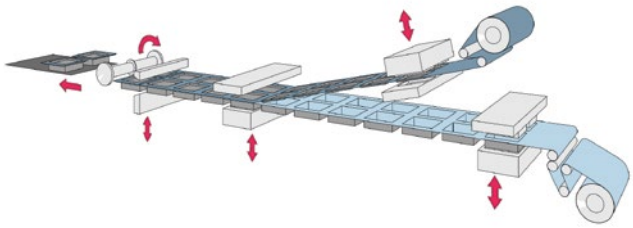


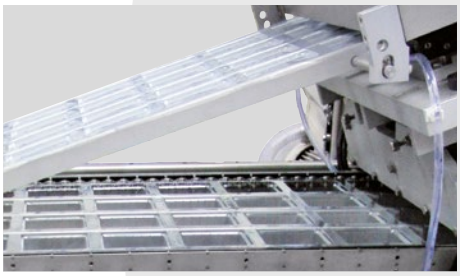
UniPak



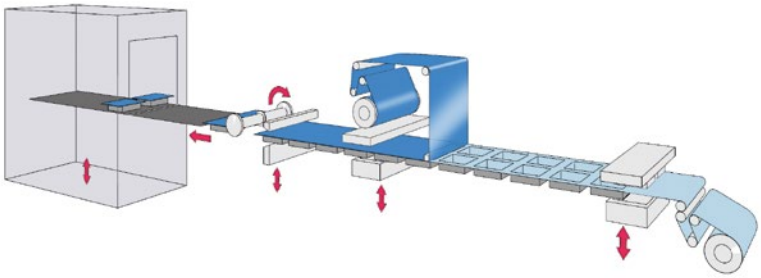


SkinPak





TopPak





ShrinkPak

For those seeking a little more

The control concept and machine specification make a telling contribution to enhancing efficiency. A packaging machine that is precisely aligned with its operating environment requires less maintenance and reduces costs.

Control concept

- Proven non-proprietary PLC with IPC functionality and networking capability
- Intuitive user interface with symbols
- PLC backup with CF card
- Remote access for troubleshooting
- Individually monitored access levels

GEA CostFox

- Direct performance indicator on control panel
- Easily comprehensible information
- Continuous process optimisation and efficiency enhancement

GEA runOmeter

- Comparison of production status and targets
- Real-time key performance indicator
- In case of non-compliance with performance targets, detailed information can be retrieved from CostFox

GEA ShingleLoader

- Fully automatic loading of sliced products
- Seamless integration in overarching packaging line control
- Up to 300 portions/min
- Variable acceleration and smooth belt-to-belt transfers ensure a reliable workflow and accurate placing

GEA TiroLabel

- Perfect integration in GEA thermoformers
- Easy to operate and program
- Labels even sophisticated packaging with utmost precision
- Dependable results on irregular surfaces as well
- Dispenses up to 200 labels a minute

GEA Uptifox

- Prompt support by remote access
- Expert assistance to minimise downtimes
- Remote diagnostics with video support
- Log analysis for continuous production optimisation
- Automatic maintenance scheduling



All information on the screen: The control concept of the GEA PowerPak focuses on presenting all the machine parameters and status messages in plain text, and facilitating intuitive operation safeguarded by hierarchical access rights.



GEA CostFox



GEA ShingleLoader



GEA runOmeter



GEA TiroLabel

Entry-level GEA offering

DeltaPak is, for the first time, placing the benefits of GEA thermoformers at the disposal of users that process fairly small volumes or require additional flexibility – e.g. for seasonal goods or distributed packaging operations in branch outlets.



Proven quality and good value for money

The GEA DeltaPak offers vacuum and MAP packaging with all the benefits of GEA thermoforming quality. As an entry-level model, it is designed to operate efficiently with small to medium throughputs. It integrates proven high-quality PowerPak components in a machine with much smaller dimensions.

Quick setup

The DeltaPak concept is geared towards speed. It offers fast configuration, short delivery times and high-speed operation. Thanks to its uniform basic structure, predefined functional scope and a select range of optional extras, the DeltaPak can be made ready for shipping quickly. Customised die sets can likewise be produced at short notice – and quickly exchanged during a product change.

Small footprint, simple connectivity

To allow its operation in practically any situation, small dimensions were at the top of the design engineers' agenda. The DeltaPak fits easily in environments where a GEA thermoformer was previously inconceivable.

Key data of the DeltaPak machine

- Packaging dimensions as per PowerPak
- Film widths 285, 320, 360 and 420 mm available
- Vacuum and MAP packaging
- Dies in one or two rows



Supreme line-up

Packaging line efficiency depends on the accomplished interaction of all the components. A selection of the available downstream solutions is presented here – each one reflecting the uncompromising quality of our thermoformers.



GEA EasyGuide

The GEA EasyGuide lane converger can form and deliver a single lane of perfectly and consistently spaced packs from as many as 6 lanes at a rate of up to 70 packs a minute. It has its own outfeed conveyor and offers all the flexibility required for operation with a variety of track configurations.



GEA PowerGuide Speed

The GEA PowerGuide Speed converges packs from up to 6 lanes into one. It can process as many as 160 packs a minute and is easy to adjust to accommodate a wide range of changing products. This flexibility is implemented by integration in the GEA PowerPak control and automatic execution of several operating modes. The PowerGuide Speed can process packs up to 750 mm long, 600 mm wide and 180 mm tall.



GEA PowerPick

GEA PowerPick is a high-performance lane converger with pneumatic picking heads; it is fully integrated in the GEA PowerPak control. It processes up to 250 packs a minute and automatically ejects defective packs. The outfeed can be configured for one or two lanes.



GEA EasyCheck

GEA EasyCheck by Bizerba reliably detects packs that are contaminated by metal or do not match the target weight. Defective packs are eliminated from the production workflow. This end-of-line solution facilitates compliance with HACCP, IFS, BRC and other requirements. It can process up to 120 packs a minute with an individual pack weight of 50 to 500 grams (option available for up to 1000 grams).

engineering for
a better world

We live our values.

Excellence · Passion · Integrity · Responsibility · GEA-versity

GEA Group is a global engineering company with multi-billion euro sales and operations in more than 50 countries. Founded in 1881, the company is one of the largest providers of innovative equipment and process technology. GEA Group is listed in the STOXX® Europe 600 Index.

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