

NEWS & VIEWS

2001 Anniversary Year
25 years of Sencon

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2001

In this issue

25 years of Sencon
..Page 1

Bang goes the welder
..Page 2

Compound Liner Gun Control
..Page 2

All New Semi-Automatic
Enamel Rater
..Page 3

New languages for
the web site
..Page 3

In Brief ..Page 4

1976

Sencon Inc. founded in Chicago, USA. Capacitive and inductive sensors developed for DWI can handling systems

1978

Tooling protection systems added, including metal discrimination technology

1979

Spray control systems added

1983

Sencon Inc. expands into 50,000 ft² (4645 m²) facility at Bedford Park, IL

Timeline

1987

Sencon (UK) Ltd. founded in Worcester, England to service European, African, Middle Eastern and Asian markets

1989

Quality control instruments added

1992

Light testing systems and automated QC systems launched

1996

Sencon Europe Ltd. founded to focus on solutions for three-piece can making. Sencon Inc. develops product range for end manufacturers.

1998

Vision Systems added to the product range

2001

Regional sales office opens in France. Serving both the French and Spanish markets.

Sencon, founded in 1976 by people with long experience in the can-making industry, has developed an enviable reputation worldwide for using high technology systems to cut can making costs and improve quality.

In this way, Sencon have become a vital resource for the metal packaging industry in its quest for continuous improvement and cost reduction.

Unlike many other businesses in this age of diversification, Sencon is a highly specialised company working in a highly specialised industry. As such we are able to consistently maintain a sharp focus on our customers' ever-changing needs.

Our international success is derived from research, development and manufacturing plants in the UK and USA, along with a carefully selected representative network that stretches right around the globe. Each representative is an industry specialist in its own right.

Key to Sencon's success has been it's professional, knowledgeable and courteous staff. In the USA for instance, Hope Lee, Betty Snyder, Steve Brower and Mike Stock have all completed over 20 years dedicated service with the company.

Putting Sencon expertise to work for you also comes with a further reassurance: our reputation and proven track record mean that we are one of the world's leading names in today's metal packaging industry. In fact, when it comes to devising new technology solutions for can producers, we believe no one can beat Sencon.



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SENCON
CONTROL DOWN THE LINE

Bang!

Bang! The weldwire has broken on the welder again, the fourth time this month, which will be another 30 minutes of unscheduled down time. To add insult to injury, the rolls that were reprofiled last month have now been damaged beyond repair and need replacing.

Over the course of a year the ongoing costs mount up;

- Loss of production due to wire breaks:
30 minutes x 4 times/month.
- Swapping rolls for reprofiling:
\$ how much does it cost you?
- Replacement of the Rolls 3 times per year:
\$ how much does it cost you?

**Well that's can making...as they say.
But it need not be this way.**

Users of Sencon's SC410 Skew Measurement system have dramatically reduced the incidence of wire breaks. They have eliminated blanks with narrow or tapered margins thus reducing:

- Down time at the welder
- The search for other suspect blanks
- The cost of reprofiled or replacement weld rolls
- Maximizing production speed

Any misalignment of the coated sheets increases the risk of lacquer in the weld margins. Any lacquer which appears



between the weld rolls during the welding process will cause an electrical high resistance, leaving the weld current only one path, the weld wire, which will burn through instantly.

By mounting the detection system on the outfeed of the coater, any misaligned sheets will be detected and rejected straight away. With one coater normally supplying multiple welders the improved control of the coater will benefit a number of welding lines.

Sencon uses camera technology in the measurement system not only to detect sheet alignment errors but it also gives accurate measurements of the degree of error.

For the first time, users can build factual SPC data on the sheet handling characteristics of the coater and how these are affected by variations in settings and speed. Coater adjustment becomes more objective allowing optimisation of the process, including higher throughputs and faster changeovers.

Improving the can making process is unlikely to involve one massive change, rather small incremental changes in several areas can give competitive advantage to a manufacturer. The SC410 skew measurement system is unusual in that it provides user benefits at different points in the process, not necessarily at

the point of use. There again, improvements in the early stages of the can making process tend to benefit the rest of the down stream process.

**For more information
please circle 'SC410' on
the reply sheet.**

Compound Gun Control

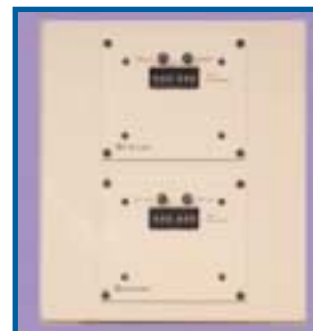
Recently, Tim Phillips of the Silgan Container Corporation approached Sencon to design a control system capable of precisely controlling the Silgan electronic spray gun used on their compound liners.

By applying Sencon's proven spray gun control technology it has been possible to develop a compact compound liner controller suitable for the Silgan gun.

During laboratory trials the combination of the Silgan gun and Sencon controller maintained consistent, repeatable and reliable operation. Field tests at Silgans Savage and Menomonee Falls plants have positively reinforced the laboratory data supporting the combination gun/controller package.

The benefits can be shown as;

- Reduced compound use
- Minimum adjustment needed (set & forget)
- Affordability, an inexpensive combination of gun and controller.
- Similar results should be possible when using the Compound Gun Controller with most electrically actuated guns.



**For more information please
circle 'Compound Gun control' on the reply sheet.**

All New Enamel Rater

Ensuring process measurements are reliable cannot be stressed enough. Without the comfort of consistent and accurate data will a process, which is going out of control, be noticed rapidly enough?

Enamel Rating is not a "Fail Safe" test

The enamel rating measurement is not "fail safe". This is due to the fact that when the ideal reading of 0mA occurs there is no current flowing during the measurement. Unfortunately if for any reason the equipment fails or there is an operator error, less current will flow, giving a low reading, in others words a pass. On some gauging systems this type of problem may not be apparent for some time.

Can you really trust the data you gain from the gauging system you currently use, if it does not give a warning when these common errors occur:

- Poor contact between the can and can stand
- Electrolyte level is too low in the can

Sencon have totally redesigned their enamel rater to bring this valuable measurement instrument completely up to date.



One piece case design with cable connector protection

For more information please circle 'Enamel Rater' on the reply sheet.

Eliminate all sources of inaccuracy.

These include operator error, under fills, bad contact, bad electrolyte, poor connections or probe problems.

Achieve ultimate reliability.

Using a heavy duty one piece moulded case in structural polyurethane with recessed and protected waterproof connectors.

Increase operator throughput

Semi-automatic operation allows cans to be tested without button pressing. The unit warns the operator if readings are outside control limits.

Allow data traceability

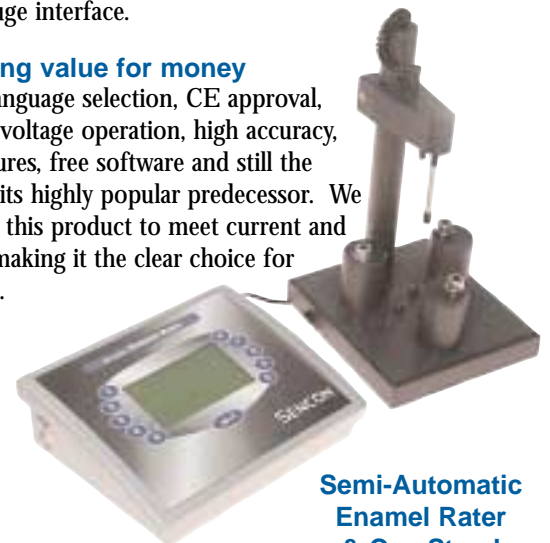
Optional entry of line, machine, operator and label plus a real time clock/calendar ensures that all readings are properly validated. This removes the need for a VDU or PC to be connected to the gauge which is often only adding this information to the batch data. Test procedures can also be pre-loaded.

Provide SPC capability

Basic batch reporting to the LCD screen and printer/computer port plus free PC software for sending data directly to Microsoft Excel. In addition, each gauge is supplied with a free copy of the excellent "QC Lite" SPC software with its Sencon gauge interface.

World beating value for money

Multiple language selection, CE approval, ultra safe low voltage operation, high accuracy, extensive features, free software and still the same price as its highly popular predecessor. We have designed this product to meet current and future needs making it the clear choice for all can makers.



Semi-Automatic Enamel Rater & Can Stand

Web site gets bigger & better

Sencon's very successful web site has been translated and is now available in **French, German, Italian and Spanish.**

This is part of our desire to be as helpful as possible and certainly having canmaking information in your own language is going to be useful. The address remains the same www.sencon.net just click the appropriate national flag to switch to that language. All requests for information from the web site are directed to local Sencon people who can assist again in the appropriate language.



Micro Leak Testing

After the success of its End Light Tester Package for beverage and full aperture food ends Sencon has now added the Conal C.O.L.T end leak pressure tester to its product portfolio.

Sencon and Conal have signed an agreement for the C.O.L.T systems presently offered by Conal Corporation. Sencon will have the exclusive license to sell, manufacture and support all existing and new systems which will be known as the Sencon Micro Leak Tester (M.L.T.).

The agreement now allows Sencon to offer a full leak testing package for converted ends in the form of its End Light Tester Package and the new Micro

Leak Tester. With the two systems End manufactures can maintain a consistent online or off-line check for "end leakers"

Sencon intend to enhance the M.L.T system by supplying a newly designed electrical package and testing package hardware.

Sencon is constantly working with new developments for today's end makers producing products to enhance and maintain high quality production for end makers, both in the form of on-line and off-line equipment.

Sencon will be exhibiting the new Leak Tester package at Cannex 2001 in Denver.



Micro Leak Tester mounted On-line

For more information please circle 'Micro Leak Tester' on the reply sheet.



Cannex Booth 529

We hope to see you at Cannex 2001 in Denver at Sencon's booth 529 on the main aisle.

Equipment there will include:

- Automatic coatings tester
- Label inspection vision system
- Automatic enamel rater
- Oven temperature profiling loggers
- Counting sensors
- and your first chance to see the all new Semi-auto Enamel Rater.

Improve the life of your Hoverprobe

The unique Sencon Hoverprobe balances on a cushion of air allowing the heavy probe to move effortlessly across a flat sheet. This is a very reliable unit but sometimes a unit is returned with a problem. These returns have shown that over half have suffered from excessive air pressure or contamination in the air bearing mechanism.

Although this mechanism has been designed to withstand normal factory use, the nature of the air bearing is that it is susceptible to more rapid wear from contaminated air supplies.

Ensuring that there is a filter/regulator fitted prior to the hover probe can easily prevent this problem. The air supply should be 5 bar 70 psi, free from oil and filtered to 5um.

Cleaning and regular replacement of the probe tip will ensure maximum gauge performance. Spare packs of five tips are available from Sencon Part No: SI9510



SI 9550 Hoverprobe

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