

NEWS & VIEWS

New Coating Management System for 2 & 3 piece Lines

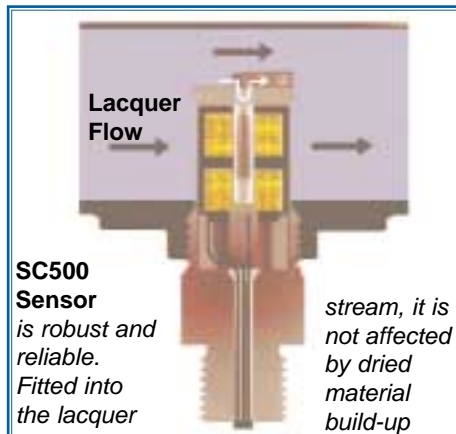
Sencon have launched a new viscosity management system which offers significant advantages over conventional measurement systems.

The SC500 in-line Coating Viscosity Control System provides precise and immediate process control over solids to solvent ratios. With this unique system installed in your coating process, you will cut your operating costs and reduce scrap.

It is not affected by the usual R & R problems of manual test systems, works automatically and continuously to eliminate operator errors, and ensures total lacquer solids control under all operating conditions.

The SC500 Viscosity Control System is highly accurate, self-cleaning with low maintenance needs, rugged, reliable, easy to install and simple to operate.

The controller is provided with upper and lower limit alarms for viscosity, temperature and Temperature Compensated Viscosity, and an alarm contact for a warning beacon or audible signal. The system also has an RS232 communications port for network connection and boasts useful features

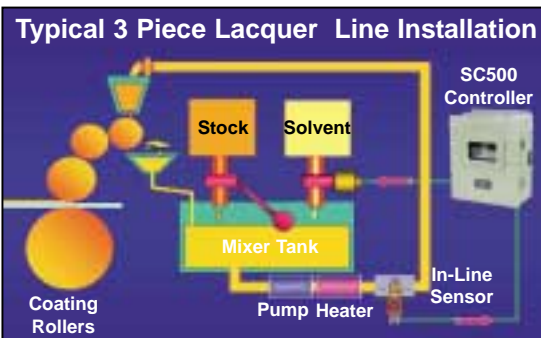


such as date and time-stamped data logging and data averaging.

Operation of the SC500 system is based upon the magnetically driven movement of a piston within the body of the sensor. This piston moves up and down in a precisely calibrated chamber in contact with the mixed lacquer/thinner feed stream. The movement draws new lacquer in and pushes old lacquer out.

As a result, the sensor is always surrounded by lacquer or cleaning solvent, and does not suffer from a build-up of dried material which could affect measurements.

Sencon's SC500 opens a new world of precision in coating control technology. Contact your local sales office for full details, or come and see us on Stand 950 at MetPack, Essen 4-8th. May.



For more information please circle 'Coating Viscosity Controller' on the reply sheet.

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SENCON
CONTROL DOWN THE LINE

New LED Light Source for End Light Tester Package

Sencon has added a new solid state light source as an option for the popular End Light Tester Package.

The new design utilises an array of ultra-bright Light Emitting Diodes (LEDs) to illuminate the underside of converted (SOT) beverage or food lids while they are still located in the press belt. A matching solid-state Light Detector Head located above the lids checks for pinholes via light leakage. The ELTP system has a proven performance with holes down to 5 micron or 0.0002 inch, and operates at up to 800 press strokes per minute.

Sencon's President, Winston Shields, commented: "We can now offer our customers a totally solid state pinhole detection system. There are no fragile lamps or tubes to deal with. We have delivered over 400 Detector Heads to date and have orders for many more units. Every Photo Diode Array we have sold is still in operation, with no detectable degradation in performance".

LED light source technology provides a robust system with exceptional R & R over a long service life. The units are designed to compensate for minor component failure, allowing the system to continue normal operation until a scheduled service point.

How it Works

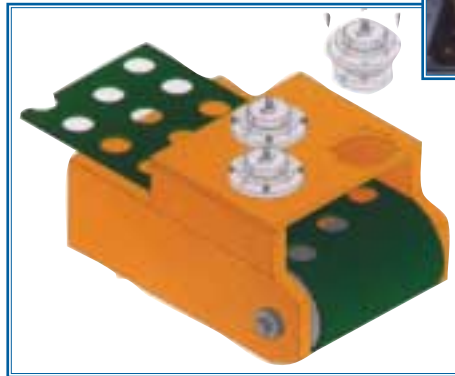
The Sencon End Light Tester Package is a kit designed to be installed at the index belt on the discharge side of



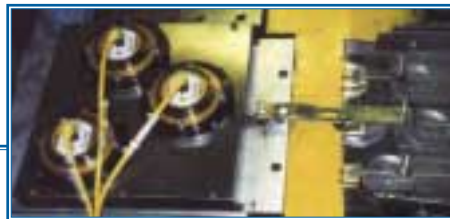
ELTP LED Light Source

The detector head is located in a supporting "bridge" above the press belt at a rest position (BDC of the press). An inspection plate is attached to the detector head to form a light seal between the detector and the lid under test.

Where conveying systems permit, abnormal lids are followed through the downstream trackwork via Sencon's TRACKER technology to a reject location where a high speed solenoid driver activates a reject mechanism.



Typical ELTP arrangement



ELTP Light Detectors mounted at the Discharge of the End Conversion Press

a food or beverage lid conversion press.

Robust, long-life LED arrays or quartz halogen lamps illuminate the

lid under test from below, and light leaking through a defect is detected.

For more information please circle 'ELTP System' on the reply sheet.

NOW - System for Full-aperture Easy Open Ends

With well over 100 systems sold in the last two years, Sencon's light testing system has brought dramatic benefits to beer and beverage end makers. Users report that the system has helped them to almost eliminate leakers as a quality complaint.

Sencon have now announced a re-engineered version of the system suitable for application to full aperture easy open end making presses. Enhancements to the light detection and measuring method allows the same 5 micron pinhole detection capability on steel ends up to 303 (80 mm) diameter.

The solid state detectors, now coupled with solid state LED lighting, will mount on the run-out section of most presses to provide reliable, maintenance-free inspection of 100% of production.

The system will inspect 500 ends per minute per lane, with the possibility of higher speeds on some applications.

For more information please circle 'Full Aperture ELTP System' on the reply sheet.

MetPack '99 : A Stand for All Reasons

Spring in Essen.

One of the world's largest exhibitions of state-of-the-art metal packaging systems and innovative technology.

One of the world's leading suppliers, dedicated to enhancing the productivity and quality of canmaking.

It could only be MetPack '99, Stand 950 in Hall 9: the Sencon Group Stand.

Come and see our wide range of sensors, controls and quality assurance products.

Revel in the benefits you could gain from products such as the new Viscosity Management System.

Payback is typically within six months. Then it will continue earning its minimal keep for many years while you add up the savings in lacquer costs, more consistent products and less scrap.

There's our outstanding range of SI Gauges for can enamel rating and film weight measurement. These proven gauges



SC400 Skew Measurement System

of a 3 piece coating line, from the SC230 Double Sheet Detector, SC500 Viscosity Management System, SC400 Skew Measurement



SC500 Viscosity Management System

SL300 UV Oven Logger

System, SC8300 On-Line Film Weight Measurement System, through a range of Oven Loggers (including UV Ovens), to the end

of the line Film Weight Gauges. Each instrument dedicated to cutting waste and costs. Every gauge carefully complementing your production process and each other for maximum productivity.

And then there is our outstanding Vision System, inspecting labels at up to 3,000 CPM, the End Light Tester... and yet more! See our next issue for more details.

are used by virtually every major canmaker to keep their products up to

the highest standards.

We are also showing a unique collection of gauges designed to manage every stage

For more information please circle 'MetPack' on the reply sheet.

Not Going to MetPack?

If you will be too busy to visit Germany in May, there's no reason why you should miss the very latest information about our canmaking control, sensor and quality assurance systems.

Simply complete and return the reply sheet, or call your local sales office, and we will send a complete information pack. There are informative presentations about Sencon's capabilities in two and three piece canmaking, and valuable data on how to make the best use of your gauges by implementing simple systems and codes of practice for operators.

Please circle "MetPack Presentation" on the reply sheet.

Proven QA Gauge Upgraded

Sencon has released the New Mk 4 version of the highly successful QA2600 Automatic Enamel Rater offering more functionality and greater reliability than ever before.

New features such as smart sampling and batch control, remote modem support, solid state TFT colour display and complete integration into the users MIS system.

The new developments result from experience of over 70 installed enamel rating systems in Europe, Japan, America and Africa all in continuous operation helping can makers to control and reduce metal exposure problems.



Sencon's QA2600 is the clearly preferred choice of all major canmaking groups. Users report cost savings from more efficient use of labour as well as improved quality with better and faster control over metal exposure.

Preventative maintenance contracts are available to ensure optimum system performance with tightly controlled, predictable costs.

Flexible leasing arrangements are also offered to maximise tax advantages.

For more information, please circle "QA2600" on the reply sheet

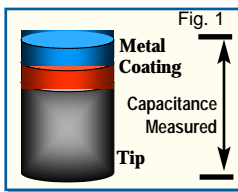
Gauge R & R: train people, set standards for best performance

No matter how accurate your gauge may be, operator techniques and company procedures will have a major effect on performance.

In this, the first of an occasional series, we look at ways in which you can enhance the R&R of gauges using rubber sensor tips such as the Sencon SI9550 Hoverprobe the QA4400 Automatic Coatings Tester or the SI9507 Formed Can Probe.

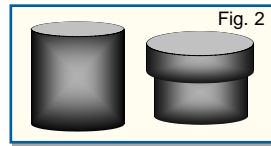
Gauges of this type measure the differences in capacitance between a reference sample

and sheets or cans to be tested. The rubber tips form an essential part of the gauge, separating the main body of the instrument from the material to be measured. Any changes to the tip will change the measured capacitance, reducing gauge accuracy.



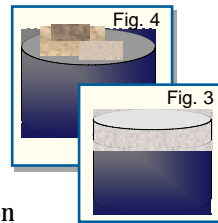
Over time, tips become compressed as shown in fig. 2. As the tip surface area

changes, the gauge will provide increasingly inaccurate readings with poor R&R from day to day.



The solution is very simple: **check tip condition regularly** and replace these inexpensive items frequently.

Figure 4 illustrates the impact of particles of grit, while figure 3 shows the gradual build-up of a film of grease. Both conditions affect readings, but grit particles may also prevent the gauge from measuring at all and may even damage the test sheet

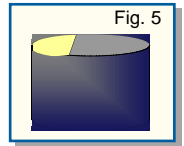


by scratching the surface. Solution: **clean the tips carefully** and ensure that they do not rest on greasy or dirty surfaces.

Ideally, **provide a clean, dust-free area for gauge storage** when not in use.

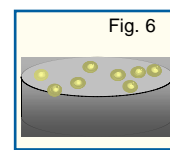
The most common source of error is

physical damage to the tip, usually caused by careless handling as the gauge is moved into contact with the can or sheet. Chips taken from the surface create unstable readings. Again, **check regularly for damage and establish good practice when operating the gauge.**



Finally, extensive use can lead to a condition known as "carbon leaching", where the conductivity of the tip changes over time as particles of carbon are lost.

This is a gradual process and one which can not be detected readily by visual inspection. The solution is to **replace tips at recommended service intervals.**



Sencon's support engineers are always happy to advise on good practice and maintenance procedures, just ask!

For more information please circle 'Coating Gauges' on the reply sheet.

In Brief

Better Detection

The SC220 Double Sheet Detector has been upgraded to the SC230.

Key benefits are a larger operating distance up from 30 mm to 50 mm from the sheet path and an increase in detectable sheet thickness to 0.5mm.

Enhanced shielding improves the performance of the SC230 in electrically "noisy" plant environments.

More details in the next issue!

Happy Anniversary!

Sencon is celebrating the fifth anniversary of the first shipment of the Photo Diode Array Detector Head for pinhole testing of DWI cans. The head is used in Sencon's Upgrade Light Tester Package, a high performance kit which replaces existing photo-multiplier systems on Reynolds RT6/RT5™ machines. Benefits include rugged, reliable performance and almost unlimited life with no degradation over time.

It is also the second anniversary of the application of Photo Diode Array technology to on-press end inspection.

Service Contracts cut costs, improve production

Sencon UK reports that more than 60% of customers have taken out Preventative Maintenance Contracts for Quality Assurance systems and many more are about to sign up. The contracts provide preventative maintenance to agreed schedules, backed by fast call-outs should breakdowns occur.

Existing customers have found the service makes a significant difference to their ability to keep working to consistently high quality standards, cuts their operating costs and improves gauge reliability.

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