Supplier Focus

Lubricants for the glass industry

Jerome Charvet presents the swabbing mould greases and lubricants developed in France and supplied internationally by Condat.

Since 1854, the independent French group Condat has specialised in the conception and production of industrial lubricants with a specific knowhow in grease formulation. With headquarters and manufacturing facilities located in France and three other production sites in the USA, China and Brazil, Condat is a world reference on lubricants with high added technical value for a multitude of applications.

With extensive experience and years of partnership with leading glassmaking groups, the company offers a complete range of lubricants and coatings meeting the requirements of the glass packaging process, including:

- Soluble lubricants for shear sprays.
- Neat oils and dual-component coatings for delivery systems.
- Synthetic oils for the central lubrication of IS machines. Also available is a series of oils and greases that are suitable for the maintenance of glass machinery. Thanks to the company's industrial structure and 40-strong R&D team, Condat is able to deliver tailor-made development for greases and lubricants.

Active in the field of glass packaging for more than four decades, Condat continuously updates its range of lubricants. Since 2014, its swabbing compounds have received a warm welcome, because they offer another supply alternative for this type of product. Thanks to its graphite expertise, earned in such applications as forging and diecasting, the company can master the formulation and viscosity of these products from A to Z. It has also been able to offer a technology with sprayable mould lubricants. The reliability and quality of Condat swabbing compounds makes the company a major supplier worldwide.

The Condat headquarters in Chasse-sur-Rhône covers an area of 84,500m².

Swabbing compounds

Via the company's extensive expertise in grease production and formulation, Condat ensures the consistent quality of its Condaglass mould swabbing lubricants. Dedicated products are available for the following bottle-making equipment and processes:

- Blank moulds.
- Neck rings.
- Blow moulds.
- Narrow neck press and blow equipment.
- Blow-blow equipment.

These graphite greases provide the uniform lubrication of moulds and optimise production efficiency. Their viscosity is adapted to the intended application. Neither too fluid nor too thick, they permit the correct dosage of grease and its good coverage on the mould.

Condat swabbing mould lubricants limit clogging and allow a clear view of the most demanding parts (e.g. perfumery, cosmetics and pharmaceuticals). They restrict checks and improve mould life.

Sprayable compounds

Mould swabbing remains one of the most empirical operations in glass packaging manufacture and can be considered risky because of the smoke and high temperatures encountered at the hot end. With safety a major concern, Condat has tried to avoid this manual operation on behalf of customers by offering a range of sprayable lubricants. Developed in partnership with spraying equipment manufacturers and glass plants, this range of compounds includes products such as Condaglass 364, 365 and 367. These products...
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The application of enabling Lubricant on a glass mould.

can be applied via robots and built-in spraying equipment, in comparison with conventional mould sweatballing formulations, benefits include reduced exposure times for operators, the creation of less smoke and reduced lubricant consumption.

Easy production start.

Compromising the product range are lubricants dedicated to the start of production following job changes etc. Because temperatures may not be high enough, such solutions can ease the release of glass articles at the beginning of production.

- Condolux® Core moulding compounds are ready for use. The product is presented in an aerosol format. Every time it is used as the start of production.

- Condolux® Start, a liquid graphite solution. Developed thanks to specific formulation technology using an ultra-fine graphite particle size. It allows a high performance and lubricity on moulds. Its wetting properties have been enhanced through a recently optimised binder. The coating is homogeneous and maintenance costs are limited thanks to reduced product usage.

Tableware specialisation

The correct release of glass from moulds is also very important in the tableware sector. Having supplied shear spray lubricants for many years in partnership with customers, Condol can now provide solutions for glass release as well.

Glass "VG" is a neat oil to be sprayed and run in the moulds. It leaves a slight quantity of carbon residue, enough to avoid defects on glass articles but without leaving build up in the moulds.

Condolux® 110 is an oil with a small quantity of graphite. It is a ready-to-use product, with no need to add graphite that can be applied to the mould by several methods and leaves a homogenous film and perfect conditions for productivity.

Eco-friendly commitment

From the very beginning, Condol's tableware philosophy has been to offer products whose chemistry is stable and environmentally friendly. Since 2012, the company has focused on e-lubricants devoid of dangerous substances, as testified by its products' packaging, which is free of safety labeling.

This commitment serves the workflow of customers, while continuing to take into account productivity requirements, as the generation of products is ever more efficient than ever before.

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