

SPECIAL MESSAGE

Dear Readers,

I am delighted to engage with the broader tinplate fraternity – can manufacturers, FMCG brand owners and end-consumers – and congratulate MCMA for its commendable efforts in bringing together various industry stakeholders.

Tinplate, with its steel strength, provides unmatched durability and impermeability. It is the packaging material of choice for processed edibles, aerosols, paints and chemicals, ensuring extended shelf life and a drastic reduction in food waste. Tinplate cans are 100% recyclable, aligning with the circular economy and EPR (Extended Producer Responsibility) goals.



Tata Steel and others in the steel industry are investing in steel recycling infrastructure to close the loop. As part of its large-scale recycling operation, Tata Steel Nederland targets using 120 million kilograms of recycled old food tins and beverage cans in steel production by 2026, four times the amount used in 2024.

As we progress, the steel industry and MCMA should collaborate to amplify awareness and innovate to make tinplate packaging more contemporary amongst a new generation of consumers. In this regard, we would like to work on a joint campaign to increase consumer mind space and industry growth.

I look forward to connecting with various stakeholders in the industry and working together on challenges.

Best regards,

Ujjal Chakraborti
EIC, Tinplate Division
Tata Steel Limited

EDITORIAL

Welcome to the last edition of MCMA News for FY 2024-25 !

As in the past 3 editions of Pac MechEx, MCMA joined hands with them once again as "Industry Partner" for their 4th edition of exhibition held during April 3 – 5, 2025 at Mumbai. Concurrently with the exhibition, MCMA conducted a seminar titled "CAN – THE FUTURE" on April 4, at Goregaon, Mumbai.

The programme started with MCMA President, Mr Sanjay Bhatia welcoming the gathering and he outlined how metal Cans can be made a preferred packaging medium. Keynote Speaker, Mr Ujjal Chakraborti, EIC, Tinplate Division of Tata Steel, in his address charted the developments of Tata Steel towards making cans more sustainable.

Ms Soumya Nair, Mr Alain D'haese, and our Member, Mr S Sreenatha presented lots of information to keep the audience glued. Mr Ritesh Mathur moderated the panel discussions and posed some interesting questions to the panel comprising Ms Subhprada Nishtala, Mr Amit Agrawal, Mr Kartik Nayak, and Mr Kaushal Vora. We had a full house, and some people were left standing for want of sitting space.

Mr Purushottam Patel, Mr Ashok Kulkarni, Mr Om Agarwal, Mr Firoz Shah, Mr Biju Varghese and Mr Mateen Merchant were present from MCMA. Overall, everyone appreciated the presentations and discussions.

Another very important global news is Trump's tariff war. This is a very disruptive action that the world is facing, and India is no exception. Ofcourse, exports from India will certainly be affected, atleast initially, but over a period, Indian economy may stabilise.

Already annual inflation rate fell to a lower-than-expected 3.34% in March 2025, the Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation reported on April 15. The reading came in slightly below the 3.61% seen in February, as growth in food prices continued to soften. The inflation data follows a second straight interest rate cut by the Reserve Bank of India, at its meeting on April 9, bringing its policy rate to 6% amid growth concerns.

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PACKAGING AND PACKAGING WASTE REGULATION (EU) 2025/40 - IMPACT ON INDIA'S METAL PACKAGING SECTOR

European Union's new Packaging Regulations aims to reduce packaging waste, enhance recyclability, and promote the use of recycled materials across the EU. Understanding and adapting to these changes is crucial for India's metal packaging sector to maintain competitiveness in the global market.

The European Union's Packaging & Packaging Waste Regulation (EU) 2025/40, adopted on December 19, 2024, marks a significant shift towards sustainable packaging practices. This regulation aims to reduce packaging waste, enhance recyclability, and promote the use of recycled materials across the EU. For India's metal packaging sector, understanding and adapting to these changes is crucial for maintaining competitiveness in the global market.

Key Provisions and Objectives

The regulation introduces stringent measures to minimize packaging waste and improve recycling rates. It mandates that packaging must be designed for reuse and recyclability, reducing the complexity of packaging materials. Additionally, it sets requirements for recycled content in plastic packaging, which indirectly impacts metal packaging as companies may need to demonstrate their sustainability efforts across all packaging types.

Implications for India's Metal Packaging Sector

India's metal packaging industry, which exports to the EU, must align with these new standards to ensure continued EU market access. This involves investing in sustainable packaging technologies and practices. Companies will need to innovate to meet the EU's requirements for recyclability and reduced environmental impact. Collaboration with EU partners to understand compliance requirements and best practices will be essential. However,

er, this should not impact the India market itself, except if requested by global brand owners.

Opportunities and Challenges

While the regulation poses challenges, it also offers opportunities for Indian companies to lead in sustainable packaging solutions. By adopting eco-friendly practices, Indian metal packaging firms can enhance their brand reputation and appeal to environmentally conscious consumers in the EU. However, the transition may require substantial investment in new technologies and processes, which could be a hurdle for smaller enterprises.

In conclusion, the EU's Packaging & Packaging Waste Regulation (EU) 2025/40 presents both challenges and opportunities for India's metal packaging sector. Embracing sustainability will not only ensure compliance but also position Indian companies as leaders in the global market.

Source : Alain D'haese, Secretary General, European Aerosol Federation (FEA)



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India's packaging industry is on track to outperform the global market significantly. While the global packaging market is forecasted to grow from USD 1,140 billion in 2024 to USD 1,380 billion by 2029, according to data from Mordor Intelligence, India's industry is set to expand at a faster pace.

As per the information shared at MCMA seminar, some metal container producers are expanding their capacities to meet the prospected growing demands. Our members are installing multicoloured printing facilities for high quality printing, varnishing, etc, to meet the brand owners' requirements for super brand visibility. As

Mr Om Agarwal mentioned, while answering a question from the audience at the seminar, competition has increased considerably, but members should not get into unfair competition. This will only hurt themselves and create an unfair playing field for everyone.

Our magazine normally comes by March 31, but this issue has been delayed to include pictures of the seminar.

I take this opportunity to WISH ALL OF YOU A VERY HAPPY AND PROSPEROUS FY 2025-26.

Best regards,
Editor.

PROPER USAGE OF ADDITIVES TO RESOLVE DIE LINING APPLICATION ISSUES

Despite comprehensive coverage of the die-lining application, webbing and de-wetting substrate issues continue to pose challenges for irregular can converters. We provide some simple ways to resolve these issues.

While round cans dominate the food can industry, non-round metal packaging is also widely used in certain applications. Notable examples include decorative cans, dry packs, and edible oil cans.

We have featured articles on Die Lining application in the past MCMA editions. Some of the important topics covered include:



- Compound weight per end guideline
- Product Storage, Application, Transfer, Rheology Modification, Service Life
- Adjustment of the Applying Die on to the chuck plate upon which the end is to be lined
- Guideline for Applying Die clearance in 'mm'
- Guideline for adjustment of Platen Die without compound poured in the pot
- Compound Film weight standards for recommended compound and selected size of non-round ends
- Compound placement guideline for recommended compound and selected size of non-round ends.

Despite comprehensive coverage of the die-lining application, we have observed that webbing and de-wetting substrate issues continue to pose challenges for irregular can converters.

The simplest way to resolve these issues is by adding the recommended specialty additives to the wet compound.

An introduction to Additives

DAREX Non-Web and Cansurfass are compound additives which improve the performance of water-based compounds under adverse lining conditions.

Non-Web, as the name implies, reduces web formation in die lining compounds. As the die rises from the compound pot or the lined ends, webbing occurs, and when the web breaks, it causes splashing, leading to dirty ends and compound buildup on the sides of the die.

Compound buildup on the dies can lead to inconsistent film weight control. Mixing in a small amount of non-web compound helps minimize webbing tendency.

Cansurfass, is a wetting agent. When added in small amounts to water-based compounds, it lowers surface tension, allowing the compound to spread evenly over oily plate surfaces. It is commonly used to prevent skips and feathered edges.

Application

Before use, add up to 7g of non-Web per kg of water-based compound. Mix well with a one- or two-blade impeller, maintaining moderate agitation (60–100 rpm). If the compound is not utilized within 3–5 days, you may



need to add the same amount of non-Web.

Add 3–4g of Cansurfass per kg of compound with moderate agitation (60–100 rpm). If the treated compound remains unused for more than 5 days, you may need to add the same amount of Cansurfass.

Precautions

Cansurfass should be added carefully, using only the necessary amount. Do not exceed 7g of Non-Web or Cansurfass per kg of compound at a time. If wetting issues persist despite the addition, it indicates an underlying problem that needs to be addressed.

Excess Cansurfass can weaken the can end lining, especially under steam exposure or in water-packed applications. Ensure Non-Web and Cansurfass pails remain fully airtight.

The data contained herein is intended as reference only. Please connect your Darex Henkel contact for assistance and recommendation on specifications for these products.



Source: Ravikumar Purbhe, Business Development Manager - Metal Packaging, Henkel Adhesive Technologies - India, Middle East, Africa

NATIONAL STAKEHOLDER CONSULTATION

FSSAI conducted National Stakeholder Consultation on Sustainable Packaging for Food Business: Emerging Global Trends and Regulatory Framework on 16th April 2025 at MMRDA Auditorium. The programme was well attended by people from paper, plastics & glass industry

sector. Such programmes help the Members to network and also generate awareness of metal packaging. I attended the programme.

AWARDS

INDIASTAR and PACMACHINE 2024 awards functions were held 10th January 2025 conducted by IIP. Hindustan Tin Works Ltd received the awards. I request all the Members to participate in such events to showcase your products.



MANAGING COMMITTEE

- Mr Sanjay Bhatia - President
- Mr Diwakar Shetty – Vice President
- Mr Purushottam Patel – Secretary
- Mr Om Agarwal – Jt Secretary
- Mr Sheikhali Barodawala – Treasurer
- Mr A B Kulkarni
- Mr Fidahusain Tinwala
- Mr Shailesh Karia
- Mr Umesh Batra
- Mr Nitin Agarwal
- Mr Kaushal Vora

SEMINAR - CAN THE FUTURE



At the Pac MechEx, Metal Container Manufacturers' Association (MCMA) supported as Industry Partner. Concurrently with the exhibition, MCMA conducted a seminar titled "CAN - THE FUTURE" on April 2, 2025, with stalwarts from metal packaging joining the event. MCMA President & MD Hindustan Tin Works Ltd, Mr SANJAY BHATIA welcomed the gathering and outlined how Can can be made a preferred packaging medium. Mr Ujjal Chakraborti, EIC, Tinsplate Division of Tata Steel, charted the developments of Tata Steel towards making cans more sustainable.

This was followed first by Ms Soumya Nair of Envirocare Labs presenting different analytical tests they perform to test cans & food products. Then Mr Alain D'haese, Secretary General, FEA detailed online the regulations on metal recycling coming soon in EU. Next Mr S Sreenatha of Easy Open Ends explained how his company is increasing capacity to meet the requirements of the can manufacturers and ensure continuous supply to the processed food industry.

Mr Ritesh Mathur, Founder F2F consultants & VP AFST Mumbai Chapter moderated the panel discussions and posed some interesting questions to the

panel comprising Ms Subhprada Nishtala, Director, Food Adroit; Mr Amit Agrawal, Chief Marketing & Sales Officer, Tinsplate Division, Tata Steel; Mr Kartik Nayak, Jt MD Shetron and Mr Kaushal Vora, MD Massilly India. The answers of the panellists kept the audience engrossed in the discussions. Audience also asked some key questions to the panellists and were given appropriate & relevant answers.

MCMA Committee Members Mr Purushottam Patel of Asian Containers; Mr Ashok Kulkarni of Kaira Can Company and Mr Om Agarwal of Caps Containers were present.

