

# Interesting alternative posed by SIS package

Emhart Glass has introduced a standard IS machine package in response to the problems that can be associated by patching together new, old and repaired mechanisms from different suppliers. The package includes forming controls, servo feeder with parallel servo shear, servo gob distributor, suspended delivery, dual axis servo pusher and accessories. In this article, Emhart Glass reveals the details of its latest development.

There can be business situations where a high performance production line, such as a full servo NIS 12-section quadruple gob or an AIS 12-section 4<sup>1</sup>/<sub>4</sub> triple gob machine is not the best choice for certain market conditions. There are business cases where double gob production lines are sufficient to cope with particular market requirements.

In specific business situations capital expenditure may be restricted to the point where the purchase of new, highly sophisticated machines (such as the NIS or AIS) is not commercially feasible. The expected return on investment (ROI) is not achievable. Sometimes, high productivity is not needed for certain market situations.

Traditionally, the alternatives to overcome these problems are:

- to repair and update the existing machine
- look for a cheap low-quality machine
- consider buying a re-conditioned machine.

All of these options have disadvantages in the medium and long term, whether it is reduced life of the equipment, support for spare parts or additional investment needed during furnace life. Expected

higher downtime and limited pack-to-melt results will impact negatively the cost of ownership on such traditionally compromised container production lines.

Many investment projects are compromised by combining all kinds of available mechanisms from different suppliers, combining new and repaired or re-used parts. What seems like a good, low-cost choice at the time can end up as a patchwork project compromising production line performance for the life of the next furnace campaign!

Some container producers have learned the hard way how troublesome it is to patch together new, old and repaired mechanisms from different suppliers (*fig 1*).

The supposed 'smart' alternatives result in:

- difficult project specifications that are hard to manage, time consuming and risky



Fig 1. 'Patch' section (mixing several vintages of new and old repaired equipment).

- doubts about the mix of new and used parts
- not knowing in detail what will be delivered by the equipment supplier.
- no clear project responsibility

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- machine alignments, quality or spare part issues
- questionable production line performance (downtime, pack-to-melt and quality)
- high cost of ownership, repair or exchange needs after a short while
- the expected life of the machine before major repair.

### Standard SIS package

Emhart Glass has responded to this inconvenient 'patch' situation by developing a new standard IS machine package. It offers a highly competitive alternative to the existing traditional compromise solutions that a number of customers are forced to face.

The SIS machine package, offered from the feeder to the ware transfer, uses the latest standard of section frames and mechanisms, taking advantage of the flexibility of the industry standard 26-line valve block to minimise complexity on external piping and valves. The package includes advanced forming controls, 555 servo feeder with 565 parallel servo shear, 535 servo gob distributor, suspended delivery, the latest dual axis servo pusher

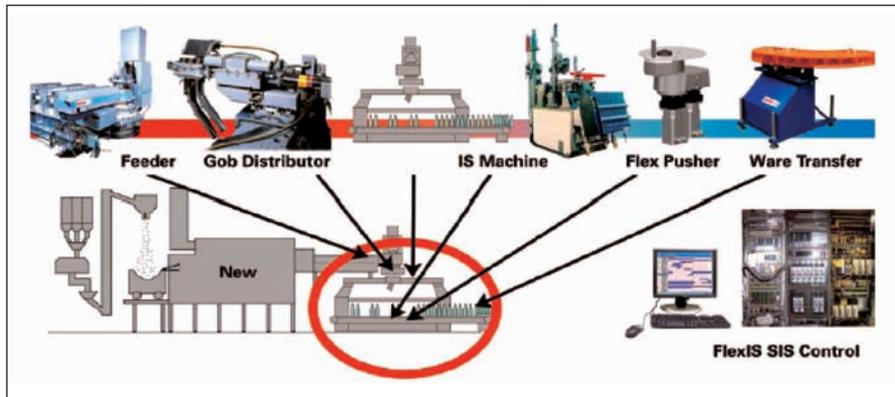


Fig 2. The SIS line package.

(FlexPusher) and quick change accessories for one job (fig 2).

The standard SIS package is available as single or double gob, covering all the Emhart Glass centre distances and configured for 6, 8, 10 and tandem configurations for the manufacture of blow and blow, press and blow and narrow neck press and blow containers.

A comparison between a repaired or re-manufactured machine line and the new SIS Machine concept leads to significant reasons to choose the SIS option including:

- 100% new equipment
- today's standard of well-proven technology

- straightforward specifications
- less complex project management
- support of spare parts
- standard documentation and training
- less risky decision.

It is expected that this machine concept will replace a significant number of repaired or remanufactured IS machines and set a new standard for high quality, low investment markets for certain glass container manufacturers. ■

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Fig 3. SIS 5 1/2 double gob 10-section machine with 26 line EPVB and FlexPusher.

