

Pharmacode made easy

Innovative coding for Prospan® –
the No.1 plant-based cough medicine



Overview

For over 140 years, Engelhard Arzneimittel has been researching, producing and distributing high-quality plant and chemical-based medicines.

The success of this family-run, medium-sized pharmaceutical company, headquartered in Niederdorfelden near Frankfurt, is based on a combination of tradition and innovation. With an annual turnover of over €90 million, Engelhard is a leading manufacturer in the over-the-counter (OTC) sector.

Its consistently high quality standards can be seen in its successful and well-known brands, such as Prospan®, isla® and Tyrosur®.

Flawless compliance coding is essential in ensuring that its innovative product range is fully traceable. In addition to the company's well-known Prospan® Cough Liquid and its different dosage forms, its range also includes other brands in the form of lozenges, ointments, creams and gels.

Fast facts

- Replacing existing hot stamping systems
- Flexible, high-contrast thermal inkjet coding with low consumable costs
- New, ethanol-based BK 118 ink (TIJ) for uniform, long-lasting codes with pin-sharp characters
- Excellent relationships with the sales representative and Service Department

“Domino has excellent references and its systems are user-friendly, as well as easy to integrate.

It is important to highlight our excellent relationship with the Service Department. From spare part orders to services over the phone and on-site support - everything always works quickly and smoothly.”

Christian Belzer, Systems Engineering Team Manager at Engelhard Arzneimittel GmbH & Co. KG

Domino G-Series i-Tech Thermal ink jet Printer (TIJ) has replaced the existing hot stamping system for flexible coding on Prospan® Cough Liquid labels

As part of the liquid product line, a hot stamping system was originally used to apply variable, country-specific traceability information when bottling Prospan® Cough Liquid. However, this process no longer offered the desired flexibility and it was becoming increasingly difficult to obtain replacement parts. It was also important to keep downtime to a minimum. After visiting several trade fairs thermal ink jet was chosen.

Christian Belzer, Systems Engineering Team Manager at Engelhard Arzneimittel goes on to explain that: *“As an innovative company, it’s very important that Engelhard Arzneimittel moves with the times. This is why we decided to invest in new coding systems. We knew that we wanted to switch to thermal ink jet systems (TIJ) to meet our various coding requirements. This quickly led us to Domino. From the start Domino were friendly and competent making it easy for us to choose.”*



The G-Series **i-Tech** is a flexible coding solution, which can be seamlessly integrated into existing production lines and provides high-quality printing, with serialised 2D data matrix codes at article level, outstanding adhesion, light-fastness and scratch-resistance on a wide variety of substrates. At Engelhard Arzneimittel, a **GI20i** Thermal ink jet coding system is used for the Prospan® product line. It is integrated into a Pago labelling system, providing double-spaced coding on the bottle labels for its renowned Prospan® Cough Liquid, with the best-before date and batch information. The coding is added after the cough liquid bottle has been filled and before its label is applied.

The **GI20i** Thermal ink jet Coding System has now been used, without any problems occurring, for over 3.5 years.

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The outer packaging coding on Prospan® shipping boxes is applied using the M-Series innovative Print and Apply Labeller

Since the shipping boxes also need to include the relevant coding for traceability purposes, every shipping box on the discharge conveyor on the packaging line is labelled on its side using Domino M-Series Print and Apply Labeller:

The M200-T100 Print and Apply Labeller is connected to the internal ERP system in order to transfer data.

“We are delighted with the Domino systems. They are intuitive to use and virtually maintenance-free. Since the systems operate without errors, we have now decided to work with Domino on another project, in order to code our PE bottles,” says Christian Belzer.





G230i Thermal ink jet for high-contrast PE bottle coding

"Previously, we did not have an in-house solution for printing bottles of our Tyrosur® Powder. We ordered them pre-printed, which was also very costly and less flexible than an in-house solution," says Christian Belzer.

Since the G230i System has been integrated, Tyrosur® Powder is now poured into PE bottles by employees at manual work stations. The bottles are then placed onto a conveyor where they are coded with variable text information (at 600 dpi with a product distance of 1-2mm).

"Thanks to this in-house thermal ink jet solution, we can now action orders very quickly after receiving them, because the operators can easily enter the required printing job into the system themselves," says Belzer.

After Domino switched to its newly developed, ethanol-based ink BK I 18 (TIJ), which is particularly suitable for labelling challenging materials, such as plastics,

foils and coated cardboard boxes, it became the perfect solution for Engelhard Arzneimittel's PE plastic bottles. The BK I 18 ink provides uniform, permanently readable codes with pin-sharp characters and high contrast.

The G230i Thermal ink jet Printer can be controlled very flexibly using the control unit on the conveyor.

This coding solution gives this innovative pharmaceutical company the flexibility that it needs, in order to rapidly action orders specific to clients with low consumable costs, with outstanding code quality and ink adhesion.

As we are very happy with the Domino systems that we currently use, plans are already in place for further joint projects (tube and folding box coding on additional lines), starting very soon.

After consulting the on-site production managers, we will certainly be contacting Domino as a solution provider for our future serialisation projects.



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