

A Very Good Year...

...for *packagePRINTING*'s Top Flexible Packaging Converters

If Frank Sinatra were to look back on 2006's flexible packaging market, he might break into "It Was a Very Good Year." About 85 percent of the converters that responded to *packagePRINTING*'s Top Flexible Packaging Converters Survey reported that their businesses experienced growth in 2006, while 15 percent said business stayed the same or decreased.

Overall, flexible packaging converters are using a majority of their capacity. About 61 percent of respondents are operating at capacity levels of between 80 and 90 percent, and 39 percent are operating at less than 80 percent. Nearly all of the respondents anticipate that they will expand their package printing operations, with a majority expecting to venture into new flexible packaging printing processes or new end-use markets in 2007.

The Flexible Packaging Association expects the new end-use market growth opportunities will include produce, pet food/supplies, beverages, health/beauty aids, pharmaceuticals, snacks, and confectionery, according to the preliminary version of the "2007 State of the Industry" report, presented by Ilene Gordon, president/CEO of Alcan Packaging at the FPA's annual meeting.

Looking ahead, in addition to expecting more creativity and innovation, the FPA anticipates a 2 to 4 percent growth for the flexible packaging industry in 2007. And, according to a Freedonia Group study, "Paper Versus Plastic in Packaging to 2019," this growth will be aided by an increasing demand for pouches.

Cheers, flexible packaging converters, to a successful 2006 and a promising 2007!

Rank	Company	Principal Officer	# of Employees	# of Presses	# of Facilities	Processes Used
1	Alcoa Flexible Packaging, Pittsburg, Pa. Industries Served: Food, Beverage, Medical, Electronics	Alain Belda	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
2	Alcan Packaging, Chicago, Ill. Industries Served: Food, Beauty, Pharmaceutical, Tobacco	Ilene Gordon	31,000	N/A	130	N/A
3	Bemis Company, Minneapolis, Minn. Industries Served: Food, Industrial	Jeff Curler	15,736	N/A	N/A	F, C, U, D, G
4	Sealed Air Corp, Saddle Brook, N.J. Industries Served: Food, Protective, Specialty	William V. Hickey	17,000	N/A	100	D, F, G
5	Printpack, Atlanta, Ga. Industries Served: Snack, Beverage, Bakery, Dairy, Food	Dennis Love	4,240	N/A	25	F, G
6	AEP Industries, South Hackensack, N.J. Industries Served: Food & Beverage, Industrial, Agricultural	J. Brendan Barba	N/A	N/A	10	F
7	Exopack LLC, Spartanburg, S.C. Industries Served: Food, Beverage, Pet Food, Lawn & Garden, Agriculture	Jack E. Knott	2,700	N/A	14	F, G, U
8	Hood Packaging, Ontario, Canada Industries Served: Bakery, Food, Lawn & Garden, Agriculture, Pet Food	Warren A. Hood, Jr.	N/A	N/A	7	F
9	Sonoco Products Co., Hartsville, S.C. Industries Served: Confectionery, Snacks, Beverage, Home & Personal Care,	Harris DeLoach	250	20	10	F, G
10	Bryce Corp., Memphis, Tenn. Industries Served: Food, Snacks, Confectionery, Bakery, Pet Food	Thomas J. Bryce	1,100	N/A	7	F
11	Pliant Corp., Schaumburg, Ill. Industries Served: Personal Care, Bakery, Frozen Foods, Beverages, Deli, Retail	Harold C. Bevis	3,000	38	9	F, G
12	Covalence Coated Products, Shreveport, La. Industries Served: Food, Industrial, Military, Healthcare	John Matuscak	N/A	N/A	6	F
13	American Packaging Corp., Rochester, N.Y. Industries Served: Food & Beverage, Healthcare, Personal Care, Medical, Pharmaceutical	Peter Schottland	500	17	3	F, G
14	Amcor Flexibles, Mundelein, Ill. Industries Served: Food, Beverage, Healthcare, Pharmaceuticals, Personal Care	Peter Brues	8,482	N/A	46	F, G
15	Coating Excellence, Wrightstown, Wis. Industries Served: Paper, Industry, Confectionery, Protective, Pet Food	Michael Nowak	331	13	1	F, O, U

FEATURE EDITORIAL

Rank	Company	Principal Officer	# of Employees	# of Presses	# of Facilities	Processes Used
16	Clear Lam Packaging, Elk Grove Village, Ill. Industries Served: Food, Healthcare, Industrial, Military	Jeams J. Sanfilippo	400	9	3	F, G
17	Oracle Packaging, Tulsa, Okla. Industries Served: Healthcare, Pharmaceutical, Dairy, Confectionery, Pet Food	Scott Dickman	430	N/A	1	G
18	Poly-Pak Industries, Melville, N.Y. Industries Served: Retail, Dry Cleaning, Food	Peter Levy	400	16	2	O
19	Cadillac Products Packaging, Troy, Mont. Industries Served: Food, Snacks, Lawn & Garden, Medical, Agricultural	Robert J. Williams, Jr.	190	6	2	F
20	The Robinette Co., Bristol, Tenn. Industries Served: Food, Beverage, Construction, Textile, Personal Care	Joe Robinette	260	11	2	F, U
21	C-P Flexible Packaging, York, Pa. Industries Served: Snacks, Bakery, Candy, Consumer	A.F. Vaudo	185	7	2	F
22	Ampac Flexibles, Cary, Ill. Industries Served: Pharmaceutical, Medical, Food, Healthcare, Industrial	Robert L. Biddle	200	2	2	F, G
23	Oliver Products Co., Grand Rapids, Mich. Industries Served: Food, Medical, Industrial	John Green	230	N/A	1	F, O
24	St. John's Packaging, Quebec, Canada Industries Served: Food, Personal Care	Jacques Leclair	200	8	2	F
25	Belmark Inc., De Pere, Wis. Industries Served: Food, Confection, Snack Foods, Durable	Bruce Bill	150	9	1	F, D
26	Plastic Packaging, Hickory, N.C. Industries Served: Consumer Disposables, Healthcare, Home Furnishings, Nutraceuticals, Food	Bert Brinkley	258	8	2	F
27	Nordenia U.S.A., Jackson, Mo. Industries Served: Hygiene, Frozen Food, Lawn & Garden, Pet Food, Industrial	William Burke	450	6	2	F, G

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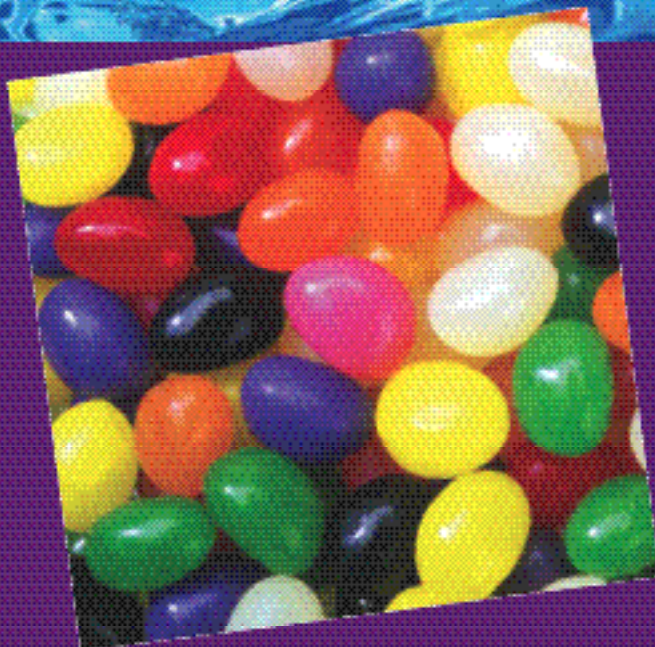
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28	Roplast Industries, Oroville, Calif. Industries Served: Food & Produce, Industrial, Grocery, Retail, Custom Film	Robert Bateman	120	4	1	F
29	GSI Technologies, Burr Ridge, Ill. Industries Served: Healthcare, Electrical, Auto, Paper & Plastic, Food Service	Jack Kraemer	59	11	2	F, U, S
30	Fisher Container, Buffalo Grove, Ill. Industries Served: Food, Housewares, Medical, Pharmaceutical, Electronic	Donald E. Fisher	75	3	1	F
31	Catty Corp., Harvard, Ill. Industries Served: Food, Confectionery, Pharmaceutical, Consumer	Bruce A. Scott	75	4	1	G
32	LPS Industries, Moonachie, N.J. Industries Served: Food, Medical, Snack Food	Madeleine Robinson	50	4	1	F
33	Prime Graphics, Wood Dale Ill. Industries Served: Food, Medical, Beverage, Industrial, Consumer	Willard Hunter	55	4	1	F, C
34	CastlePierce, Oshkosh, Wis. Industries Served: Snack Food, Pet Food, Healthcare	William Castle	14	3	1	F, O, U
35	Multiplas, Rye Brook, N.Y. Industries Served: Food, Personal Care, Garden, Petrochemicals	Joe Godoy	106	4	2	F, G
36	Progressive Paper, Three Rivers, Mich. Industries Served: Industry, Supply Printers	Vern Castle	9	0	1	N/A
37	Beacon Converters, Saddle Brook, N.J. Industries Served: Medical, Pharmaceutical, Industrial, Food	Jackie Daly Johnson	80	5	1	F

Note: Rankings are based on sales of printed/converted flexible packaging. All sales information is provided by participating companies, and is held in strict confidence by *packagePRINTING*. Participation in this survey is voluntary.

Key to Rankings: C=Combination Process; D=Digital; F=Flexo; G=Gravure; L=Letterpress; O=Offset; S=Screen; U=UV Flexo

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