

# MACHINERY UPDATE

The machinery only journal for processing & packaging | [www.machineryupdate.co.uk](http://www.machineryupdate.co.uk)

## FEATURES LIST 2018



### New ideas brought to life

- news & views
- new machines
- installations
- international news
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- events & people

Plus in-depth features on end user markets

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### MACHINERY UPDATE

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PUBLISHED BY

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# MACHINERY UPDATE 2018 IN-DEPTH FEATURES

In every issue of *Machinery Update*, we include special features that highlight the latest developments in each of these market sectors. We also report on what is being shown at major exhibitions throughout the year.

## JANUARY/FEBRUARY

### Warehousing, logistics and e-commerce

The importance of efficient warehousing and logistics systems cannot be overstated, especially for the growing e-commerce sector which is why this new feature has been included this year. We will be looking for examples of how equipment installations or changing working practices have benefited end users across any sector. The logistics of physical items usually involves the integration of information flow, materials handling, production, packaging, inventory, transportation, warehousing, and often security so there is a lot of scope for coverage. Managing data and ensuring stock rotation is an important element, too.

**Deadline: Friday December 8**

## MARCH/APRIL

### Ready meals

After a turbulent few years, chilled ready meals continue to grow, especially premium brands that emphasise provenance and natural ingredients as well as grab and go type products and homecooked-style dishes. Frozen and ambient meals are struggling, although bucking this trend is the Slimming World option which showed the greatest gain of any ready meal brand last year. Whatever the option chosen, it seems that shoppers continue to be happy to pay a bit more for high quality dishes to serve at home with minimal fuss, so packaging and processing innovation is still required in this sector.

We will be looking at the latest machinery options that make this happen.

**Deadline: Monday 5 February**

### Foodex Preview

Taking place at the NEC, Birmingham in April, Foodex will include many equipment suppliers that are also relevant to the ready meals feature but we will also highlight new equipment to be launched for any market at the exhibition.

**Deadline: Monday February 19**

### MVC Preview

The first Machine Vision Conference took place last year and hosted 60 stands and 58 presentations. We will preview this year's event that is taking place on May 16 at the Arena MK, Milton Keynes.

**Deadline: Monday February 19**

## MAY/JUNE

### Household & other chemicals

In this new feature, we will be covering non-food chemicals that are commonly found and used in and around the average household. By this, we mean consumer goods designed particularly to assist cleaning, pest control and general hygiene purposes that all need processing, filling and packaging machinery. We will be looking for specific case studies designed for this sector.

We will also be looking at industrial chemicals, including dangerous ones, and the demands that these types of products place on any equipment used. Basically, anything designed to withstand extremely harsh production environments.

**Deadline: Monday March 19**

### Achema Preview

Achema takes place in Frankfurt in June and is the world forum for chemical engineering and the process industry that describes itself as an innovations platform and technology summit. We will be previewing PPMA members that are exhibiting at this event.

**Deadline: Monday March 26**

## JULY/AUGUST

### Automation, robotics and vision systems

As the march towards the 4th industrial revolution gathers pace, we will report on the latest developments that are delivering smart manufacturing to all sectors. We will highlight the latest automation systems that are facilitating this as well as looking at how robotics and vision systems are joining the Industry 4.0 party. The use of robotics is growing outside of its traditional stronghold in automotive manufacturing while vision systems are now considered to be an essential part of many industrial processes as they can offer fast, accurate and reproducible inspection capabilities at a competitive cost.

We will be looking at the latest developments across all of these areas in a feature that in 2017 covered 42 pages.

**Deadline: Monday June 4**

## SEPTEMBER/OCTOBER

### PPMA Show Preview

The PPMA Show in 2017 was the largest for twelve years and our preview covered 62 pages of the magazine. We plan to make this year's preview as comprehensive and with hundreds of exhibitors to choose from, it is imperative that you ensure visitors to the NEC over the three days come to your stand. One way to make this happen is to be included in this preview. We will showcase the latest technology across all sectors.

**Deadline: Friday August 10**

### Meat, fish and other proteins

Health concerns and less promotional activity were behind the falling bacon and sausage sales last year. The move away from multibuys has also been bad news for fresh pork, beef and lamb, although chicken, which is viewed as more convenient and healthier than red meat, was in small volume growth. However, fish is the good news story with sales of pre-packed and ready-to-eat fish soaring. We will be looking at the latest pack and processing developments across the entire sector.

**Deadline: Monday July 23**

## NOVEMBER/DECEMBER

### Pharmaceuticals and healthcare

Flexibility is a key ingredient in pharmaceutical packing as much as in the food sector these days, especially for contract manufacturing and packaging companies. We look at the latest machinery that is delivering these goals across all formats including blister packing, cartoning, leaflet insertion, tablet counting etc.

Of course no feature on pharmaceuticals would be complete without mention of the Falsified Medicines Directive which by the time of this feature; will be only a matter of months away. We will report on the state of play in this area across the board. We will also be looking for case study material that has delivered FMD requirements for end users.

**Deadline: Monday October 1**

### PPMA Show Review

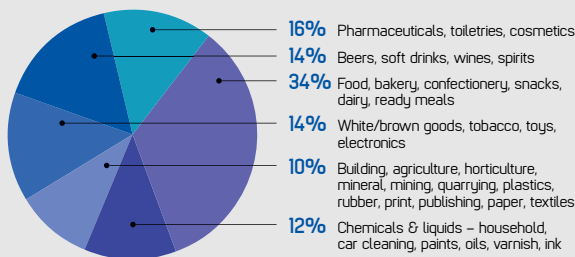
This will be a comprehensive review of all the new products and developments seen at the UK's largest annual processing and packaging machinery exhibition along with reports from the learning hub at the event.

**Deadline: Monday October 1**

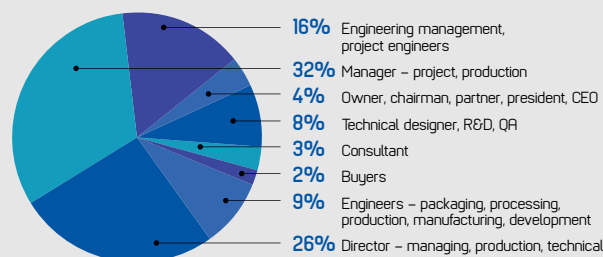
### REGULAR FEATURES

Every issue, we include regular sections covering labelling, coding and marking, vision systems, regulations, components, new machinery and current installations so we can always accommodate the latest innovations.

## CIRCULATION BY INDUSTRY



## CIRCULATION BY JOB FUNCTION



PPMA reserves the right to make changes to the Features List 2018. The Features List is a guide only and does not constitute a guarantee to publish.

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