

machines produce #539 cans at 1,000cpm with 0.14mm and DR tinplate.”

New products from Shantuo Xinqing include the DODO-700 welder with a wire speed of 85m/min which is capable of producing up to 700 cans per minute, and the DODO-500H welder for aerosol cans, with a wire speed of 65m/min.

■ Designed for canmakers who need to cost-effectively produce smaller batches of a wider variety of three-piece tinplate cans, the VLM model range of machines has been launched by Klinghammer.

The VLM – meaning Vertical-Linear-Modular – range of machines has been developed in close cooperation with a canmaker in the Pacific region and with a German university which provided expertise in direct linear drives for maximum speed and innovative control system architecture.

The machines include dedicated modules for each canmaking operation such as expanding, flanging, seaming, ear welding, bailing. More than 12 operations are available, some with alternative techniques. Each module has its own transport and control systems.

This is said to provide flexibility for the arrangement of production lines by using Klinghammer's 'plug-and-play' feature for both the mechanical and the control components. The VLM lines can be extended or reconfigured at a later date, if necessary, by adding or removing or re-arranging modules.

The transport of the can bodies in an upright position by linear-motor-driven grippers enables high speeds without damage.

Initially the machines are available for making cans in four diameters (75, 140, 230 and 350mm) and in heights up to 330mm. Versions for making rectangular cans are being developed.

Easy accessibility, quick clamping systems, change parts rather than adjustment and special handling aids, along with controls systems providing product parameters all assist in achieving the shortest changeover times.

■ A powder side-stripe repair system for three-piece welded cans from China's Jorson Trading features a micro-porous tube filtration system, which is designed to solve pressure change problems during application. The ceramic or polymer filter tube separates the powder and air.

It is used on the can welding machine with a newly-designed powder arm which has the flexibility to be adjusted in a range of positions to enable the powder to be directed precisely at the weld margin.

■ Swiss three-piece canmaking equipment specialist Can Man has



upgraded its PowerCure induction-curing unit with new timing belts to provide longer life.

The unit can be used to cure both powder and lacquer coatings and is said to use up to 80 percent less energy and save up to 70 percent space compared to other gas systems. It is also emission free.

A new software version is said to enable the system to measure and auto-correct the temperature by using the sensor output signal to regulate the power automatically during production.

“Quality control departments require more data these days to ensure the curing quality and as usual Can Man is quick in responding to such inputs from customers,” said marketing manager Dan Kray.

“Therefore, all relevant data of the curing process like speed, power, energy consumption and temperature can be recorded. The speeds of the two conveyor belts can be fine-tuned in order to provide synchronisation of the left and right conveyor section.”

Also launched by Can Man are blank feeding and buffer systems (pictured

centre above) that ‘significantly’ improve productivity on three-piece canmaking lines.

The blank feeders and buffers enable reductions in downtime during diameter and height changes, by allowing welders to continue running while the changes are made to the slitter.

Reductions in downtime of up to 56 percent are said to be possible by incorporating the PowerFEED and PowerSTORE systems.

■ A speed-up kit has been developed for Mawag sheet slitters by Swiss-based Langhans Innotec (pictured top).

It is intended for use with slitters running without drop bars, a strip width between 360mm and 500mm, and for layouts with two strips per sheet.

While the slitter without drop bars was limited to a maximum throughput of 28-32 sheets per minute, the Speed-Up Set increases this to 42 sheets per minute, a capacity increase of up to 50 percent. The kit's installation does not require an additional drive, because this comes from the existing draw-out shaft. ▶