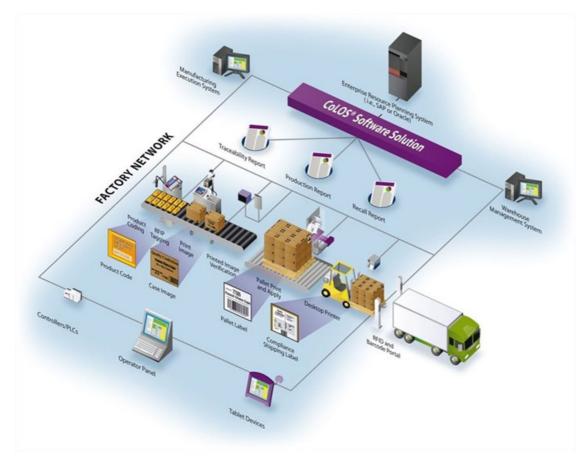


Reducing the cost of human error in the supply chain

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While the global FMCG sector is under pressure from regulators and consumers demanding full product traceability throughout the supply chain, retailers also insist on quality stock on demand at profitable prices.



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"There are a number of reasons why brand owners need to incorporate marks or codes on their products or packaging," explains Pyrotec PackMark's general manager Brandon Pearce. "To protect manufacturers and consumers, coding and marking ensures security throughout the supply chain. It also makes traceability possible, providing a record of reliability for products, and makes efficient stock control possible."

For consumers, 'best by' and 'use by' dates confirm that the product is safe to consume. These markings also help consumers to derive the most value from their purchases and reduce food waste.

For coding and marking to be effective it needs to be error free and, despite the automated machinery on today's production lines, human error is always a possibility. "This is where the advantages of centralised data management through integrated machinery networking come to the fore," explains Pearce.

"Besides a vast portfolio of Markem-Imaje's coding, marking and labelling equipment that's exclusively distributed by Pyrotec PackMark in South Africa, we also offer Markem-Imaje's CoLOS® software applications that are engineered to complement its coding equipment," Pearce adds.



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"CoLOS® software allows manufacturers to integrate equipment networks throughout the production line into one central system. By standardising data input, human error is reduced. This saves time, improves production flow, and drastically reduces long-term costs," says Pearce.

CoLOS® consists of a number of software possibilities to meet every end-of-line production requirement. These include options for packaging coding, message design, the management of complex labels and codes, and the ability to operate multiple printers from one platform. What's more, CoLOS® provides real-time data about production processes by linking production plans to individual printers on a line. It also monitors the productivity and efficiency of each machine, and automates the selection of data for printing, reducing the need for human intervention. In turn, this reduces the risk of operator errors and provides accurate performance reports.

CoLOS® offers seamless integration for diverse industries and it supports all production control systems.

About Pyrotec

Pyrotec is a privately-owned South African company that specialises in providing innovative, top-quality product identification solutions. The company's extensive service offering includes on-pack product identification solutions – including self-adhesive label systems, coding and labelling equipment – as well as financing, and cloud-based brand

protection, track and trace and consumer engagement services. Founded on a dedication to quality, operational reliability and excellent service, the Cape Town-based company has a national footprint with centres in major cities across the country. With more than 50 years' experience, Pyrotec has two brands operating under its ambit: Pyrotec PackMedia, which includes Pyrotec PackVerifi; and Pyrotec PackMark, including Pyrotec Finance. This proudly independent company is headed up by managing director, Rowan Beattie.

For more information, visit www.pyrotec.co.za.

About Markem-Imaje

Markem-Imaje, a wholly-owned subsidiary of the US-based Dover Corporation is a trusted world manufacturer of product identification and traceability solutions, offering a full line of reliable and innovative inkjet, thermal transfer, laser, and print and apply label systems.

Markem-Imaje provides global reach to over 50,000 customers with 30 subsidiaries, technology six centres, several equipment repair centres and manufacturing plants with the most comprehensive marking and coding portfolio available in the marketplace.

For more information, visit www.markem-imaje.com.

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Pyrotec

Pyrotec is a proudly South African company with its focus aimed firmly on the future. Its five brands -Pyrotec PackMark, Pyrotec PackMedia, Pyrotec PackLink, Pyrotec PackWorx and Pyrotec Finance - make this an industry-leading company that specialises in a comprehensive range of coding and labelling **PYROTEC** equipment, on-pack informational and promotional devices, merchandising solutions, development and manufacturing of automated systems for the packaging and manufacturing industry and making finance options available to customers. Pyrotec's software offering ensures product integrity, optimises coding activities, and helps secure centralised data management systems and label tracking systems.

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