



Press release

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Rollprint expected to be first U.S. sterile packaging manufacturer to convert pouches in certified cleanroom; capability anticipated in Q2

Addison, Ill.—(January 30, 2012)—Rollprint Packaging Products, Inc. expected to be the first sterile packaging manufacturer to convert pouches in a certified cleanroom environment in the United States. The company is announcing the construction of a 6,000 sq. ft. clean room expected to be fully operational in the second quarter of 2012.

The ISO Class 8 cleanroom will be enhanced via Rollprint's vertical integration which means that the rollstock from which the pouches are made is also produced at the same facility in Addison, Ill. No other pouch manufacturer has both vertical integration and cleanroom capabilities in the United States, making it another "first" for Rollprint.

By definition, a cleanroom environment has a controlled level of contamination that is specified by the number of particles per cubic meter at a specified size. ISO Class 8 Cleanroom certification dictates the following maximum concentration limits for airborne particulate (particles/m³) according to ISO 14644-1: 3,520,000 at 0.5 µm; 832,000 at 1 µm, and 29,300 at 5 µm.

"We started preparing for this two years ago with investments in vision systems, web cleaners and other equipment and procedures to minimize particulates in our film converting area. We wanted to properly address upstream criteria before taking the next step," said Dwane Hahn, vice president of sales and marketing, Rollprint.

The upgraded capability has been driven by customer demand for domestic supply that has been produced in a clean room environment. Pharmaceutical, medical device and diagnostic/life science manufacturers are constantly looking for ways to reduce the number of contaminants that come in contact with their products.

"There is a big difference between 'cleanroom environments' that some manufacturers claim they have, and actual cleanroom certification. In a few months time, we expect to be able to announce to the industry that we have met the rigorous certification criteria and are producing pouches in our cleanroom," Hahn explained.

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The cleanroom will house five production lines capable of producing a variety of pouch structures for which Rollprint is known. This includes header bags, chevron, vented, three-side weld seals, corner peels, etc.

“Many of the packaging structures used today for pharma and medical device applications—such as film and foil header pouches, coextruded, peelable heat-seal films and silicon oxide/aluminum oxide composites—were first introduced to the industry by Rollprint. The new cleanroom capability builds on that legacy,” said Hahn.

About Rollprint Packaging Products

With manufacturing facilities near Chicago, IL, Rollprint Packaging Products, Inc. is a worldwide supplier of packaging materials for the healthcare and food industries. The company offers a complete range of flexible, heat-sealable materials incorporating film, ClearFoil®, foil, Tyvek® and paper. Structures can be designed to accommodate any sterilization method. Available in rollstock, pouches and die-cut lids, Rollprint’s materials can meet the needs of most peelable, chemical resistant and barrier applications.

The company is a founder of Alliantz Flexible Packaging Pte. Ltd., a joint venture with Acme Packaging Co. (Pte) Ltd., Singapore. Headquartered in Singapore, Alliantz serves the flexible packaging supply needs of Southeast Asia and China.

Rollprint is respected throughout the packaging industry for its heat-sealable, peelable rollstock and pouch technology, as well as its ClearFoil® ultra-high barrier transparent laminates, Allegro® peelable sealants and ClearForm® forming webs. Rollprint has supplied flexible packaging materials into healthcare, industrial and food end-use applications for more than 50 years. Additional information can be obtained at www.rollprint.com.

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