

Instant batch change

Linear systems from igus provide flexible adjustable labellers in the pharmaceutical, food and cosmetics industries

Today, reliable and efficient machines are required for the labelling of products. What matters is a combination of speed, precision and flexibility. A failure of the labeller? That would be annoying and on top of that very costly. That's why the Bluhm Systeme GmbH not only develops fully automated labelling systems with labels, inkjet or laser, but they also rely on durable and maintenance-free drylin linear bearing technology from igus.

Bluhm Systeme GmbH has been working closely with igus for five years now. This was prompted by a customer request for a labeller with flexible format adjustment. What was needed was a device that can attach labels of various sizes and whose setting width can be flexibly adapted to the product to be labelled. In search of a suitable solution for the adjustment unit, the manufacturer of labelling systems came across igus. "First and foremost, three things were decisive for us: price, reliability and the fulfilment of technical requirements," recalls Andreas Koch, Sales Director at Bluhm. The Tamper Evident is a compact labeller used in the pharmaceutical, food and cosmetics industries to apply various sealing labels to products of different sizes.

Initially, Bluhm employees assembled the igus components for the adjustment unit themselves and installed them on the Tamper Evident. However, the assembly turned out to be very time consuming. "We wanted to make this process more effective and speed up the installation of the adjustment unit in the Tamper Evident. So we got igus back on board," Koch explains. To simplify the process for Bluhm and shorten assembly times, igus offered a ready-to-install format adjustment unit. The production of individual labelling systems is not uncommon for Bluhm. "igus offers individual solutions. Special product requests are very appealing to us, because it makes us even more flexible. This allows us to respond even better to the wishes of our customers," says Koch.

The drylin linear guides give the Tamper Evident, with its adjustment unit, maximum flexibility in the adjustment of the labeller. They are also resistant to dust and dirt, making the labeller also suitable for harsh environments. In addition, the linear guides operate without additional lubrication, since their sliding elements contain incorporated lubricants. "This not only saves our customers maintenance time, but also costs for maintenance and lubricants," confirms Koch.

The long service life of the drylin linear guides enables Bluhm Systeme GmbH to supply its customers with a top quality product. The repeatability, precision and speed of the drylin components reduced the batch change time of the Tamper Evident. Koch is convinced that these specifications pay off for his customers: "This labeller can attach 500 sealing labels per minute. It pays off every second that you can save in adjustment." That's why the complete automation of label changes and format settings is a topic that is consistently pursued at Bluhm. It saves additional time and reduces sources of error. "We are already planning new projects with igus for the future, as the demand for our machines is increasing," says Koch.

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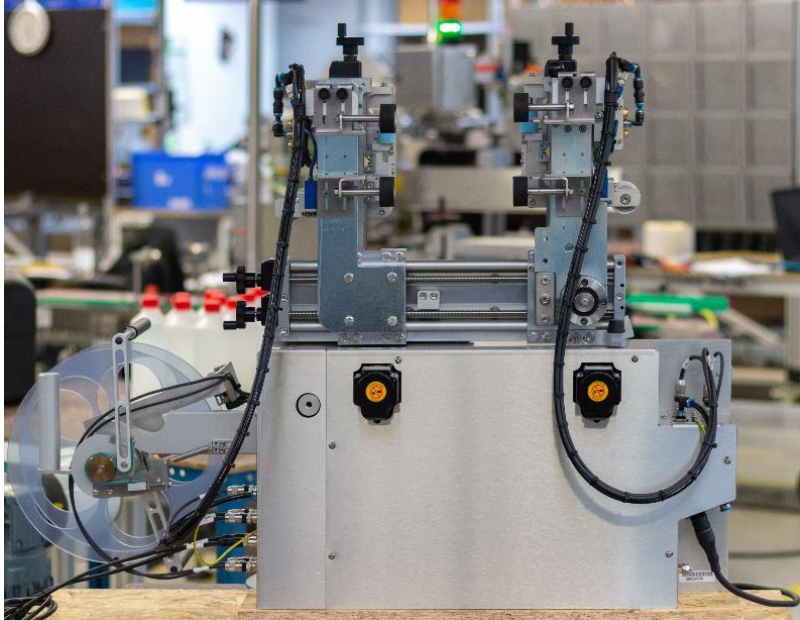
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ABOUT IGUS:

igus GmbH is a globally leading manufacturer of energy chain systems and polymer plain bearings. The Cologne-based family business has offices in 35 countries and employs 4,150 people around the world. In 2018, igus generated a turnover of 748 million euros with motion plastics, plastic components for moving applications. igus operates the largest test laboratories and factories in its sector to offer customers quick turnaround times on innovative products and solutions tailored to their needs.

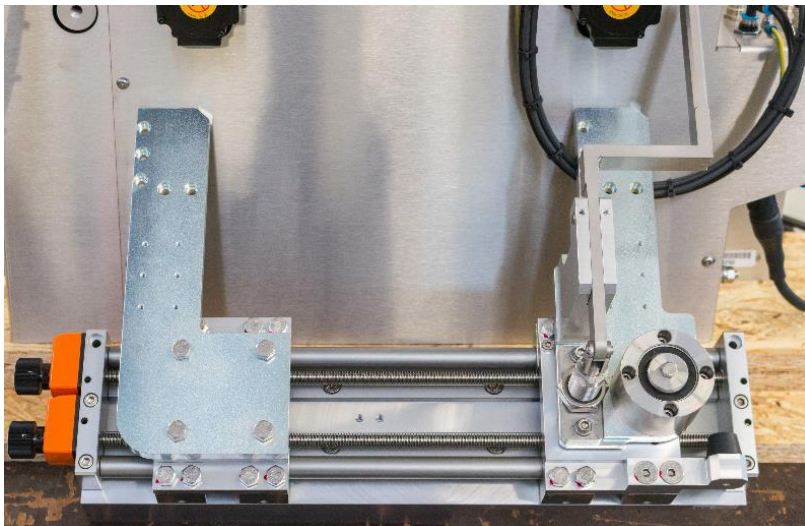
The terms "igus", "Apiro", "chainflex", "CFRIP", "conprotect", "CTD", "drylin", "dry-tech", "dryspin", "easy chain", "e-chain", "e-chain systems", "e-ketten", "e-kettensysteme", "e-skin", "flizz", "ibow", "igear", "iglidur", "igubal", "kineKIT", "manus", "motion plastics", "pikchain", "plastics for longer life", "readychain", "readycable", "ReBeL", "speedigus", "triflex", "robolink", and "xiros" are protected by trademark laws in the Federal Republic of Germany and internationally, where applicable.

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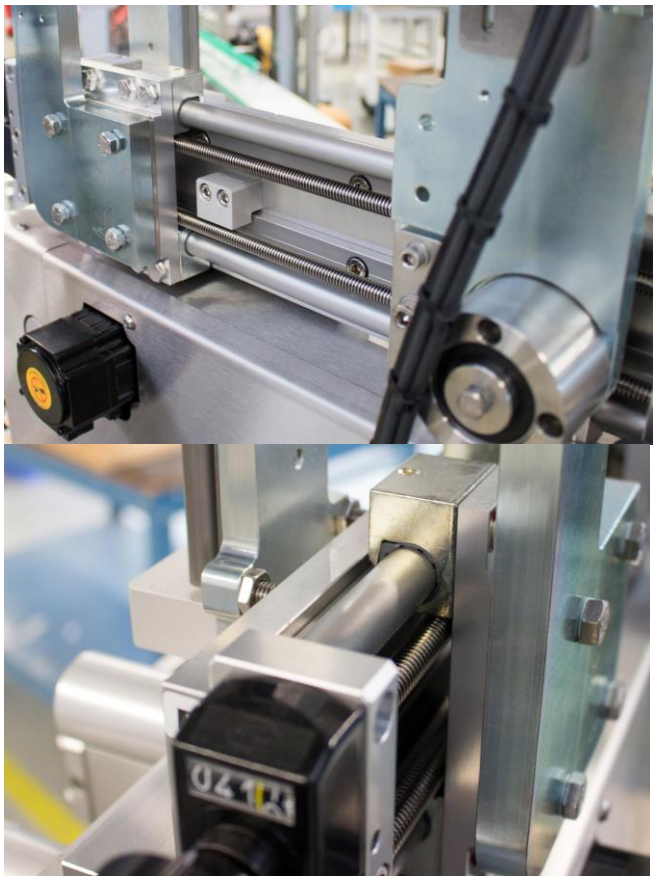
Picture FA0419-1

Tamper Evident seal labeller from Bluhm Systeme GmbH with drylin linear technology from igus. (Source: igus GmbH)



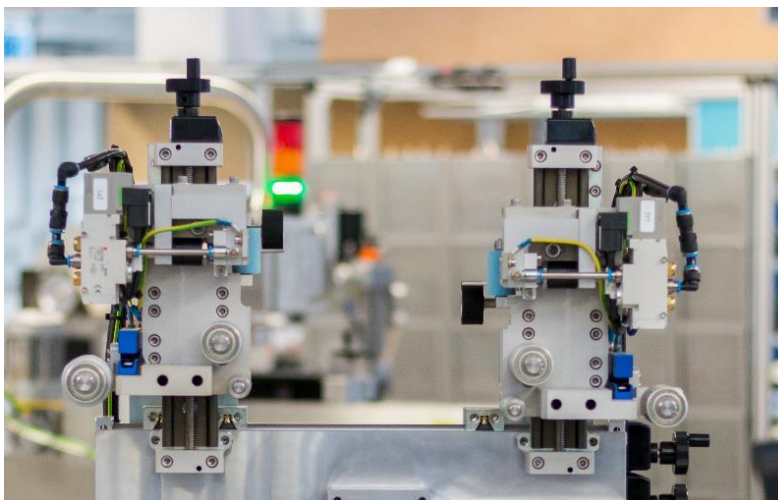
Picture FA0419-2

Horizontal adjustment of the pressure dispensers takes place by means of the drylin lead screw linear system SLW, which is combined with individually manufactured components. (Source: igus GmbH)



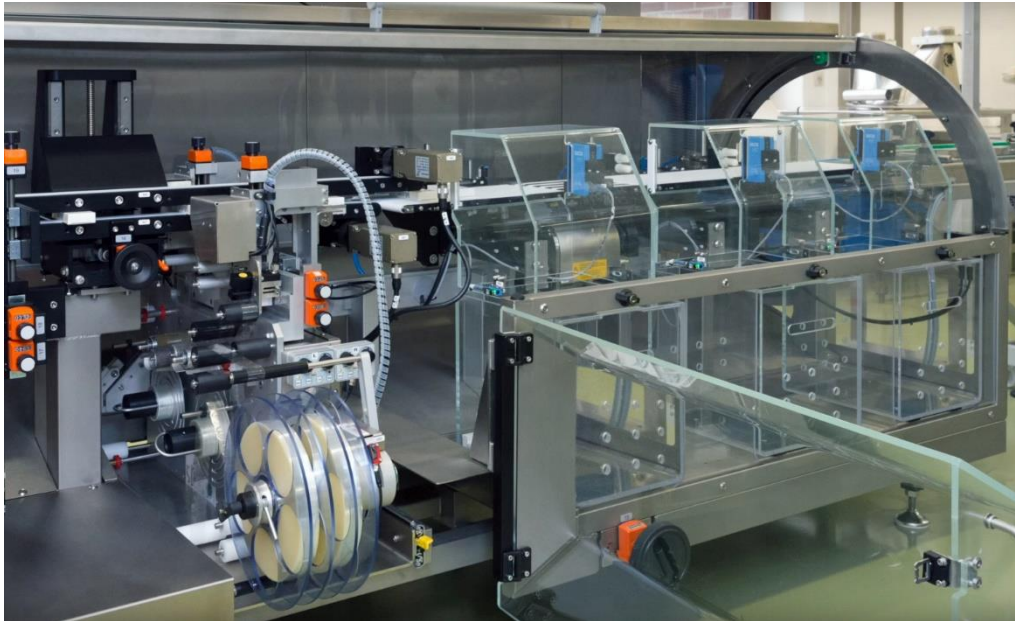
Picture FA0419-3

Close-up view of the adjustment unit of the Tamper Evident. On display are the grey sliding elements made of maintenance-free and lubrication-free iglidur J200 high-performance polymers. (Source: igus GmbH)



Picture FA0419-4

Vertical printhead adjustment by means of linear systems consisting of drylin single components. (Source: igus GmbH)



Picture FA0419-5

Tamper Evident in a serialisation facility for the seal labelling of drug packaging. (Source: Bluhm Systeme GmbH)



Picture FA0419-6

Packaging with sealing labels that are attached by Tamper Evident. (Source: Bluhm Systeme GmbH)



Picture FA0419-7

From left to right: Bastian Mehr (Industry Manager Packaging Technology), Janpeter Dinstuehler (Technical Sales Advisor) (both igus GmbH), Andreas Koch (Sales Director) and Stefan Leske (Marketing Manager) (both Bluhm Systeme GmbH) in front of the labeller Tamper Evident. (Source: igus GmbH)