

Every day, millions of people all over the world buy food and beverages packaged in *combibloc* and *combifit* carton packs from SIG Combibloc. They are making a great choice, because in our carton packs, foods and beverages are perfectly protected and retain their high quality. If left unopened, drinks in *combibloc* and *combifit* can be stored for prolonged periods without refrigeration. And because the carton is lightweight, unbreakable and easy to transport, beverages packaged in carton packs are enormously convenient – at home or on the go.

In this brochure, we will show you how we can help you package your beverages to make them sell well, and bring in a healthy profit – today, and tomorrow. Especially in view of changing trends and dynamic consumer behaviour, aspects such as consistently high product quality, modern design and market-oriented flexibility play a key role. And for today and tomorrow, the environmental performance of a packaging is an important criterion for any product that hopes to survive in the competitive environment. In this respect, carton packs lead the way, as they are among the most environmentally friendly packaging forms there is for long-life foods.

The filling machine system from SIG Combibloc offers low overall system costs, flexible carton filling options, high performance and low wastage rates. Technologically cutting-edge and designed with the future in mind, it helps your bottom line to continue to look good.

Markus Boehm
CMO SIG Combibloc





## P. 8: It has to sell – today, and tomorrow

For food and beverage manufacturers, it is essential to create products that sell. Premium quality beverages that are on trend have the potential to do this. The packaging you use can play a key role in sales success, if it protects the product, is practical and attractive, and ticks all the 'green' boxes as well.

### P. 12: Design sells

No matter how good the quality is, a product will only sell if consumers notice it in the first place. With an attractive package design that fits the product, catches the consumer's eye and matches the tastes of the target audience, a product concept can become an all-round success. Our combibloc and combifit carton packs, with their four sides fully useable for the package design, are the ideal ambassador for your brands and products.

### P. 18: 'Green' sells

Without sustainable manufacturing processes and products today, there can be no sales success tomorrow. Certified, traceable and originating from responsible cultivation: what many people expect from the food they buy is also true for our beverage cartons. All our production sites and sales organisations worldwide are FSC®-certified. We manufacture our carton packs using only wood fibres originating from controlled, responsibly managed sources. It is wonderful when product and packaging go together so perfectly!

### P. 10: Quality sells

For a product to sell well, the quality has to be right. With their special composite structure and the properties this provides, cartons are the perfect packaging to preserve this quality. The flavours, colours, nutrients and vitamins in foods are perfectly protected in a carton pack. These characteristics, along with the gentle aseptic technique used to process the product, are the reason why beverages filled in carton packs retain their high quality and will keep for a prolonged period – without refrigeration and with no preservatives.

### P. 14: Convenience sells

Make it really convenient, please! When it comes to the retail market and consumers, packaging just cannot be practical enough. Our carton packs tick all the boxes when it comes to making the consumer's everyday life easier: lightweight and easy to handle, space-saving, stackable, unbreakable, and with opening solutions and closures, very convenient.

### P. 22: Be able to do today, what will be needed tomorrow

In the fast-moving beverage industry, it is essential to start preparing for the future today. First and foremost, this means being flexible and being able to use your packaging system to make changes to the product portfolio quickly and cost-effectively, while maintaining high production efficiency and competitive manufacturing costs. With the unique format, volume, decor and product flexibility of the packaging system for combibloc and combifit, you can really make your mark.

## P. 28: It has to make a profit – today, and tomorrow

Your products have to do more than just keep selling; they also have to make a good financial return. Efficiency and flexibility are the key factors for cost-effective beverage manufacture that will take you into the future. With the filling machines for *combibloc* and *combifit*, you get both in a single package.

### P. 30: Count on our efficiency

You cannot judge the performance of your equipment by its speed alone. The correlation between speed and actual output is the measure of the cost-effectiveness of an overall system. High-performance filling machines from SIG Combibloc, with long lifespans, high speed and consistently low wastage rates, are second to none.

#### P. 34: Count on our flexibility

It pays to be flexible. For our customers all over the world, we have put together an unrivalled package of flexible options. Alongside a raft of different packaging solutions, the format, volume, product and decor flexibility of our filling machines enables food and beverage manufacturers to keep production extremely flexible and cost-effective.

P. 40: At a glance: our filling system, your peace of mind

P. 42: At a glance: our portfolio, your options









### **Convenience sells**

Make it really convenient, please! When it comes to the retail market and consumers, packaging just cannot be practical enough. Consumers are looking for easy and convenient handling in everyday use. For retailers, what also counts is criteria such as space-saving logistics and long life without refrigeration.

With combibloc and combifit, your products are always conveniently packaged. The cartons are lightweight, unbreakable, easy to stack and can be transported securely. The closures and perforations, specially developed to make opening easier, make SIG Combibloc carton packs convenient and handy to use – the perfect answer to consumers' demand for convenience.

#### The right turn: single action

When it comes to closures, SIG Combibloc is the global pioneer. In 1993, we launched the world's first closure on an aseptic carton pack. Since then, numerous handy opening solutions made from high-grade, recycleable plastics have been added to our range. Examples of these are the modern combiSmart and combiSwift screw caps, which can be opened effortlessly with a single twist.

## Lightweight and easy to open: combiSwift

The combiSwift screw cap can be applied to various combibloc and combifit carton packs. With an overall height of 12.6 mm and weighing just 2.7 grammes, the closure is exceptionally lightweight, and extremely easy to open. The convenient opening behaviour is due to the closure being applied over a laminated hole punched in the cardboard layer, and on first opening it needs to pierce only razor-thin layers of aluminium and polymer. To make this technique work, holes of the correct size are punched in the unprocessed cardboard at the SIG Combibloc production plants, and these holes are then laminated with aluminium and polymers.

At our customers' premises, after the product has been aseptically filled and the carton sealed inside the filling machine, the three-part closure is applied to the beverage carton from the outside. It consists of a flange with integrated cutting ring and screw cap. The ring integrated into the flange slices through the thin layers cleanly and effortlessly with a single twist.



### Small and convenient: combiSmart

Small, handy and unbreakable carton packs that are fitted with the combiSmart screw cap are hugely practical

process has taken place, the closure is applied to the sealed carton pack using an applicator. There is no need to pre-perforate the cardboard – the cutting ring in the flange effortlessly slices through the laminated cardboard





## Renewable, certified and originating from responsible forestry

For food and beverage manufacturers, it is a given that many of the ingredients for their products come from controlled cultivation and can be traced back to their source. And what applies for the valuable products packaged in our carton packs is also true for *combibloc* and *combifit:* Our carton packs are manufactured using only wood fibres from controlled, responsibly managed forests. It is wonderful when product and packaging go together so perfectly.

To ensure that all the wood fibres originate from controlled, responsibly managed forests, we have had our production sites and sales organisations worldwide certified in accordance with the internationally binding criteria of the Forest Stewardship Council® (FSC®) for a continuous product chain of custody. All our suppliers of raw paperboard are also certified in line with the

FSC's chain of custody standard. This means we are able to offer our customers worldwide carton packs displaying the FSC label. The label guarantees that appropriate quantities of wood originating from responsibly managed, FSC-certified forests were used to manufacture the raw paperboard.

#### **Treating valuable resources with care**

We have already developed and launched product ideas that can be even more effective in helping you reduce the impact your products have on the environment.

One example of this is the *combibloc EcoPlus*. This is an aseptic carton which, thanks to a special new cardboard composite, generates 28 per cent less CO<sub>2</sub> compared to the 1-litre combibloc*Slimline* carton pack of the same format. In the *combibloc EcoPlus*, the content of wood pulp, obtained from the renewable raw material wood, is more than 80 per cent.





FSC – The mark of responsible forestry www.fsc.org
FSC® C020428

## Be able to do today, what will be needed tomorrow

When it comes to using a packaging system which enables you to make changes to your product portfolio, now and in the future, flexibility is what you need. The filling machine system from SIG Combibloc gives you a vast range of options to offer existing and new products in modern and practical packages – quickly, safely, very efficiently, and costeffectively as well.

#### One machine – two formats

Using a single filling machine, it is possible to fill carton packs in combibloc and combifit formats if the formats have the same base dimensions. And this can be done in a range of different volumes and with any design required. This enables you to position products optimally, in exactly the right way to suit the market and the target group in each case.

For instance: you want to differentiate your range of 100% juices from your range of juice drinks? With combibloc and combifit, you have the perfect solution. Both formats can be filled on the same machine, and your two product categories will be clearly

With the flexible filling machines from SIG Combibloc, switching the format from combibloc to combifit and vice versa takes no time at all.





### One machine – volume change in an instant

For all *combibloc* and *combifit* formats with the same base dimensions, switching between different fill volumes takes just a few minutes. The rapid volume change offers a whole raft of possibilities for positioning products so that they are tailored to specific target groups. With a single filling machine, up to seven different volumes can be filled.

An example: two age groups, two formulations, two volumes. A top-selling milk mix drink for children, with a special formulation and a volume matched to the age group, is supplemented with a variant for teenagers, requiring a carton pack that holds more product. Or think perhaps of special seasonal products or functional premium drinks that are normally consumed in smaller quantities than conventional juice classics or milk. With the flexibility of the *combibloc* and *combifit* filling machines, you have total control when it comes to determining the right format and the ideal volume for each product.







#### One machine – any number of decors

With the filling machines from SIG Combibloc, a change of design can be implemented without interrupting the production process and with no wastage at all. All you need to do is switch the carton sleeves in the filling machine magazine. This flexibility makes it possible to fill a product in carton packs with a range of different designs, for instance, for various brands or for a range of language versions for different regions. This means maximum accuracy of fit for the markets and distribution channels you will be dealing with in each case.





26

# One machine – unique product flexibility

The filling flexibility of machines from SIG Combibloc makes it possible to fill a huge variety of products. Using the SIG Combibloc filling machines for non-carbonated soft drinks (NCSD) and liquid dairy products, low-viscosity products and more viscous products such as smoothies or dessert sauces can be filled.

And there is more: products with 'perceptible' added benefits, for instance, in the form of pieces of real fruit, vegetables or cereal grains, are also perfectly feasible – and they can be filled using standard filling machines. This innovation is based on the drinksplus concept from SIG Combibloc, a system that opens up rapid and cost-

effective entry to new product categories that are right in line with the prevailing 'Health and Wellness' trend.

Beverages containing up to ten per cent natural pieces can be aseptically filled in carton packs.

The drinking straws for drinksplus can have a diameter of more than seven millimetres, so the new products can be conveniently drunk straight from the carton pack.

These innovative drinks containing natural bits thus create a completely new drinking experience.

This offers you as a manufacturer clear additional benefits that you can exploit to take advantage of new market opportunities. The filling flexibility offered by SIG Combibloc enables you to launch innovative beverage concepts without the need to invest in new filling machines.





It has to make a profit – today, and tomorrow

Food and beverage manufacturers face significant challenges when it comes to positioning themselves for long-term success in a dynamic industry with steadily increasing competition and growing internationalisation and consolidation. Identifying trends and bringing out appropriate, value-added products is one of these challenges. But it is also essential to keep system costs under control and to manage your business in such a way that, ultimately, it makes a profit – today, and tomorrow.

As a beverage manufacturer, you need high-performance equipment that is robust, flexible and efficient, and at the same time offers competitive system costs. In light of this,

for us as a systems manufacturer of carton packs and filling machines, one of our top priorities when developing new machine systems is reducing the overall system costs per manufactured unit.

The filling machines for *combibloc* and *combifit* are dependable mainstays in day-to-day production that can make an important contribution to your market success because high quality, high flexibility and high output are paired with low investment and low system costs. In all format sizes, speed and flexibility are not mutually exclusive – another profitable benefit for you.

In the large-size format, our machines are impressive enough, filling 9,000 carton packs per hour. In the medium-size format, our ultra-modern filling machines achieve an output of up to 12,000 carton packs per hour. And for small carton sizes, we have developed two high-speed filling machines, the CFA 124 and CFA 724, which are capable of filling 24,000 packs per hour.

This speed, combined with unrivalled low wastage rates and unique flexibility in format, volume, decor and products, will definitely pay off. Thanks to their robust, well-engineered construction, you can be sure that the machines will continue to run reliably for many years.

#### Fast and efficient

30

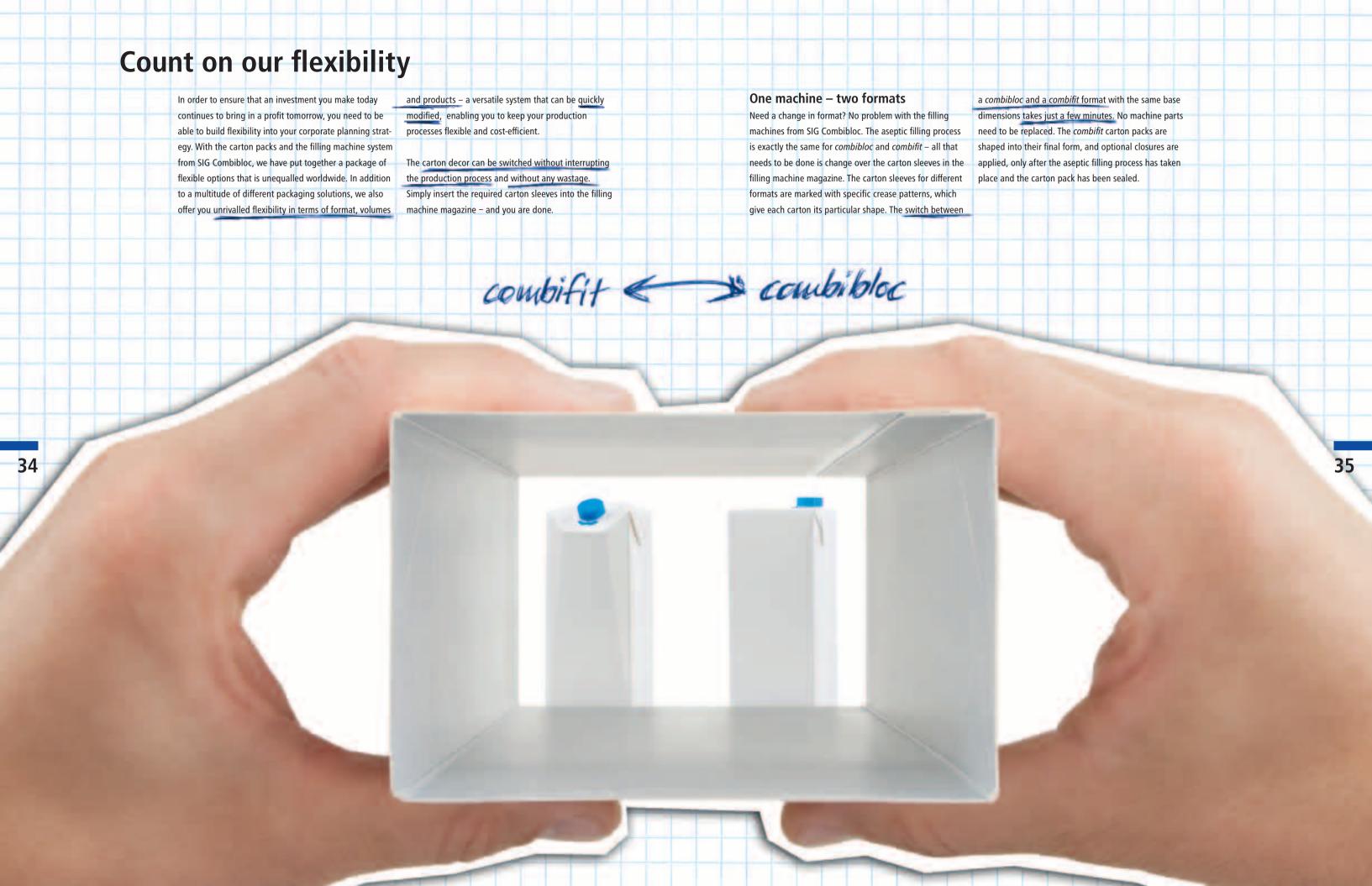
But the speed of a filling machine is not the sole determining factor in the overall efficiency of the filling line. The actual output quantities are what really counts, and closely linked to this, the real wastage rates. The correlation between speed and output is the measure of

the equipment's operating efficiency. In this respect, on one hand it is important to comply with stringent quality standards as far as the products are concerned. On the other hand, alongside greater speed, it is crucial to keep wastage as low as possible and maintain continuous, robust, smooth production – and this needs to be sustained over a long lifespan.

Against this background, the filling machine should be viewed not as a stand-alone unit but as part of a system of integrated components that must be precisely matched to one another in order to work with maximum efficiency. The operating costs of the overall system have to be factored into the equation to be able to determine its profitability as a whole. With high speeds, consistently low wastage and a long lifespan, filling machines from SIG Combibloc really set the standard. The same applies for the applicators we manufacture to apply closures and to shape the combifit carton packs, which are part of our scope of supply. Furthermore, we are on hand to advise our customers in the selection of all other filling line components, to ensure everything is perfectly harmonised, guaranteeing a high level of efficiency in the entire production and filling process.











## One machine – unique product flexibility

Worldwide, a vast range of beverages is offered in *combibloc* and *combifit* carton packs. The range includes classics such as milk, juices, nectars and juice drinks, along with teas, wellness drinks, isotonic beverages and wine.

In addition to liquid products, with the standard filling machines from SIG Combibloc for beverages, more viscous products, such as smoothies or dessert sauces, can also be filled in carton packs. The key to filling such an unrivalled wealth of product ranges is the flexibility of the machines from SIG Combibloc.

Using these machines, for instance, non-carbonated soft drinks (NCSD) and liquid dairy <u>products containing</u> added-value <u>particulates</u> such as pieces of real fruit or vegetables, grains, cereals or nuts can be filled in aseptic carton packs. Creative drinks*plus* product concepts such as these pave the way for beverages that offer perceptible added value and create entirely new taste experiences.

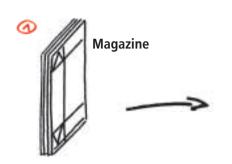
They can contain up to ten per cent natural particulates. Individual bits can be up to six millimetres in length and width. The key factor here is that each carton sleeve is individually shaped, and its base sealed, inside the SIG Combibloc filling machines. The product is then filled into the open carton pack, which is sealed above the fill level. This ensures that no product ingredients are caught in the sealed seam.

The SIG Combibloc standard filling machines for liquid dairy and NCSD products can be retrofitted to fill products containing value-added particulates. Just using an easy-to-install drinksplus upgrade kit provides for an optimal product flow when filling innovative drinks containing particulates.

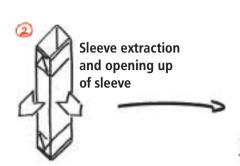
#### Perfectly equipped for the future

Investing in filling technology from SIG Combibloc opens up many options for expanding your product portfolio. The system's flexibility guarantees smooth production processes, optimal machine capacity utilisation, minimal machine downtimes and reduced requirement for space and personnel in the manufacturing process. So it pays off for you – today, and tomorrow.





The magazine holds the sleeves. The magazine is filled with sleeves by the machine operator or by an optional CAM module (Combibloc Automatic Magazine).

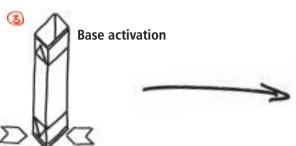


Ultrasonic

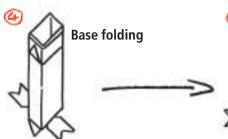
sealing of

carton top

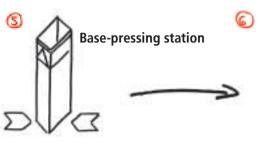
The individual sleeves are extracted by a suction mechanism, opened up into rectangles and placed on a mandrel. This ensures the correct position for the base sealing process.



At two stations, hot air activates the areas of the carton base that are to be sealed.



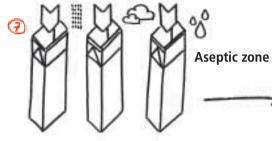
While the mandrel conveys the sleeve to the base-pressing station, rotating lateral folding arms and a longitudinal folder pre-fold the carton base.



Base-pressing dies and the front face of the mandrel press and seal the carton base. The special design of the pressing elements gives the carton pack a concave base – a technique that gives the package particularly good stability. The top of the carton is pre-folded precisely along the grooves, to ensure the correct top shape after filling.

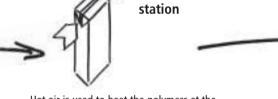
Pre-folding of

carton top



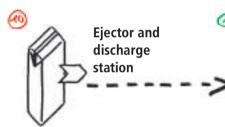
The aseptic zone consists of areas for sterilising with hydrogen peroxide  $(H_2O_2)$ , drying with heated sterile air and filling the package with the sterile product in two stages.

The carton top is folded and sealed above the fill level. Before it is ultrasonically sealed, steam is injected into the carton pack, which reduces to a minimum the head space volume after cooling. If required, the package may also be injected with nitrogen.

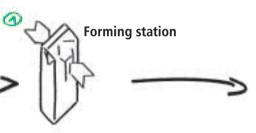


**Top-forming** 

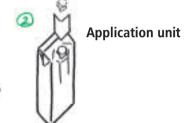
Hot air is used to heat the polymers at the top triangles and the narrow side of the carton pack. The top triangles are folded down and sealed to the carton.



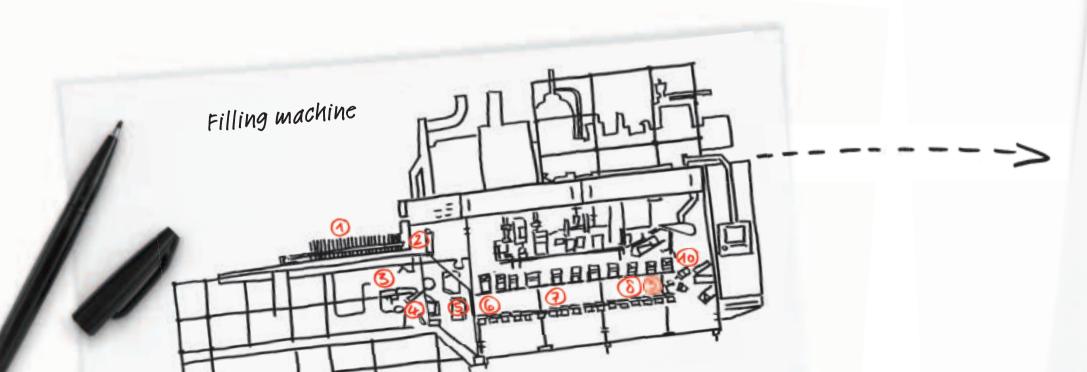
The carton pack is ejected from the cell, placed upright and moved onto the discharge conveyor.

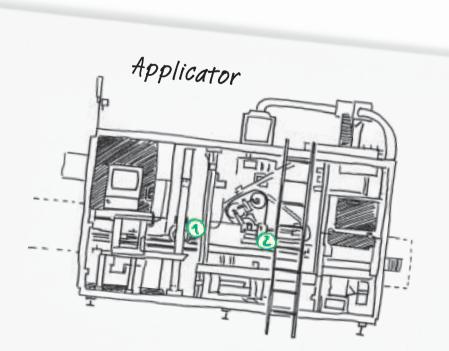


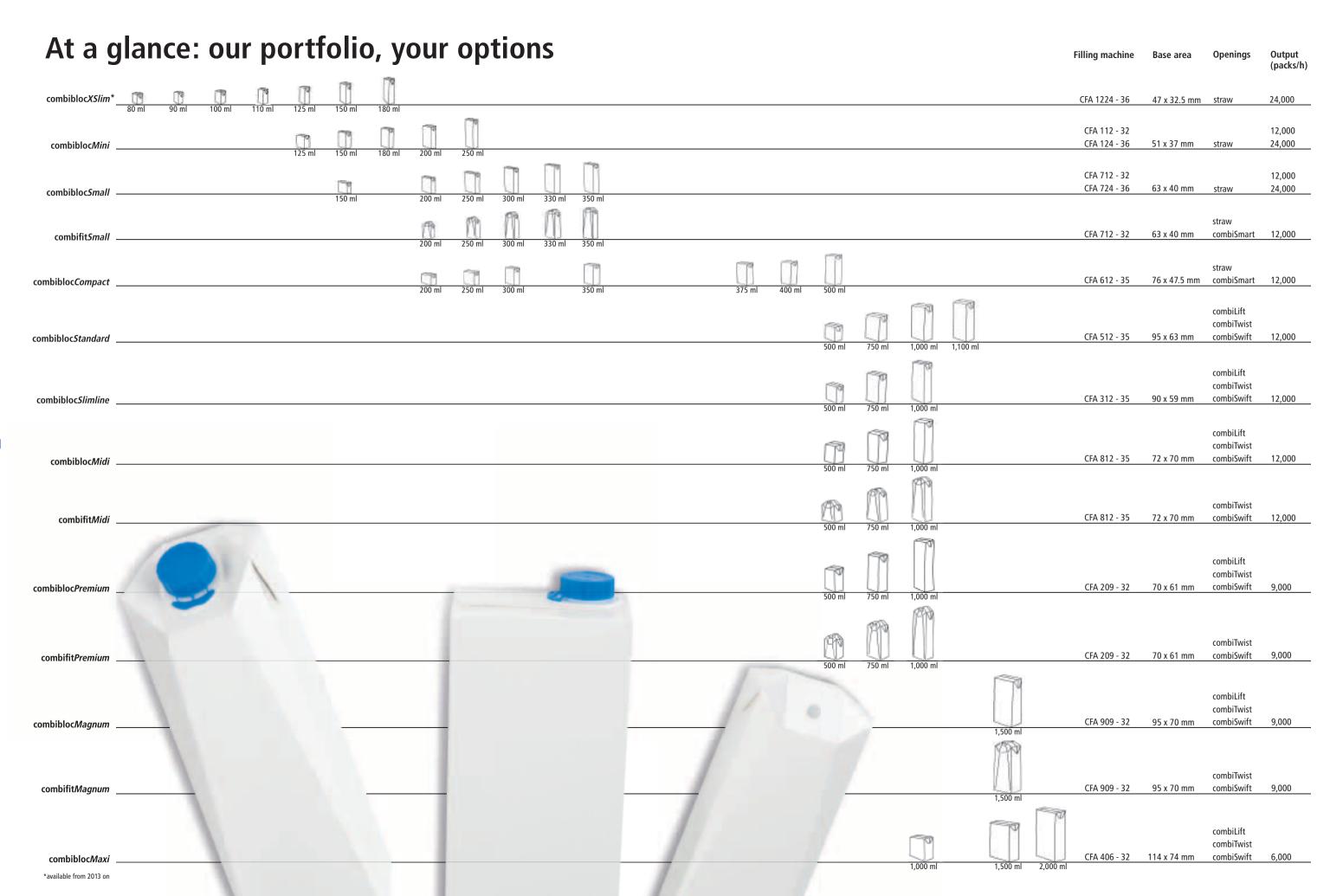
If *combifit* packages are filled, the typical slanted top of the carton is formed.



The closure is applied to the carton pack.







For any further questions or comments, please contact info@sig.biz

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