

in one pack of any length in a solid bundle type. The Shell and Slide Packers machine consists of two parts – filler and sealer with the delivery system. It is controlled by a PLC (programmable logic controller) system and is provided with man-machine interface display. It is also used for carton line packaging, so Shell and Slide Packers is a simple, compact, and versatile packaging machine for shell and slide boxes.

The machine can be added to any full production line but can also be used as a standalone unit, which shows its flexibility. Automatic shell and slide packers are widely used in large scale manufacturing, where the production is high and automated systems are ideal and, in fact, critical for achieving efficiency. With global demand rising, the manufacturing industry needs to rely on automation in order to increase production capacity, and such packing machines help meet the growing demand of the industry, and are, therefore, expected to witness growth.

The global cigar and cigarette packaging industry has undergone marginal transformation in the last couple of decades. According to experts, the cigar market tends to be more stable than the cigarette market. One of the major restraints regarding the cigarette market is due to the size. Most of the cigarette manufacturers use the same pack size, leading to lack of differentiating strategy, unlike the cigar market. Manufacturers in the shell and slide packer market are increasingly focusing on replacement of mechanical components for electronics ones. This is expected to affect the manual shell and slide packer market, as the market starts preferring semi-automatic and automatic shell and slide packers with electronic parts.

Another key area that the manufacturers of shell and slide packers focus on, is maintenance – the objective is to reduce maintenance time yet increase production rate.

EU

Trade Body Challenges EU Tribunal Ruling on Tobacco Laws

The International Tax Stamp Association (ITSA) has lodged an appeal against the European Union Court of

Justice's (EUCJ) decision to dismiss its legal claims surrounding the Tobacco Products Directive (TPD).

Specifically, the ITSA's claims relate to the non-compliance of the TPD implementing regulation with the World Health Organization (WHO) Protocol to eliminate illicit trade in tobacco products (FCTC Protocol).

The key reason for the challenge is ITSA's belief that the TPD implementing regulation contravenes the FCTC Protocol's Article 8, which requires that a track and trace system shall be under the control of the government and that duties shall not be performed by or delegated to the tobacco industry.

However, in May 2019 EUCJ dismissed the claims on the grounds that ITSA could not challenge the EU track and trace system because it did not have "a direct interest" in TPD implementing regulation. Now ITSA has confirmed it will appeal against the decision, shedding light on EUCJ's "misunderstanding of certain basic facts". Nicola Sudan, general secretary of ITSA, said, "We believe that an association constituted by entities historically involved in the implementation of anti-illicit trade technologies, notably for tobacco products in the EU, does indeed have a direct interest in the matter and therefore should be entitled to discuss it before the highest legal European institution."

"EUCJ appears to have confused the track and trace systems deployed by ITSA's independent members with the tobacco industry's Codentify solution, which is largely under the control of the major tobacco companies. We are concerned that the European Commission has conceived and is promoting an EU track and trace system based on a governance model that unnecessarily entrusts core functions to the tobacco industry itself. This is at odds with the basic principles of the WHO Protocol, which limit the need for industry involvement to the extent strictly necessary and, essentially, prohibit the tobacco industry from influencing public policy."

"In addition, the EU track and trace system does not provide for strong authentication tools to counter illicit tobacco trade and does not allow for a completely interoperable track and trace

system based on established international standards and best practice. Our aim is to uphold the adoption of international technical standards to harmonize anti-illicit trade technologies and promote best practices, including ISO 22382, which provides valuable guidance on the development of and specifications for excise tax stamps.



James Adhitya Setiawan

Obituary: James Adhitya Setiawan of BMJ

It is with great sadness that Bukit Muria Jaya (BMJ) announces the passing of James Adhitya Setiawan, a husband, father, brother, and friend, who passed suddenly at the age of 41, on August 17. James will be lovingly and forever remembered by his wife, Elizabeth Lius, son Nicholas Ardiwirya Setiawan, daughter Jusincha Risalini Setiawan, his family, and his second family at BMJ.

James graduated from Maryville University of Saint Louis in 1998 and earned his master's degree from the University of Melbourne in 2003. He began a career as a professional marketer in 2001 and became a value-based marketer with worldwide experience. James had served on the boards of numerous organizations before joining BMJ in 2005. He was the mastermind behind BMJ's creative campaign, well known in the tobacco industry for the outstanding and interactive advertisements, exhibition concepts, and corporate events.

He was laid to rest at San Diego Hills Memorial Park, Karawang, West Java, Indonesia on August 21. Memories of James, his spirit and dedication to his family and BMJ, will always be remembered by us all. May he rest in peace.