

PRESS RELEASE
For immediate release



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Tapemark and Alcan Packaging Receive Prestigious DuPont Award for Packaging Innovation

(West St. Paul, MN and Chicago, IL – August 9, 2004) The Tapemark Company and Alcan Packaging were recognized as The Silver Award winner in the Non-food category of the 17th Annual DuPont Awards for Innovation in Packaging. The award, announced in Philadelphia, is for the Soluble Film Drug Delivery Pouch jointly developed by Tapemark and Alcan.

The competition is sponsored by DuPont, in cooperation with Campden & Chorleywood Food Research Association in Gloucestershire, England and the National Food Processors Association in Washington, DC. Innovations are awarded in both food and non-food categories.



Tapemark is a leader in processing and packaging soluble film for drug, device, cosmetic and food products. Soluble film is just one of Tapemark's platforms supporting the delivery of active ingredients for oral, topical or transdermal applications. For the Soluble Film Drug Delivery Pouch, Tapemark die cut a soluble breath film strip and packaged it in a heat seal pouch using material developed and supplied by Alcan, one of the world's largest packaging organizations and a technical leader in flexible packaging.

In order to achieve moisture barrier requirements without the expense of PET coatings, Tapemark and Alcan designed a combination pouch structure. One side is a medium barrier clear lamination to display the product; the other side is a foil lamination with essentially a zero transmission of moisture. The total barrier requirements are met cost effectively. The single dose clear barrier peelable pouch also includes a detectable and evident seal when opened.

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The soluble film strip and pouch are of interest to pharmaceutical companies as an alternative to OTC and Rx drugs that are currently supplied in a pill or liquid form. The pouch provides better environmental protection than soluble film packaging seen to date and can include tamper evident features. Food and confectionary product manufacturers are also interested due to the additional barrier and extended shelf life potential with this package.



This award is Tapemark's first as a DuPont Award winner; it is the third DuPont Award for Alcan Packaging Medical Flexibles Group, including the awards won by Pechiney in 2003, acquired by Alcan in December 2003.

About Tapemark

The Tapemark Company is a privately held contract manufacturer with multiple facilities in West St. Paul, Minnesota. Throughout its 50-year history, Tapemark has been a leader in innovative technologies that address unique customer needs. Expanding its quality commitment, Tapemark is ISO 9001 and 13485 certified, and is FDA registered as a Food, Drug, and Device contract manufacturer. Tapemark's integrated converting capabilities include coating, printing, die cutting and packaging of complex components and products for the medical, pharmaceutical, and consumer products markets. Learn more about Tapemark at www.tapemark.com.

About Alcan Packaging

Alcan, with its global headquarters and executive offices in Montreal, Canada, has a leading position in bauxite and alumina, the world's largest share of low-cost aluminum production, a strong and growing engineered products business with a significant presence in the aerospace industry, as well as a world-leading flexible and healthcare packaging business. This product was developed and supplied out of the Global Pharmaceutical Packaging Business Group in the U.S. Alcan Packaging as a whole, including the Tube and Food groups, achieved the distinction of being recognized for five Silver Awards in this year's competition, a unique achievement in packaging history.

Glossary:

PET Polyethylene Terephthalate, commonly known as polyester
OTC over the counter
Rx prescription

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