

This case study from Silver Spoon is looking at minimising paper on the 500g, 1kg and 2kg sugar packs.



The Company

Silver Spoon is the number one supplier to the UK retail sugar and sweetener market and is a major sugar supplier to the foodservice market.

The product

500g, 1kg and 2kg sugar packs.



Background

Silver Spoon's procurement team have a packaging reduction strategy that they work towards and the minimising of the paper packaging was in line with this.

How Silver Spoon went about the project

Silver Spoon work closely with their strategic supply partners (the mills) in Scandinavia and their printer converters to continuously attempt to reduce the paper involved in the packaging for the sugar products.

When conducting trials they were looking for papers that will perform throughout the supply chain. The process involves automated bag forming and filling and once the packs are filled, they are transport via conveyors to automated palletisers before they are loaded onto trucks. When forming and filling packs the key factor is bending strength and at the back end of the process burst strength is a key factor.

Benefits of minimisation

Silver Spoon use paper bags for 1kg, 2kg & 500g retail sugar packs. Since 2000 they have reduced the weight of the paper they use for 1kg & 500g by 11% from 90gsm to 80gsm and the 2kg bags by 9% from 110gsm to 100gsm.

The future

Silver Spoon's packaging reduction strategy plans for a further reduction of 6% on the 1kg & 500g and 10% on 2kg sugar packs by the end of 2009.

"In 2008 Silver Spoon are using 1300 tonnes of paper which is significantly less than our usage in 2000. Overall the 200 tonnes of the annual reduction is as a result of the light weighting projects that we have implemented."

Claire Sturgess
Procurement
Manager