

XFORM GEN4XP

SIPA unveils latest generation of its XFORM preform injection molding platform



SIPA's new XFORM GEN4 XP system incorporates the latest generation of preform injection molding technology to deliver the lowest conversion cost alongside unmatched speed, flexibility and ease of use. New technology incorporated into the 250, 350 and 500 tonne system, capable of running with molds holding up to 180 cavities, has been designed to handle the most demanding applications. It delivers leading short cycle times in the industry; it offers industry-leading energy efficiency; and it has the lowest maintenance cost in the sector. As with all other XFORMs, the XFORM GEN4 XP accepts virtually all legacy tooling produced by any major mold maker. The XFORM GEN4 XP provides a totally new operator experience, delivered through an HMI with a large 21.5-inch touch screen with high-definition graphics, swipe functions just like a smartphone, a multi-function control knob for one-handed operation,

and fast response times unaffected by processor load. The HMI incorporates an advanced automatic process set-up and an in-depth part quality troubleshooting tutorial, which together will help users improve machine up-time, lower scrap rates, and depend less on highly skilled machine operators. Powered by the latest servo-driven hydraulic pumps, the XFORM GEN4 XP has record-low lock to lock time, paired with an increased injection rate. Total energy efficiency has been increased by a similar amount: in a typical set-up with the machine set-up to full screw utilization and PET with an IV of 0.80, the XFORM GEN4 XP consumes just 0.195 kW of energy for every kg of material processed. One of the reasons for the improvements in dry cycle time and energy efficiency is the introduction of a kinetic energy recovery system acting on the toggle drive. SIPA's XFORM platform has already gained a



reputation for its ease of maintenance, but on the GEN4 XP, it is easier than ever, SIPA says. That's because, for example, the company has modified the accumulator area layout so that the accumulators are now mounted on a pull-out rack inside the machine frame. In addition, the oil tank has been redesigned so that it does not need to be emptied in case of maintenance (it can also be used at altitudes of up to 3000 m without any modifications). "The net result of all these improvements is that our customers will be able to operate more consistently, at higher speeds, spending less on energy and maintenance, using a machine that will reduce conversion cost at record-low levels," says Stefano Baldassar, Global Sales Director, Preform Systems & Tooling at SIPA.

