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B. Braun Medical Inc. wins 2025 DuPont™ Tyvek® Sustainable Healthcare Packaging Award for Sustainability In-use

CASE STUDY

Overview

The Tyvek® Sustainable Healthcare Packaging Awards recognize innovations that advance sustainability throughout the healthcare packaging life cycle. The Sustainability In-use category highlights initiatives that significantly reduce material use, improve recyclability and lower carbon emissions while maintaining patient safety and regulatory compliance.

Project

B. Braun Medical Inc., a global leader in infusion therapy and safe pharmacy products, redesigned the packaging of its regional anesthesia and procedure trays to reduce plastic and paper use, simplify recyclability and cut greenhouse gas emissions. By replacing rigid high-impact polystyrene (HIPS) trays and CSR wraps with a more efficient sterile barrier system (SBS), B. Braun aligned packaging with its corporate sustainability goals and 2030 emissions reduction commitments.

Challenges

Traditional packaging for anesthesia and procedure trays relied heavily on rigid HIPS trays combined with CSR wraps and Tyvek® lids that required lengthy drying times after printing. Kits often contained multiple printed Instructions for Use (IFUs) across various packaging layers, adding to material use

and waste. Hospitals also struggled with recycling complex packaging components, which created cost and logistical challenges in operating rooms.

Solution

B. Braun leveraged flexible packaging and form-fill-seal (FFS) expertise to create a redesigned SBS that uses Amcor's Sureform Ultra forming film paired with DuPont™ Tyvek® 1059B rollstock. The new design enabled inline forming, printing and sealing with Multivac FFS equipment and a Bell-Mark CMYK HD printer, streamlining production while reducing consumables. Additionally, B. Braun transitioned from printed IFUs to electronic Instructions for Use (eIFUs), further reducing paper consumption.

This packaging innovation resulted in a system that:

- Uses significantly less rigid plastic while maintaining sterile barrier integrity
- Incorporates lighter-weight materials that are easier for hospitals to recycle
- Reduces the amount of paper waste through the adoption of eIFUs
- Improves overall supply chain efficiency and environmental impact

Summary

By rethinking its anesthesia and procedure tray packaging, B. Braun Medical Inc. demonstrated how sustainable design can reduce plastic and paper consumption, lower carbon emissions and enhance recyclability while meeting the stringent requirements of healthcare packaging.

This achievement underscores B. Braun's commitment to reducing its global environmental footprint by 50% by 2030 and earned the company the 2025 DuPont™ Tyvek® Sustainable Healthcare Packaging Award in the Sustainability In-use category.