

CONDAT:

EXPERIENCE AND EXPERTISE IN DEVELOPMENT, MANUFACTURING AND TRADING



When it was first established 160 years ago, Condat had absolutely no connections with the glass industry. Its roots, in fact, were with the mechanical industry and the machines that were developed in that period. At present, this French company provides lubricants for both sectors of the glass industry – hollow and flat – and gives us an idea of what it supplies and how these products are used in this article.

THE BEGINNINGS – 160 YEARS AGO

In 1854, a young man named Condat left his native village in Auvergne – from which he took his name – to try his luck in Lyon. Upon his arrival in Lyon, François Condat rented a hangar on the outskirts of the city, in Gerland. This abstruse district, half-way between city and countryside, housed a hive of workshops whose activity centred around that of the thriving Gerland slaughterhouses. François Condat purchased the suet and other butcher's residues which he then purified and sold to the neighbouring factories.



LUBRICANTS

As France was soon cast into the throes of the Industrial Revolution, the demand for products for greasing machines escalated. The Paris-Lyon-Marseille railway company was a big consumer of greases for its locomotives. At that time, petroleum-based mineral oils and greases were still unheard of, and only suet, either pure or mixed with vegetal oil, particularly rapeseed oil, was used.

THE PRESENT DAY

The small Condat company of that period has really changed and grown over the years. Nowadays it is located in Chasse-Sur-Rhône, France (30 kilometres south of Lyon) on a 84,500 square metre area. The Condat group is now a major European player in producing highly technical chemical products. It employs 285 people in France and 100 more worldwide with production units based in North America, South America and Asia, and with a solid and massive international distribution network.

With 160 years of experience in lubricant development, manufacturing and trading, Condat offers a wide range of special chemical products and industrial lubricants that have made a name for the company.

Using its technical know-

ledge, Condat formulates high performance lubricants with added value, adapted to each and every industrial application.

Thanks to the synergy of Condat in terms of international structures and technical know-how, the group is now the worldwide leader in the cold forming market (the VICAFIL range includes powders, soluble lubricants, oils, greases and pastes) and in everything that touches the underground construction field (tunnelling, mining and drilling).

Condat has rapidly taken into consideration environmental issues in the quality of its production and processes. The Group devotes three per cent (53 employees) of its turnover to its Research and Development (R&D) department.

Condat's desire to respect the environment is clear to see in the development of new products including "biodegradable lubricants", based on vegetal raw materials and even products, meeting the latest regulation constraints (REACH, GHS, ...).

THE GLASS INDUSTRY

Condat's story in the glass industry started about 30 years ago. Relying on its well-know and dedicated range of products for metal working, Condat's team looked for diversification possibilities, such as cutting oils, emul-

sions, coolants, etc. Naturally, the glass industry came out as a good opportunity with similarities and closed requirements such as lubrication and cooling of tools, cutting and drilling performance, as well as grinding precision...

The R&D laboratories were therefore asked to develop products responding to the glass industry needs and constraints.

With successful trials, the company increased and developed – step by step – its range of dedicated lubricants for glass, always relying on strong partnerships with its customers. At present, Condat offers the widest range of dedicated lubricants for all glass processes covering flat, packaging and optical glass operations. But more than being a lubricant supplier, Condat considers itself as a partner for the glass industry: its objective is to recommend the best lubricating



solution to its customers, as per their unique industrial processes, always keeping in mind performance, costs and environmental constraints.

The company celebrated its 160th anniversary in 2014, a good occasion to introduce its expertise and its new lubricant alternatives for the glass industry.

PACKAGING GLASS

Condat has developed a complete range of products and equipment meeting the requirements of hollow glass processes, including:

- soluble lubricants for shear spray and delivery systems;
- neat oils for delivery systems;
- dual-component coatings for delivery systems;
- swabbing compounds for moulds;
- a complete range of oil and “mineral and synthetic” grease maintenance products for IS machines.

Thanks to its expertise in graphite dispersion solutions in other industrial markets, the company recently launched a range of swabbing compounds for all glass container processes with, in particular:

- Blank mould lubricant: Condaglass 370 – a swabbing compound providing excellent uniform lubrication in moulds without transferring graphite to the glass.
- Ring mould lubricant: Condaglass 397 – a swabbing compound that deposits a very thin uniform graphite film on the ring, eliminating defects on the neck ring and improving release.
- Blow mould lubricant: Condaglass 398 – a swabbing compound providing a clean bright finish to the glass. Its wetting agents and additives penetrate easily into tight surfaces.

All Condaglass swabbing compounds provide uniform lubrication and maximize production. Their

viscosity is designed for the application; neither too fluid, nor too thick, thus allowing the right amount of lubricant to be applied to the mould.

Condat Condaglass swabbing compounds provide a bright, clean, surface finish on the most demanding parts (perfume, cosmetic, pharmaceutical bottles, etc.). They also eliminate checks and build-up, and extend mould life.

With this new product range, Condat provides glassmakers with a new opportunity for purchasing swabbing compounds in a market with limited suppliers.

Condat’s most recent development for the packaging glass industry is a dedicated synthetic oil ISO 220 for the maintenance of IS machines, presented in 2014. Named glass HTS 250, it has excellent thermal stability and brings high level lubrication to different parts of the machines with very low evaporation and oxidation under high temperature conditions.

Regarding security, High Flash and Fire points also brings improvements to the market.

Other than this complete range



of lubricants, Condat also offers suitable equipment to optimise the use of its products. Condamix, for example, is a specific dosing unit that allows to deliver the accurate quantity of lubricants in the shear spray and delivery system. Dilution of the product is optimised and reliable; it allows substantial gains on lubricant consumption. ■



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