



Tokyo Pack 2016 – Exhibit Trends

I. Exhibition Trend Summary

In Tokyo Pack 2016, a total of 669 exhibitors showed their products in 2,556 display booths. When viewing exhibitors and booths by category type, packaging materials and containers accounted for 21.1% of exhibitors (130 companies) and 38.7% of booths (896); packaging machinery 16.3% (100) and 26.7% (619); printing/converting machinery, 8.6% (53) and 11.7% (272); food and pharmaceutical processing machinery, 3.6% (22) and 3.1% (71); examination/measuring/packaging-related machinery, 6.5% (40) and 6.4% (149); packaging design and communication services, 1.6% (10) and 0.8% (19); distribution and physical distribution system, equipment and services, 2.9% (18) and 3.3% (77); and groups from abroad, 19.7% (121) and 7.9% (182), respectively.

The main articles displayed were packaging materials and machinery, which constituted about 37.4% of exhibitors and 65.4% of booths. Visitors were able to explore the present needs and future of packaging. The food- and pharmaceutical-processing machines used before packaging and the physical distribution systems after packaging could be seen simultaneously, providing a beautiful opportunity to see the whole packaging picture as a total system. Visitors were guided along the displays arranged in sequence from food processing, packaging material supplies, and filling/packaging to inspection and transportation. Including exhibits from abroad (182 booths), especially from remarkably developing China and Taiwan as well as Western countries, Tokyo Pack 2016 were where visitors could obtain information from around the globe.

【The number of exhibitors and booths by category】	
Type 1: Packaging materials and containers	130 exhibitors (21.1%) and 896 booths (38.7%)
Type 2: Packaging machinery	100 exhibitors (16.3%) and 619 booths (26.7%)
Type 3: Printing and converting machinery	53 exhibitors (8.6%) and 272 booths (11.7%)
Type 4: Food and pharmaceutical processing machinery	22 exhibitors (3.6%) and 71 booths (3.1%)
Type 5: Equipment and materials related to inspection/ measurement/packaging	40 exhibitors (6.5%) and 149 booths (6.4%) 10 exhibitors (1.6%) and 19 booths (0.8%)
Type 6: Packaging design and communication services	18 exhibitors (2.9%) and 77 booths (3.3%)
Type 7: Distribution and physical distribution system equipment and services	22 exhibitors (3.6%) and 33 booths (1.4%) 101 exhibitors (16.1%) and 0 booths (0%)
Type 8: Press and PR sections	121 exhibitors (19.7%) and 182 booths (7.9%)
Joint exhibitors	
Overseas groups	
Subtotal	617 exhibitors (100%) and 2,318 booths (100%)
Host's projects	52 exhibitors and 238 booths
Sum total	669 exhibitors (111.4%) and 2,556 booths (110.8%)

In Tokyo Pack 2016, special events were planned for pharmaceuticals that were ingested orally like foods. Much information was expected that would differ from that for foods. Exhibits from abroad were always increasing in number with the proportion also increasing annually, making Tokyo Pack 2016 cosmopolitan.

In recent years, major disasters have ensued including the Great East Japan Earthquake and torrential rains, landslides and tornado and posed great challenges for packaging and physical distribution.

In the past, the packaging and distribution industry prioritized the just-in-time principle, emphasizing streamlining and services. However, stockpiling has come to be recognized as important in the face of infrastructure and distribution network destruction due to disaster. Demand has increased for packed foods and drinks in retort pouches, PET bottles, and the like because they are safe and ingestible without cooking. Since worldwide weather changes have damaged food crops, obtaining food will become harder. Given this situation, food-loss has come under intense scrutiny in Japan, resulting in a system review of the distribution industry, such as the one-third rule and institutional return. In the packaging industry, however, long-lasting packages that can store and provide safe and secure food are urgently needed because almost all foodstuffs are packed. Ensuring the long-term storage of safe and delicious foods is also the responsibility of those of us who are engaged in packaging.

The keywords in global trade and industry today are quality, hygiene, safety and the environment. Packaging-related industries must assure quality in order to ensure good hygiene and food safety,

take measures for industrial safety and hygiene and address environmental issues, making their management systems indispensable. These systems have been introduced and will be needed more and more in the future.

In addition to these four key words, characteristic and important needs for packaging are labeling for communicating information, embodying accessible (universal) design that can be shared with vulnerable social groups such as the handicapped and elderly, and attractive designs for enhancing commercial value and supporting sales.

Today when food safety and security are strongly called for in the aftermath of incidents such as the frozen gyoza poisoning and falsified labeling, more importance is given to packaging, and comprehensive sanitation management focusing on traceability has been called for. Tokyo Pack 2016 presented a wealth of packaging, machines and equipment in this category.

The problems of global greenhouse gas and waste materials necessitate converting packaging into energy-saving and easily recyclable packaging as well as reevaluating the packaging from the environmental perspective.

During the exhibition, in addition to the Keynote Speeches by experts from Japan and the U.S.A., seminars presented by exhibitors were held almost daily such as the Global Packaging Seminar, Technical Seminar, Sweden Packaging Seminar, Seminar on Packaging for Pharmaceuticals, Packaging Design Seminar and Seminar on Leading-Edge Packaging Techniques. The prize-winning products and techniques of Package Contest 2016 and Kinoshita Prize 2016 were to be presented. They were held by the Japan Packaging Institute, a public interest incorporated association.

In Tokyo Pack 2016, participating universities included the Tokyo College of Pharmacy, Yokohama College of Pharmacy, Science University of Tokyo, International University of Health and Welfare and Mid Sweden University. Trade associations participating included, in addition to our Japan Packaging Institute (a public interest incorporated association), the Japan Packaging Machinery Manufacturers Association (a general incorporated association), Japan Automatic Identification System Association (a general incorporated association), The Federation of Pharmaceutical Manufacturers' Association of Japan, JFSMI, Japan Bread-making and Confectionery Machinery, Flexible Packaging Hygiene Association and Chubu Pack. Furthermore, exhibitors also came from public institutions such as the Japan Chemical Innovation and Inspection Institute and Japan Organization for Employment of the Elderly with Disabilities and Job Seekers.