

EUROSHOP

Cabinet appointment

The giant Euroshop show saw exhibitors jostling to show the lowest-energy, greenest and user-friendliest technology for retailers. **Andrew Gaved** rushes back with the early highlights



Carrier Mendos
XU and Velando
Compact Space

The **Epta** Group demonstrated its commitment to the retail display market with a range of innovations on one of the biggest stands.

The Cooling Awards sponsor is proud of its environmental credentials and also used the show to announce the start of a programme for converting existing R404A cabinets to more F-Gas-friendly R290 propane.

At the heart of the stand were the new Costan GranVista and Bonnet SkyView cabinets, including full-height glass doors. Both are characterised by the absence of a roof and by uprights that claim an 8 per cent larger space – effectively an extra row for a 2 m cabinet.

Epta says an advanced lighting design eliminates shadows: "A triumph of lights and colours, in which the cabinet blends in and becomes invisible, so eliminating all barriers to purchase."

Energy is saved by double glass

doors and an insulation level similar to that of a cold room, together with better mist prevention. The results – certified by Eurovent – are 11 per cent energy savings compared with traditional closed cabinets and 62 per cent when compared to open cabinets with night curtains. In terms of money, this equals more than €400 saving per year, the firm says.

The cabinets use composites to eliminate corrosion and rust issues, while reducing weight, into easier, smoother transport and assembly.

Significantly, the cases claim to be multi sensory with shelves featuring fragrance release and

'Cabinets can also be specified with canopy screens to convey advertising messages'

enhanced lighting. Cabinets can also be specified with canopy screens to convey advertising messages as well as with interactive touchscreen monitors, positioned on the end walls.

Meaty savings

Also unveiled was the Dynamic System for meat display, which uses electronic valves that allow evaporation at 0 deg C, thereby avoiding defrosting that would otherwise expose the meat to a temperature and humidity change for at least 30 minutes.

Epta says that the system enables humidity to remain constant at 90 per cent, without requiring additional humidifiers. The end result it contends is that foods can be kept in the cabinet for five days, with no need to store them in cold rooms overnight to keep them looking good.

On top of that, average weight

loss is 0.12 per cent compared with 3 per cent for a traditional meat cabinet. The bottom line, the company boasts, is an estimated €18,000 per year saving and reduction of energy consumption by more than 20 per cent over comparable cabinets, not to mention the additional savings in water, cleaning agents, clingfilm and aluminium foil. "Lasting freshness, perfect display and visibility of fresh, high-margin products," says Epta.

Another innovation is the EptaBlue Waterloop, which allows the conversion of cabinets from remote to integrated, thanks to a plug and play connection to a closed water circuit. The system claims an energy reduction of up to 20 per cent, an increase in store refrigeration efficiency of up to +24 per cent, a TEWI (total environmental warming impact) decrease of 43 per cent and a 75 per

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reduction in refrigerant charge. inverter and the electronic e adjust the evaporation perature based on cabinet load on external conditions (winter/mer, high/low attendance, day/night). The Waterloop can also be connected to the store's air conditioning system, recovering the heat emitted by the cabinets for store heating.

Carrier has developed a range of options to target the expanding convenience store sector. Prime among these are two new versions of its MiniCO₂OL range of carbon dioxide refrigeration packs, one in compact and the second in an integrated configuration, to support the move toward natural refrigerants for small- to medium-sized supermarkets. The compact version of the MiniCO₂OL refrigeration systems claims the smallest footprint/capacity ratio within the CO₂OLtec product offering, just 2.2 m high, 0.85 m wide, and varying length between 2.3 and 2.9 m.

The compact model's reduced size is the result of a new single frame, double layer CO₂ compressor arrangement and vertical liquid receivers. Its detachable electrical control panel offers enhanced flexibility by giving operators the freedom to place the unit where they want without compromising access. The compact MiniCO₂OL system is significantly less expensive than other natural refrigerant systems, Carrier says, making sustainable refrigeration even more accessible to small- and medium-sized supermarkets.

The integrated version recycles the waste heat generated during the refrigeration process, for heating. This design can help store operators to generate cost savings up to 35 per cent, Carrier says, while at the same time enabling them to cut their carbon footprint in half. Designed as a plug and play product it has a built-in gas cooler and a hydraulic module to minimise onsite installation work and reduce system complexity, cost and install time.

"CO₂ refrigerant is increasingly becoming an established solution for larger stores, and now, with the new integrated and compact versions of our MiniCO₂OL line, we can remove the traditional barriers of cost and size for small- to mid-size stores," says Carrier Commercial Refrigeration Europe



e-Novus

marketing director Gunter von Starck.

On the case

Carrier has unveiled a range of slim cabinets designed for convenience stores under 400 sq m in size.

The firm says the new modular range covers the full spectrum of chiller and freezer applications, in a range of flexible configurations to help overcome space or building restrictions.

The small-store concept offers flexibility between remote and integrated options, allowing store owners to mix and match cabinets from across the product range.

"We understand the challenges that small-store owners face in matching their refrigeration solutions to building restrictions, or specific design issues related to their locations," says Stefan Hemschemeier, director, Small Store Programme, Carrier Commercial Refrigeration Europe. "We've taken a personalised approach to addressing these challenges with our small-store concept."

The small-store range includes the Mendos open remote multideck, the MenEcoclosed multideck, the Optimer L open plug-in multideck and the Optimer LG closed plug-in multideck. A vertical remote freezer and a vertical plug-in freezer are due to be added later this year, while a specific CO₂ rack for small store applications is also planned.

The small-store range will be on the market in the autumn, with further products to be added in 2015.

Viessmann launch

Germany's Viessmann celebrated the first fruits of its purchase of Finnish refrigeration specialist

Norpe at the show, with new multidecks that claim huge energy savings over conventional versions.

The new Viessmann Refrigeration Solutions division launched the e-Ventus open multideck and the e-Novus doored version, which both feature a patent pending technology called e-ncore.

Viessmann says this air curtain solution is based on research in aerodynamics and fluid dynamics. The air curtain's turbulence is extremely low at the starting point which minimises the ambient air entrainment and lowers the extraction capacity. The firm proudly claims 'e-ncore surpasses all the existing single- and double-air curtain solutions on the market.'

The bold 50 per cent claim comes when the e-ncore technology is combined with an optimised evaporator and fan design, a next-generation night curtain or double glass doors and a mix of other energy-efficiency features – energy consumption can be reduced by 50 per cent with e-Ventus and 35 per cent with e-Novus compared with other multidecks on the market, the firm says.

"Viessmann Refrigeration Solutions has really innovated something remarkable when it comes to the total lifecycle costs of multideck cabinets," says managing director Matti Virtanen. Outstanding energy savings, better temperature stability and the possibility to run the multidecks with a smaller power pack really make a difference for food retail customers." **RAC**

RAC will feature more news from Euroshop in next month's issue

New directions

■ CBES has high hopes for its Mistral Air System, the firm's own-designed forced air case. Beyond the clear advantages of not having pipework, working parts and condensate drains on the shopfloor, the Mistral claims some serious energy savings over traditional DX systems. While the headline claim is a 20 per cent saving, at the Asda Eastleigh store, the savings are nearer 28 per cent, says national refrigeration director Mike Branagan. "This is a cold shelf system, which means lower maintenance and no cold aisle syndrome as it doesn't overspill cold air."

But on top of that, CBES has calculated some of the on-costs saved by such a system. The removal of the need for quarterly PPMs saves a 10-cabinet store £1,800 a year, it says, while eliminating drainage saves of the order of £100-£180 per metre – and that's before factoring in the typical volume of drain-related call-outs.

Two further advantages to the ducted concept that retailers might not have considered are the elimination of the slips and trips risk – claimed to cost £14m a year to supermarkets – and the flexibility to work with most kinds of refrigeration systems (and at a lower refrigerant charge, since the pipe runs are significantly reduced).

■ Italian firm Arneg took the laurels for technological advance with the display of the first commercial case featuring magnetic refrigeration. The magnetic refrigeration unit from Cooltech, featured previously in RAC, claims an energy consumption of half that of vapour compression equipment, together with the obvious maintenance benefits of not using refrigerant – the working medium is a glycol/water mix – and a very low rotational speed. The system claims more than 250 worldwide patents.

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