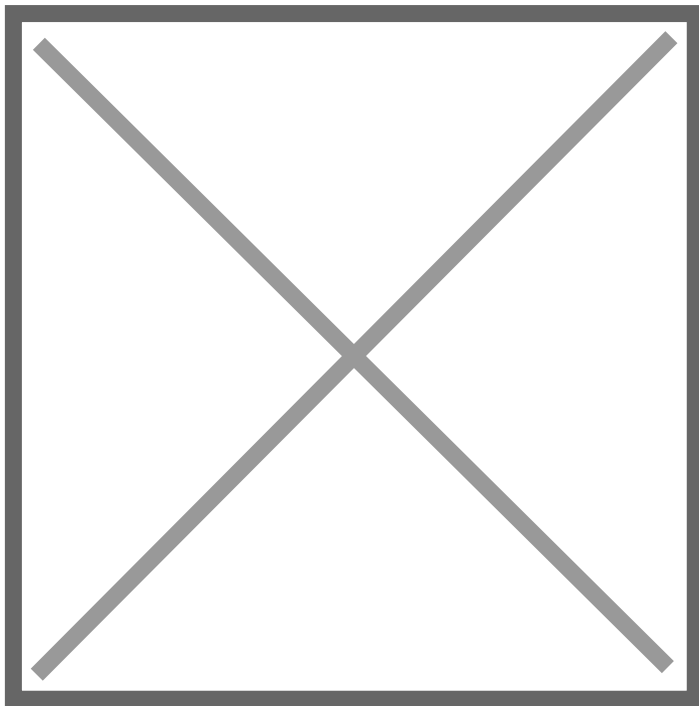


GEA Launches PowerPak 5000 Thermoforming Packaging Machine at interpack 2026

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GEA has introduced the PowerPak 5000 at Interpack 2026, unveiling a new thermoforming packaging machine designed specifically for medium-sized food producers seeking flexible pack formats, reliable daily operation, and scalable automation.

The PowerPak 5000 replaces GEA's previous thermoformer models in the midsize segment and is aimed at processors looking to balance operational performance, ease of use, and long-term cost efficiency without the complexity associated with high-end specialised systems.

The new machine targets food manufacturers operating in competitive markets where frequent product changeovers, multiple packaging formats, and pricing pressures require dependable and adaptable packaging solutions. It is designed for applications across meat and poultry, fish and seafood, dairy and cheese, bakery, ready meals, and plant-based food categories.

Built on GEA's established PowerPak platform and the company's decades of thermoforming expertise, the PowerPak 5000 is positioned for standard and mid-range applications rather than ultra-high-output production environments. According to GEA, the system was developed as a practical solution for the majority of thermoforming use cases, with emphasis on repeatable production, simplified operation, and predictable lifecycle costs.

The company noted that evolving market conditions are increasing pressure on food manufacturers to improve production efficiency while maintaining product quality, shelf appeal, and product diversity at commercially viable costs. As a result, automation is becoming increasingly important not only for large-scale processors but also for mid-sized manufacturers and growing food businesses.

GEA stated that many processors today prioritise operational flexibility, process reliability, and manageable investment levels over maximum theoretical output. The PowerPak 5000 has therefore been designed to meet essential performance requirements while avoiding unnecessary system over-engineering.

The machine supports a broad range of packaging formats, including modified atmosphere packaging (MAP), vacuum packaging, skin packaging, and steam applications. By accommodating multiple packaging formats on a single platform, the system is intended to help manufacturers streamline operations across different product categories while reducing complexity during product and format changes.

GEA also highlighted the machine's service-friendly design, which is intended to simplify cleaning and maintenance procedures, reduce downtime, and support stable production performance across shifts. Tool-free changeovers are designed to shorten transition times between batches and improve operational efficiency.

With the launch of the PowerPak 5000, GEA aims to strengthen its position in the mid-range thermoforming packaging segment by offering food producers a scalable and flexible packaging solution tailored to modern production demands.