

WINPAK® USES OX-TRAN 2/40 FOR TESTING OTR OF FINISHED PACKAGES TO ENSURE DESIRED SHELF LIFE

Reduced testing time by 25%

Eliminated heating & scraping of fixture plates

Reduced training & operation times

Winpak

As a global packaging group, Winpak® manufactures and distributes high-quality packaging materials, converted packages and innovative packaging machines used for perishable foods, beverages, pharmaceuticals, medical and personal care. Winpak's main packaging products are flexible packages such as specialty films and pouches, rigid packaging & lidding, cups, blisters, etc.

Quality Packages to Ensure Shelf Life

A majority of Winpak's clients are in food industry. Since many food products are prone to oxidation, oxygen transmission rate (OTR) is a critical specifications for their packaging materials. Winpak works closely with their clients to deliver quality finished packages that will meet their desired performance and shelf life. Oftentimes their clients need modifications or changes to standard package type to meet their specific requirements. Winpak needs to respond quickly to not only produce the modified packages, but to also guarantee the performance to the specification such as OTR in production.



The OX-TRAN 2/40 has helped Winpak to provide accurate data to their customers & efficiently test their packages in less time than ever before.

OX-TRAN 2/40 OTR ANALYZER ALLOWS WINPAK TO REDUCE TESTING TIMES

CASE STUDY

Challenges When Testing Finished Packages

In the past, Winpak used MOCON's OX-TRAN® 2/21 and 2/61 instruments for package OTR measurements. To perform package testing with these instruments, the packages had to be sealed onto metal plates with epoxy. This typically messy operation required advanced planning to allow the epoxy to cure. The sample prep process was not only labor intensive, but also led to inconsistent results due to different levels of experience by the technicians. Being designed primarily to



test films, the OX-TRAN 2/21 and 2/61 instruments are only able to perform package tests in ambient temperature and RH without the use of an environment chamber.

Finding A Solution Using the OX-TRAN 2/40

While developing the OX-TRAN® 2/40, AMETEK MOCON partnered with Winpak to develop a better OTR testing solution for complete packages. Winpak shared their challenges of accuracy, consistency and the overly cumbersome package mounting process with their current instruments.

The solution was to integrate a precise OTR analyzer into an environmental chamber while utilizing an interchangeable cartridge system to ease the package mounting process.

AMETEK MOCON has developed the OX-TRAN 2/40 OTR analyzer



to give companies the ability to test 4 packages at a time under precisely controlled temperature and humidity for "real-world" testing conditions. Additionally, the new tool-less package testing cartridges greatly simplify

the fixture process.

While Beta testing the unit, Winpak found they could more accurately test their wide range of package types under very controlled and consistent conditions. Now all their package

testing could be done in a temperature and RH controlled chamber with better accuracy. Also, with the use of various test cartridges, the different package styles could be prepared quickly and more easily.



Nam Ton, the Developmental Laboratory Technologist from Winpak stated, "With the new package test cartridge, I don't need to spend the whole day for sample prep. No more cleaning the plates or setting epoxy. It's a simple process of mounting the samples to foil now."

Additionally, he has found the OX-TRAN 2/40 has higher throughput than the old instruments by saying "It's a lot faster than just in sample prep, the software knows when the test should be stopped so I can line up a bunch of tests. If the test is finished, I can just start a new test. The faster conditioning really speeds up package testing. The Instrument is a real benefit for testing larger packages". Nam went on to say "The software is very easy to use. I can have an untrained person use the analyzer and they understand it".

As an overview Nam shared "We really love what we are able to do for our customers with testing under specific temperature and RH with the 2/40 and we are looking at probably 25% faster testing."

Easier & Faster Testing = Happy Customers

Winpak was looking for an instrument that provides reliable results in less time and OX-TRAN 2/40 delivers. They have had a new OX-TRAN 2/40 since April 2019 and the analyzer has been so good that they ordered a second unit by the end of 2019. The 2/40 is truly more consistent, faster, and easier to use.

Nam Ton, commented, "The easy set up and faster turnaround time allows us to provide barrier property data to our customers on our packages in less time to ensure their food products meet the specified shelf life. Winpak can get results faster during the production process runs that helps our business."

