
APS shows a new coding solution for the pharmaceutical industry at Achema

New coding solution for track&trace systems

At Achema in Frankfurt APS will introduce a coding&marking system specially designed for the pharmaceutical industry. The new ink jet printer based on HP Thermal Inkjet Technology can apply industrial codes like serial numbers, barcodes or datamatrix codes directly to pharmaceutical packages and offers features that enable a seamless integration into track&trace systems.

Herrenberg, 29 April 2009 – APS, specialised in industrial marking and coding using ink jet technology, introduces at Achema in Frankfurt a marking system based on HP Thermal Inkjet Technology which is tailored to the particular needs of the pharmaceutical industry. Product marking, identification and traceability get increasingly more attention in this industrial sector to ensure pharmaceutical products are secure and fraud-resistant. This is assured through so called track&trace systems: the track&trace software system generates an individual code for each product which is applied by an integrated coding system. Immediately after the coding process, the code is read and verified by a camera and stored in a central database to ensure complete traceability.

For this kind of marking the pharmaceutical industry requires a clean and reliable system enabling a quick and flexible integration into the track&trace system. Existing coding systems are not fully suitable to fulfill this challenge.

APS has now developed a coding system specific to pharmaceutical companies and system providers that fulfills all the needs of this market:

Thanks to fast-drying inks this printer is able to code on nearly all materials used in the pharmaceutical industry whether there are coated or varnished boxes, blister or plastic foils. The printer has no moving parts which is the key to zero maintenance. Requiring no other fluid than ink, nor the regular change of any spare parts the cost of ownership remains economical and easy to manage. The print is pin sharp (up to 600 dpi) and offers continuous, excellent readability.



Compared to existing coding systems this market-tailored solution offers many benefits for the integration into track&trace systems: the printer is available as an economical fully integrable board version without keyboard and display; it can be totally controlled from an external PC using a special software; a flexible high-speed interface guarantees individual coding even at high production rates; furthermore, the coder has special features to trigger the camera and to be easily integrated into track&trace systems.