

Each dosing valve must be precisely matched to the requirements of the individual customer and their pharmaceutical formulation.



Complex inner workings



The classic inhaler that many asthma patients use is an aerosol can with gas propellant and is technically known as a Metered Dose Inhaler (MDI). Bepak by Recipharm have been making valves for MDI cans for a considerable number of years in their factory in King's Lynn, in Norfolk, UK.

The Metered Dose Inhaler (MDI) is a prime example of a device that looks simple to the final patient, but this is part of its elegance. The valve itself contains seven parts, including two soft seals and a spring. However, also unknown to the end user, is the technology and customisation that goes into each format to suit individual customers and pharmaceutical formulation's requirements. It has been so successful that, worldwide, almost one billion cans are used every year. Sadly, global rates of respiratory disease seem to be on the rise so there will, if anything, be even more asthma inhalers in future.

Höfliger developed and installed a state of the art camera inspection strategy that is much more sophisticated than that previously in use. Finally, the machine has to cope with all the different formats that different drug formulations are likely to require. At the end of last year, the machine went into operation in King's Lynn – and is helping to ensure that patients all over the world can breathe freely. ■

State of the art camera inspection strategy

Originally the valves were made manually on scatter boards by manual shaking. Later automatic assembly equipment was introduced and now Bepak by Recipharm have taken the next step with Harro Höfliger with a machine at a higher speed range, higher cleaning standards. Additionally, Harro

About Bepak by Recipharm

Bepak by Recipharm delivers market leading design, development and manufacture of drug delivery devices to the global pharmaceutical market. This includes inhaler, nasal technologies and auto-injectors as well as development and manufacturing services.



In November 2019 the teams of Bepak by Recipharm and Harro Höfliger met personally in Allmersbach im Tal.