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| Press Release Food Processing and  Packaging Machinery |  |
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**New impetus for the beverage industry – VDMA presents practical solutions for efficiency and sustainability**

**At drinktec 2025, taking place in Munich from September 15 to 19, the VDMA and its partners from science, research, and industry will present a selection of innovative processes and systems for the beverage and liquid food industry.**

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**Frankfurt am Main, 9 September 2025** – Circularity & Ressource Management, Data2Value, Lifestyle & Health – these are the three TOP topics at this year's drinktec. All three topics are reflected in the exhibits that the VDMA is presenting in its Technology Lounge in Hall C4, Booth 177. The focus is on AI-supported cleaning solutions for hygiene-critical processes, sustainable packaging concepts, circular economy and education, digital material research, and new approaches to quality optimization of non-alcoholic wines. All technologies and processes are aimed at making processes safer, more sustainable, and more efficient, conserving resources, and thus reducing operating costs.

**Fraunhofer IVV, Dresden: Data2Clean – Added value through demand-driven cleaning processes thanks to AI and highly integrated sensor technology**

The Fraunhofer Institute for Process Engineering and Packaging IVV presents three innovative solutions for needs-based cleaning in hygiene-critical areas such as heat exchangers, tanks, and pipelines. With the help of AI, intelligent software, and newly developed sensor technology, it is possible to see when, where, and how much contamination occurs — and cleaning processes can be specifically adapted. This saves resources, reduces downtime, and increases product safety. All three systems described below can be easily integrated into existing plants.

***CoControl-FouliQ: Detect fouling early – produce more efficiently***

The AI-based monitoring system CoControl-FouliQ detects deposits (fouling) in heat exchangers as soon as they start to form – ideal for the manufacturing process of high-protein products such as yogurt drinks or milk mix drinks, which are currently in high demand. Using temperature sensors and machine learning, it continuously analyzes process data and enables cleaning as needed. This saves resources, reduces downtime, and increases product safety.

***AJCsens: Intelligent tank cleaning – faster, safer, more efficient***

The smart spray cleaning system AJCsens detects contamination directly on the inside wall of the tank and adjusts the cleaning process accordingly. Thanks to integrated sensors and flexible control, it saves over 50 percent cleaning time—with full control and hygiene safety. Ideal for dairies that want to use time and resources efficiently.

***CoControl-QCM: Detect cleaning status directly on the pipe wall***

The CoControl-QCM sensor system monitors the cleaning of pipelines where contamination actually occurs—directly on the pipe wall. With the help of a highly sensitive quartz crystal sensor, it detects even the finest deposits and measures the cleaning success in real time. This allows the actual cleaning requirements to be determined reliably, cleaning processes to be optimized, and resources to be saved.

**ITQ GmbH – Using plastic sensibly – promoting knowledge sustainably**

ITQ GmbH demonstrates how circular economy and education can be combined— meaning how recycled plastic can be turned into practical learning materials. With projects such as PlastiX and EduDemos, ITQ combines modern technologies such as AI, robotics, and 3D printing with educational initiatives for children, young people, and students. The goal is a “circular society” in which not only materials but also knowledge and enthusiasm for sustainability remain in circulation.

**Krones AG: Rethinking packaging – with recycled, bio-based, and reusable materials**

Krones is researching how alternative materials such as pulp bottles or bio-based plastics can be processed reliably on existing and new machines. The aim is to develop packaging that is ecologically sound and at the same time technically stable and efficient to process.

Materials are evaluated in terms of whether they are recycled, recyclable, reusable, and renewable – for a sustainable future in beverage packaging.

**SLUB Dresden: Material Hub – Find materials instead of searching for them**

The Saxon State Library – Dresden State and University Library presents Material Hub – a central online platform for fast and targeted research into materials. It bundles data from manufacturer data sheets, specialist databases, and research results and makes it searchable via an intuitive interface – by properties, applications, or regulatory requirements. This saves researchers and developers time and helps them find suitable materials more efficiently. More information on <www.materialhub.de>.

**Geisenheim University: AROMAnoALK – More aroma for non-alcoholic wine enjoyment**

Non-alcoholic wines are in demand – but they often lack the typical wine aroma. This is where AROMAnoALK comes in: through targeted fermentation of grape marc, aromas typical of the grape variety are recovered and used to improve the quality of dealcoholized wines.

The process combines microbiological and physical methods and makes good use of a previously underutilized waste stream. The result is more flavor, less waste – and new opportunities for the industry in the growing market segment of dealcoholized wines.

**Visit us in the VDMA Technology Lounge in Hall C4, Booth 177. We look forward to seeing you there!**

The press kit from the VDMA and its cooperation partners, containing detailed descriptions of all exhibits, is available [for download](https://vdma.eu/viewer/-/v2article/render/145825666) here.

Do you have any questions? Beatrix Fraese, Deputy Managing Director of VDMA Food Processing and Packaging Machinery, telephone 069 6603 1418, e-mail: [beatrix.fraese@vdma.eu](mailto:beatrix.fraese@vdma.eu), will be happy to answer them.

For more information about drinktec, the VDMA Technology Lounge, and markets, please visit our website: [drinktec - vdma.org - VDMA](https://vdma.eu/drinktec). For more information about the VDMA Food Processing and Packaging Machinery Association, please visit: [vdma.eu/nuv](https://www.deepl.com/de/vdma.eu/nuv).

The VDMA represents 3,600 German and European companies in the mechanical and plant engineering sector. The industry stands for innovation, export orientation, and small and medium-sized enterprises. The companies employ a total of around 3 million people in the EU-27, more than 1.2 million of them in Germany alone. This makes mechanical and plant engineering the largest employer among the capital goods industries, both in the EU-27 and in Germany. It accounts for an estimated turnover of around 870 billion euros in the European Union. Around 80 percent of the machines sold in the EU originate from a manufacturing facility in the internal market.

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