



Dordan 50
CELEBRATING 50 YEARS OF THERMOFORMED PACKAGING SOLUTIONS



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Dordan to Display Collaboration with Ecovative on Development of Thermoformed “Grow Trays” for Mushroom-based Products

The International CES (CES) is a major-technology related trade show held each January in the Las Vegas Convention Center in Las Vegas, Nevada. Not open to the public, the Consumer Electronics Association-sponsored show hosts previews of products and new product announcements.

Las Vegas—January 8, 2013—First time exhibiting consumer electronics packaging specialist Dordan Manufacturing will be displaying collaboration with material science company Ecovative of Green Island, New York, in the development of thermoformed “grow trays,” in the Sustainable Planet Tech Zone of the Venetian Ballroom, booth #70326.

Ecovative “grows” EPS-like material out of agricultural waste utilizing the biology of mycelium to “bind” the fibers together. While Ecovative first applied this technology to the protective packaging industry (see Dell protective packaging innovations), said technology has recently been licensed to Sealed Air. With the exchange of responsibilities, Ecovative can now focus on the development of sustainable materials and products, like its “Restore™ Mushroom® Packaging” insulated shipping cooler; this transition of focus from protective packaging to material science catalyzed the relationship between Dordan and Ecovative in regards to the development of custom thermoformed “grow trays” for its new cooler product and subsequent product launches.

Ecovative first approached Dordan in spring 2010 with the design of the cooler, which consists of several panels that when folded and placed inside a corrugate box, make an insulating and protective shipping container. During the “grow process,” Ecovative utilizes thermoformed “grow trays” that serve as the molds in which their material is formed into product over a seven-day period. Ecovative enlisted the design and manufacturing services of Dordan due to its reputation of sophisticated custom design and experience in applying the art of thermoforming to unique applications.

John Kreider, Dordan’s head Engineer, worked with Ecovative’s Design Engineer Sam Harrington on the design and manufacture of their Cooler Grow Trays. Ecovative looked for a

standardized tray format to allow for easy and consistent integration into their custom filling and washing stations. After much dialogue into the requirements of their unique process, Dordan and Ecovative developed a design that allowed for tray rigidity based on the parameters of their processes, while producing a quality, consistent part for Ecovative.

Ecovative's Sam Harrington explains, "These grow-trays were a great chance for us to experiment with some new geometries, and new growing techniques, in order to produce an exciting product that a lot of people have been calling to ask for: coolers."

Since bringing the Coolers to market, Ecovative has developed other sustainable products, like candles, surf boards and wine shippers, all of which Dordan develops the thermoformed grow trays for.

Dordan will display this collaboration with Ecovative at the International CES in Las Vegas via several different "grow trays" with the product "growing" inside for attendees to see first hand this exciting innovation in both the material science and thermoforming industries.

About Dordan Manufacturing Co. Inc.

Incorporated in 1962, Dordan is a Midwestern based, National supplier of custom designed thermoformed packaging solutions like clamshells, blisters, trays and components for the consumer goods and electronics industries. Dordan will be exhibiting at International CES January 8-11, 2013, booth # 70326. Learn more at www.Dordan.com.

About Ecovative

Founded in 2007, Ecovative Design, LLC is a materials science company developing a new class of home-compostable plastics based on mycelium, serving as an environmentally responsible alternative to traditional foam packaging, insulation, and other plastic-based materials. For more information, visit www.ecovatedesign.com.

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