



# MANUFACTURING

## TECHNOLOGY INSIGHTS

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## Top 10 Manufacturing Packaging Solution Providers - 2020

The packaging sector provides the materials, equipment, services, and full-fledged solutions that are used for various consumer and industrial products globally. It is a crucial behind-the-scenes enabler of high-quality products. Today, the role of packaging has changed from containing, preserving, and protecting products to an increasingly sophisticated driver of customer engagement for a business. This transition was sparked by the rise of e-commerce and the resulting preference shift in consumer behavior. Today's ever-increasing demand for rapid product delivery is driving innovation in the packaging industry. However, packaging companies cannot rejoice yet as they need to maintain a delicate balance between tech investments and their impact on their operations and be wary of potential headwinds that could affect margin.

And to help manufacturing organizations cope with the changing dynamics of the role packaging plays in their operations, innovative packaging solution providers are developing offerings capable of meeting every client-specific need efficiently and affordably. At the same time, the advancements in materials science is aiding these inventive

vendors to explore newer avenues to develop thinner, lighter, and more robust packaging solutions. Manufacturers are also incorporating their packaging operations within their industrial automation initiatives to deliver enhanced efficiencies and cut labor costs.

To assist manufacturing companies in the task of finding accomplished packaging solution providers, we have compiled this issue of Manufacturing Technology Insights. In this edition, we have listed the top 10 manufacturing packaging solution providers to highlight the companies making significant contributions to the manufacturing sector. Equipped with innovative technological capabilities, these solution providers are set to transform the landscape. This edition also blends thorough thought leadership from subject-matter experts, CIOs, and CXOs, with real-life stories on how the manufacturing packaging solution providers have enhanced the capabilities of their clients. We hope this issue of Manufacturing Technology Insights helps you build the partnership you and your organization need to foster a production floor driven by robust and efficient technology.

We present to you Manufacturing Technology Insights' "Top 10 Manufacturing Packaging Solution Providers - 2020."



**Company:**  
Calumet Carton Company

**Description:**  
Calumet Carton Company is a producer of mailers and packaging products, specializing in designing and producing custom packaging to customers' exact specifications

**Key Person:**  
Gina Inwood,  
Director of Marketing and  
Innovation

**Website:**  
[calumetcarton.com](http://calumetcarton.com)



Gina Inwood

## Calumet Carton Company Problem Solvers in Packaging

is the place to go,” says Gina Inwood, Director of Marketing and Innovation at Calumet Carton Company. Even with an operation as large as theirs, the company still manages to be flexible and nimble, being able to go from very small to very large runs while being able to react quickly to customer demands.

So it comes as no surprise when a global retail beverage company wanted to insulate their coffee cups they turned to Calumet to devise, configure, and implement the turnkey print, die cut and gluing of more than one billion coffee-cup clutches per year. Among the challenges, lithographic printing press cylinders had to undercut to allow direct printing of heavy weight single face corrugated. In another instance, a national food chain wanted a special donut container produced and distributed for use in their US stores in honor of National Fry day. The end result package design involved their web flexo and sheet fed litho print operations for the backside direct food contact print and coating, top side print and coating, along with die cutting and gluing. From approved concept, design and graphics Calumet had less than two weeks to manufacture millions of folding cartons for the one day national event.

“Our entrepreneurial approach backed with real capabilities, both personnel and equipment, has allowed us to endure all of the economic cycles and the environmental trends that are going on around us,” says Gina.

When offering their services on a global level, Calumet Carton ensures that they are on a level playing field, utilizing an increasing amount of non-traditional materials and components



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**The marketplace has come to realize that if they have something that is out of the ordinary or does not fit, Calumet Carton is the place to go**  
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in their folding cartons and packaging. Doing so translates into better benefits not just from a cost standpoint but also in terms of their environmental footprint. As the majority of their products is made out of recycled paperboard with high postconsumer content and is thus entirely recyclable, Calumet Carton has never had to make any modifications to fit in with the sustainability trends.

As the long-standing legacy carries on, Calumet Carton continues to reinvest in their plants while adding new capabilities and equipment. **MT**

**A** rare gem in the packaging industry, Calumet Carton Company has stood the test of time, and this year marks the 90th anniversary of the four-generation privately owned and managed enterprise. The success story for Calumet Carton dates back to the year 1930 when the company started manufacturing mailers and packaging products. Through the years, the business diversified, and today, the company caters to a wide range of industries, be it electronics, food, beauty, pharmaceutical, or hardware. The Calumet Carton team has grown in leaps and bounds, acquiring a very deep skill base that coupled with a good work environment and stable corporate environment enables them to lead the competition against the best packaging manufacturers on the planet. Alongside their flagship product, Stayflats® Mailers, Calumet Carton’s product line includes folding cartons and custom printed mailers for nearly every market out there.

There really is no project that is off-limits for Calumet Carton. “The marketplace has come to realize that if they have something that is out of the ordinary or does not fit, Calumet Carton