Batchelors Cans

Improvement.

Lightweighting of food cans.

Description of changes:

Batchelors have been a leading producer of branded canned vegetables and other food products in Ireland for many years. Batchelors Baked Beans and Batchelors Peas continue to be market leaders in their sectors and many of the company's other food products are also strong brands.

A programme of lightweighting food cans has resulted in many positive benefits. This required the application of critical design features to add strength to the lightweighted can to withstand handling, filling, processsing and final transportation of the finished pack. Simultaneously, innovative technologies were introduced to improve convenience features such as easy opening lids and more advanced and effective lacquer systems to facilitate reduction of tin coating. Other design features such as re-engineered compression rings were utilised to enhance can performance during processing and storage.

Environmental benefits:

A reduction of steel, tin and energy in can manufacture while continuing to support recycling targets.

Balance of Improvements:

PACKAGING

Lighter cans which have achieved packaging and cost reductions in the context of increasing costs in energy, steel and tin.

Batchelors

Repak
MEMBERS WORKING FOR THE ENVIRONMENT

The development of canned foods can be traced back to the Napoleonic Wars but began to achieve widespread popularity in the 19th Century, as the new urban population demanded ever-increasing quantities of varied, good-quality food that could be kept safely on the shelves at home.