What's Cookin' in Food Packaging?

PMMI's Food Packaging Trends Report Offers a Taste of the Industry

1. Food Packaging Machinery Takes the Cake

The U.S. food packaging market is a $23.9 billion industry, representing 8% of total U.S. packaging machinery sales in 2012. This market is expected to grow at a CAGR of 2.9% from 2012 to 2022, reaching $31.7 billion in 2022. Two food segments, Meat & Related Products and Snack Foods, are expected to outperform the market, achieving over 3% growth. Demands for more single-serve and convenience features are key drivers of this expansion.

2. Slow and Steady Cookin' in the U.S.

While North America is the largest global market for food packaging, growth in the industry is sharper mainly in rapidly modernizing nations such as Argentina, Brazil, China, and India.

Global Growth Rates by Food Segment

3. Modernizing Nations Bring Home the Bacon

Growth rates for most food segments studied are double the U.S. rates. However, the snack and pet food categories show lower global growth compared to U.S. rates – 4.3% and 4.9% respectively – due to cultural and demographic factors.

4. Top 5 Industry Trends

- **Sustainability**: 10% of respondents see sustainability as a top priority, driven by consumers and government regulations.
- **Sustainability**: Respondents see the use of sustainable, renewable, and recycled materials as a top priority for the food packaging industry.
- **Convenience**: Growth in e-commerce and online shopping has driven an increase in e-commerce and mobile packaging solutions.
- **Food Safety**: Respondents agreed that food safety is one of the top priorities for the food packaging industry, driven by the need to ensure food safety and comply with government regulations.
- **Technology**: Respondents agreed that technology is an important aspect of the food packaging industry, driven by the need to stay ahead of the curve in terms of innovation and efficiency.

5. 4 Most Innovative Industry Segments

- **Snack Foods**: Innovations in snack foods include new flavors, shapes, and textures, as well as new weights and packaging materials.
- **Meat & Related Products**: Innovations in meat products include new cuts, cooking methods, and packaging materials.
- **Beverages**: Innovations in beverages include new packaging options, such as new types of bottles and cans.
- **Beverages**: Innovations in packaging include new materials, such as biodegradable and compostable packaging.

Find more information at pmmi.org or visit PACK EXPO International (Nov. 6–9, 2016; Chicago, IL) to see the latest food packaging innovations.