

PRESS RELEASE

Product

KHS technology for regenerative beer stabilization is now also available for smaller breweries

- Innopro ECOSTAB S can be implemented flexibly thanks to its movable base
- Machine features include low media consumption
- Stabilization ensures top beer quality coupled with long shelf life

Dortmund, September 19, 2019 – Effective immediately, KHS' regenerative beer stabilization is also available for smaller breweries with yearly outputs of up to 70,000 hectoliters. System provider KHS will be presenting the youngest member of its ECOSTAB family at the BrauBeviale. Thanks to its movable base, the Innopro ECOSTAB S can be flexibly integrated into the production process. In addition, the stabilizing system is characterized by low media consumption and cost of investment.

Even if the best before date on beer bottles suggests otherwise, beer does not spoil. "It simply changes," says Gerold Tandler, head of Product Management Process Technology at KHS. "After awhile, haze substances

and small lumps form which are often thought to be yeast but in fact are primarily compounds of protein and polyphenols¹. They form large agglomerates that precipitate in the bottle and then become visible." They have a negative effect on buying behavior. For this reason, beer that has been transported a long distance or stored for a long period must be stabilized.

Low media consumption and reliable production

KHS' Innopro ECOSTAB product line offers regenerative stabilization using polyvinylpolypyrrolidone ²(PVPP) for this purpose. This process removes some of the haze-forming polyphenols from the beer. First, a frequency-controlled pump doses PVPP into the product line. The beer is then stabilized in a small module where the PVPP is retained by bound tannin molecules. "Since the PVPP doesn't remain in the beer, the result is low mixing phases, low media consumption and reliable production," explains Tandler. The PVPP in the modules is then regenerated and returned to the dosage tank where it is ready for the next stabilization cycle. Regeneration improves the use of raw materials significantly.

To date, this technology was intended for large and medium-sized breweries: developed for continuous stabilization, the Innopro ECOSTAB C with an output of 150 to 600 hectoliters per hour is ideal for companies

¹ Polyphenols: aromatic compounds, for example, as bioactive secondary plant ingredients from malt and hops.

² Polyvinylpolypyrrolidone: food additive (E 1202) used as a technical additive in the beverage industry.

with an output of more than 400,000 hectoliters per year. The Innopro ECOSTAB B stabilizes between 50 and 240 hectoliters per hour in batches and is thus the suitable solution for companies with yearly outputs of more than 50,000 hectoliters.

Easy to use, less expensive to buy

But KHS technology is highly relevant even for many smaller brewers with yearly outputs from 10,000 to 70,000 hectoliters or breweries that only want to stabilize a small part of their production. "In the southeastern part of Bavaria where I come from, for example, there are a large number of companies of this kind," says Tandler. "The lion's share of their production is sold in town - that is locally - and drunk within a short time. However, the breweries export some of their beer - to Italy, for example - which makes stabilization unavoidable."

With the Innopro ECOSTAB S, KHS now offers its customers its tried-and-tested solution in a smaller size that is easy to use and carries a small price tag. Thanks to its compact design and its movable base, the Innopro ECOSTAB S is mobile and can be flexibly integrated as required into the production process. Brewers are able to decide which share of their beer to stabilize - and which not to stabilize. Milk pipe fittings are used to connect the machine. "Everything that is required for stabilization under constant conditions is located in the system itself," emphasizes Tandler. No additional equipment is required and the simple and the fully manual operation eliminates the need for any integrated software. The Innopro ECOSTAB S additionally features low media consumption and low cost of investment, which usually means a return on investment in less than two years.

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Innopro ECOSTAB S

Effective immediately, KHS regenerative beer stabilization with the Innopro ECOSTAB S is also available for smaller breweries with yearly outputs of up to 70,000 hectoliters.

Gerold Tandler

Gerold Tandler, head of Product Management Process Technology at KHS, is an expert in the field of beer stabilization.

About KHS GmbH

KHS GmbH is one of the leading manufacturers of filling and packaging systems for the beverage, food and non-food industries. The KHS Group includes the following companies: KHS GmbH, KHS Corpoplast GmbH and numerous subsidiaries outside Germany, located in Ahmedabad (India), Sarasota and Waukesha (USA), Zinacantepec (Mexico), São Paulo (Brazil) and Suzhou (China).

KHS GmbH manufactures modern filling and packaging systems for the high-capacity range at its headquarters in Dortmund, Germany, and at its factories in Bad Kreuznach, Kleve and Worms. The group's PET expertise is pooled at KHS Corpoplast GmbH in Hamburg, Germany, where innovative PET packaging and coating systems are developed and produced. KHS is a wholly owned subsidiary of the SDAX-listed Salzgitter AG corporation. In 2018 the KHS Group and its 5,081 employees achieved a turnover of around €1.161 billion.

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