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# Press Release

## ZAC's Stick Pack Cartoner Adds the Perfect Flavor to the Beverage Industry

Arlington Heights, IL, July 5, 2007: Z Automation introduces the latest innovation in stick pack cartoning systems. The unique design of the vertical collator combined with ZAC's patented loading feature provides end users with the best solution to packaging the latest in beverage trends.

The asynchronous infeed system allows for a continuous motion infeed of product into the vertical collator while the transfer of the sticks for loading is accomplished through intermittent motion. The versatility of this system allows for a continuous motion or intermittent motion cartoner providing the flexibility to accommodate a wide range of product count and packaging speeds. The net result is the ultimate in adaptability and product manageability, a truly modular solution with a stainless steel balcony GMP design, allowing for a clean wash down system.

The servo driven system is user friendly and offers quicker changeovers with less tweaking and maintenance, and is completed without tools. By combining this system with the latest advances in packaging automation, it allows the system to be modular in both the mechanical and electrical design. Equipped with the PacDrive iSH Series Intelligent Servo Modules from ELAU, the automation is unlike conventional servo motor and drive systems. Each self-contained servo module receives all power and communications from its own hybrid cable coming from a nearby distribution module. No separate encoder cables are needed, and each module is fully synchronized through a digital motion bus. The result is a reduction in complexity and installation costs.

Key features of this system include the distinctive vertical collator, which offers the type of control and collation the stick pack industry is looking for. The loading of the product into the carton is accomplished via ZAC's

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patented Dynamic Product Bucket with "Carry-In" feature (patent # 6,912,826), which adjusts to conform to the product and gently, in a controlled manner, delivers the content into the carton directly, thus eliminating the reliance on gravity and disorientation of the product. This feature also eliminates the need for maintenance intensive barrel cams and change parts.

For additional information on this system or any of our other products, please contact us at [info@zautomation.com](mailto:info@zautomation.com) or visit us at [www.zautomation.com](http://www.zautomation.com).

About Z Automation Company, Inc. – Founded in 1996, Z Automation specializes in providing packaging solutions to both simple and complex customer requirements by expanding beyond conventional methods of automation. A member of Packaging Machinery Manufacturers Institute (PMMI), ZAC is committed to setting new standards in the areas of design, inventive solutions, and craftsmanship.

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