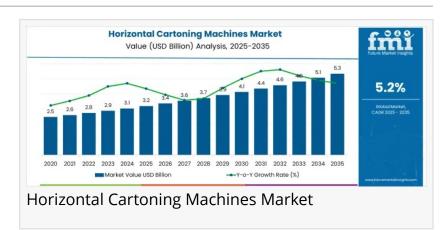


Horizontal Cartoning Machines - Top Global Industry Trends in 2026

The horizontal cartoning machines is led by global packaging equipment regional machinery producers serving the food, beverage and household goods industries.

NEWARK, DE, UNITED STATES, November 24, 2025 / EINPresswire.com/ -- The global Horizontal Cartoning Machines Market



is entering a decade of steady

advancement, backed by accelerating automation, rising packaging standards, and increasing investments from both established and emerging manufacturers. Valued at USD 3.2 billion in 2025, the market is projected to reach USD 5.3 billion by 2035, expanding at a CAGR of 5.2%. The year-on-year analysis reveals consistent growth, reflecting a stable and mature segment with strong future potential for innovators and global machinery suppliers.

This predictable growth environment marked by YoY gains ranging from 5.1% to 5.9%—supports long-term planning for manufacturers seeking to scale, collaborate, or introduce next-gen cartoning technologies.

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Quick Stats for 2025

- Market Value: USD 3.2 billion
- Forecast Value (2035): USD 5.3 billion
- Forecast CAGR: 5.2%
- Leading Segment (2025): Fully automatic machines 46.0% share
- High-Growth Regions: North America, Asia-Pacific, and Europe
- Major Players: IMA Group, BW Integrated Systems, ADCO Packaging Solutions, Econocorp, Serpa Packaging Solution, Nichrome, Mespack, Marchesini Group, Omori Machinery, SaintyCo, ShineBen Machinery, and more.

A Market Ripe for Expansion and Technological Breakthroughs

As automation reshapes manufacturing environments, both legacy brands and new entrants in the horizontal cartoning machinery sector are gearing up for expansion. Established global leaders such as IMA Group, Marchesini Group, and Mpac Group are investing in high-performance, robotics-enabled cartoners. Meanwhile, emerging companies—particularly from China and India—are rapidly developing modular and cost-efficient systems aimed at midmarket users.

This dual growth dynamic is fueling innovation across:

- Servo-driven technologies
- Remote diagnostics and predictive maintenance
- · Vision-guided robotic loading
- Tool-less quick changeover mechanisms
- Flexible format handling for diverse SKUs

Market Outlook: Why The Demand is Rising

Growing consumer expectations, stringent regulatory compliance, and digital transformation in manufacturing are creating strong tailwinds for the horizontal cartoning machines industry. Key growth factors include:

Increasing Automation in Secondary Packaging

Manufacturers across food, pharmaceuticals, cosmetics, and FMCG are embracing full automation to improve throughput and minimize manual labor dependency.

• Demand for High-Speed Precision

The need for consistency, accuracy, and reliable sealing—especially in pharma and food—pushes adoption of fully automated cartoners with integrated quality inspection.

Format Flexibility

New product launches, SKU diversification, and multipack requirements are driving demand for machines that support fast changeovers and multi-size carton capabilities.

• Sustainability and Lightweight Packaging

Growing use of eco-friendly carton materials is encouraging machine manufacturers to engineer systems compatible with thinner, recyclable board.

Segmental Highlights

Fully Automatic Machines Lead with 46% Market Share

These systems dominate due to:

- High-speed performance
- · Minimal manual intervention
- Integration options for serialization, barcoding, leaflets, and tamper-evidence
- Cleanroom-ready designs preferred in pharmaceutical environments

100–200 Cartons/Minute Capacity Segment to Hold 33% Share

This mid-speed category appeals to manufacturers balancing:

- Operational flexibility
- High throughput
- Cost-efficiency
- Easy integration with existing production lines

Pharmaceuticals Lead End Use with 37% Share

Adoption is driven by:

- · Compliance with GMP requirements
- Need for tamper-proof and traceable packaging
- · Increasing global drug production and exports

Regional & Country-Level Growth Insights

China – Fastest Growing Market (CAGR: 7.0%)

China's rapid industrialization and booming consumer markets are fueling adoption. Leading local manufacturers like Ruian Xinyuan, Shanghai Kuko, and Zhongya Packaging are exporting aggressively to emerging regions.

Key Data Points:

- Servo-driven machine sales up 12% in 2024
- Pharma line automation grew 11%
- Multipack demand increased 10%

India – Strong Growth Driven by FMCG & Pharma (CAGR: 6.5%)

Indian engineering firms such as U-Pack Engineers and Parle Global Technologies are offering affordable machines with high versatility, ideal for SMEs scaling into automation.

2024 Trends:

- Compact cartoner installations up 9%
- E-commerce packaging line demand up 8%

Germany – Precision Engineering Leadership (CAGR: 6.0%)

German companies like IWK, Schubert, and Uhlmann are pioneering robotics, advanced inspection, and Industry 4.0-enabled cartoning solutions.

Market Shifts:

- Robotic pick-and-place usage increased 8%
- Pharma machinery orders up 7%

United Kingdom – Demand from Premium Food & Healthcare (CAGR: 4.9%)

UK manufacturers such as Mpac Group and Jacob White Packaging are expanding globally with quick-changeover systems ideal for short-run, seasonal, and specialty products.

United States – High Adoption in Personal Care & Nutraceuticals (CAGR: 4.4%)

American innovators like ADCO Manufacturing and PMI Cartoning are focusing on tool-less changeovers and energy-efficient operations.

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Competitive Landscape: Innovation at the Core

The horizontal cartoning machines market features a blend of global giants and fast-growing regional manufacturers:

Established Leaders

- IMA Group
- Marchesini Group
- BW Integrated Systems

Mpac Group

These companies lead in ultra-high-speed machines, robotics integration, and full-line automation.

Mid-Market Specialists

- ADCO Packaging Solutions
- Serpa Packaging Solution
- Econocorp
- Jacob White Packaging
- Elite Packaging Machinery

They focus on modular, user-friendly systems suitable for operations requiring frequent SKU changes.

Emerging Innovators

- Nichrome
- ShineBen Machinery
- SaintyCo
- Infinity Automated Solutions

These companies are gaining traction with affordable, compact, and high-flexibility machines designed for regional and SME markets.

Recent Industry Developments

- December 2024: Major OEMs launched Al-IoT-enabled horizontal cartoners offering real-time diagnostics, predictive maintenance, and next-gen servo-driven format changeovers.
- November 2023: India-based Pratham Technologies unveiled the Superpack Cartoprintinspect at CPhI/PMEC, a high-speed cartoning system with digital printing and integrated inspection designed for pharmaceutical and nutraceutical players.

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