



<p>TITLE</p>	<p>Sunset® Top Seal film extends shelf life of tomatoes from the average of 14 days post harvest to 23 days</p>
<p>COMPANY / ORGANIZATION</p>	
<p>FOOD CHAIN AREA</p>	<p>2. Manufacturing / processing 3. Warehousing / storage 5. Point of purchase – Retail or Food Service 6. Consumer</p>
<p>KEYWORDS</p>	<p>Shelf life extension, tomatoes, gas permeable label</p>
<p>ISSUE ADDRESSED</p>	<p>A common problem with fresh cut and ready to eat produce is that the packaging is tightly sealed, which does not allow for respiration, thus decreasing the product’s shelf life.</p>
<p>SOLUTION</p>	<p>The gas permeable label allows the replenishment of depleted oxygen inside the tray and lets excess CO₂ vent out. This helps extend product life and quality, without compromising the esthetic quality of the package. The average tomato shelf life is approximately 14 days post harvest. Laboratory studies have shown that this breathable film extends shelf life to 23 days. The tray is sealed with a polymer-based film with micro-perforations. The micro-perforations control the transfer of oxygen and CO₂ into and out of the container, through the film, and according to a respiration rate of the produce in the container.</p> 
<p>EXPECTED BENEFITS</p>	<p>Extended shelf life and quality contributes to enhanced inventory control. More time spent on the shelf means less discounted product and less food waste. No line downtime: Implementing the film into production does not require any change to the procedure Convenience: 3oz clamshell holds serving of vegetables that is prewashed and ready to eat; simply peel the film back and snack</p>
<p>CASE LINK</p>	<p>http://www.sunsetgrown.com/products/eco-flavor-bowls/ http://www.andnowuknow.com/headlines/sunsetr-wins-two-pac-global-leadership-awards/45248</p>
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