

PET *products*

**BARRIER
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BOTTLES**

Multilayer inspection system

Intravis Vision Systems of Germany have released a Barrier-Watcher Inspection System that is able to inspect EVOH (ethylene-vinyl alcohol copolymer) barrier layers for defects. EVOH creates a barrier to oxygen and carbon dioxide in food containers and is used as plastic packaging for food, medical, pharmaceutical, and cosmetic goods. Barrier-Watcher detects insufficient layer thickness by comparing monitored products to a reference object. The special EVOH cameras compare relative thicknesses and can detect small holes in the layers. Each module can have up to eight cameras and can inspect up to eight items per second. There are currently two versions of the BarrierWatcher: a laboratory system with manual handling or as an inline system integrated with an injection moulding machine. Typical parts inspected are multilayer preforms, tubes, cups or barrier closures. Intravis says that the technology is now being used by leading multi-national food and packaging companies.

