



## Press Information

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### **German manufacturer makes freezer chests climate friendly around the world**

**Climate-friendly frozen food? A prospect that is bound to foster disbelief among ecologically minded consumers. And yet Cologne-based REMIS GmbH will be showing just how it is done at the Chillventa 2010 in October. With the aid of energy-saving glass covers for refrigeration units, the food trade can save as much as 50 percent of its energy costs, which account for the largest share of operating costs by far. Given the short payback periods and high level of acceptance among consumers, the climate-friendly energy-saving measure is quickly gaining a foothold in the market.**

Consumers are tending to purchase more fresh food and frozen produce since convenience foods that are quick to prepare and always taste good are becoming increasingly popular. The growing choice of produce available at supermarkets is resulting in ever longer rows of refrigerated shelving and, as a consequence, in soaring energy costs. A survey that is currently being conducted on behalf of the German Institute for Frozen Food (Deutsches Tiefkühlinstitut (dti)) at Freiburg Eco-Institute published a surprising interim report in June stating that frozen food is not a climate killer. Any waste of energy does, however, need to be eliminated. As Paul Isfort, Managing Director of REMIS GmbH stresses: "Everyone has to do as much as they possibly can in their own areas if we are to reach the climate protection goals".

The owner of the Cologne-based company takes his responsibility towards the climate very seriously and has specialised in particularly energy-saving glass covers for refrigeration systems in supermarkets. More than 30 years of expertise have gone into the covers. "A lid alone does not do the trick. In addition to heat insulation coating, you need to ensure that the panes don't fog over. Otherwise you need frame heating systems that would, in turn, lessen the energy-reduction effect", according to Isfort. "You have to thermodynamically modify the refrigeration unit first before the full savings potential can be achieved."

In the food trade, refrigerated shelves and freezer chests offering fresh produce account for more than half of the total energy bill. And yet most of the energy spent on refrigeration escapes unhindered since the supermarket shelves are not closed, unlike a refrigerator at home. Cologne-based REMIS GmbH recognised the enormous potential for sav-

ing energy and developed elegant glass covers that can save as much as 50 percent of the energy costs. Since energy accounts for half of all operating costs in the food industry, any savings that can be achieved on this item have an enormous impact on cost efficiency. The investments have a payback period of less than three years generally.

The retail trade's fears that sales would suffer as a result of the glass covers have proved to be unfounded. A survey conducted on behalf of Swiss supermarket chain Migros, for example, shows that customers continue to reach for the produce, despite the glass covers. Maybe because perusing and choosing in front of covered glass displays is now a much more pleasant pastime when it's less chilly.

Added to which, REMIglas products are extremely comfortable to operate. Smooth-running sliding doors and self-closing door elements make it easy for customers to reach the produce. Once they have found what they want, the doors close on their own.

The numerous benefits explain why climate-friendly glass doors have proved to be so successful in German supermarkets, where 70 percent of all freezer chests are now covered. The discount supermarkets are lagging behind slightly when it comes to vertical refrigeration displays.

REMIS will be demonstrating its full range of products at the Chillventa from 13 - 15 October 2010. These include the extra-wide REMIglas push-up covers for freezer chests, self-closing sliding doors and frameless design doors for refrigerated shelves, and the new sliding door system with curved glass panes. As Wolfgang Klingenberg, Director of Marketing at REMIS explains: "We are primarily going to take advantage of this year's fair to approach emerging foreign markets. The European market for glass systems will witness dynamic growth over the coming years. REMIS is currently facing the challenging of sustaining its market leadership and is working on the markets of the future in Asia. We have already managed to establish a good presence in the American market through our production facility in Elkhart/Chicago."

#### About REMIS GmbH

Cologne-based REMIS GmbH develops and sells glass covers for refrigeration units in the food trade. Their special, heat-reflecting coating allows REMIS glass covers to reduce the energy needed for refrigeration by more than 50 percent. In light of the huge energy savings that they offer, covers for refrigeration units have meanwhile become standard throughout Germany. REMIS is able to sustain its leading position in the European market by continually improving the technological and design features of its products.

Since 2005, covers for refrigerated shelves and freezer chests in supermarkets have been gaining in importance as energy costs have risen and people have become more sensitive about the issues of climate protec-

tion and energy efficiency. Nowadays, REMIS covers can be found in virtually every chain of supermarkets.

REMIS covers are compatible with all refrigeration units that are available on the market or are individually customised to the refrigeration systems offered by the various manufacturers.

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*Ill. 1: Shopping is more fun with Push-up: Smooth-running panes optimise the presentation of the produce while at the same time minimising energy consumption. The extra-wide opening measures 125 cm, allowing several people to reach for the produce at once. Ill.: REMIS GmbH*



*III. 2: Comfort and climate protection all rolled into one: ecoline push glass covers are pushed up, allowing several customers to access the produce at the same time. III.: REMIS GmbH*



*III. 3: Energy-saving glass cover for freezer chests with integrated lighting (close-up of ecoline push) REMIS GmbH*



*IV. 4: at the head: REMIS GmbH headquarter in Cologne  
at the bottom: REMIS production in Gronau-Epe*