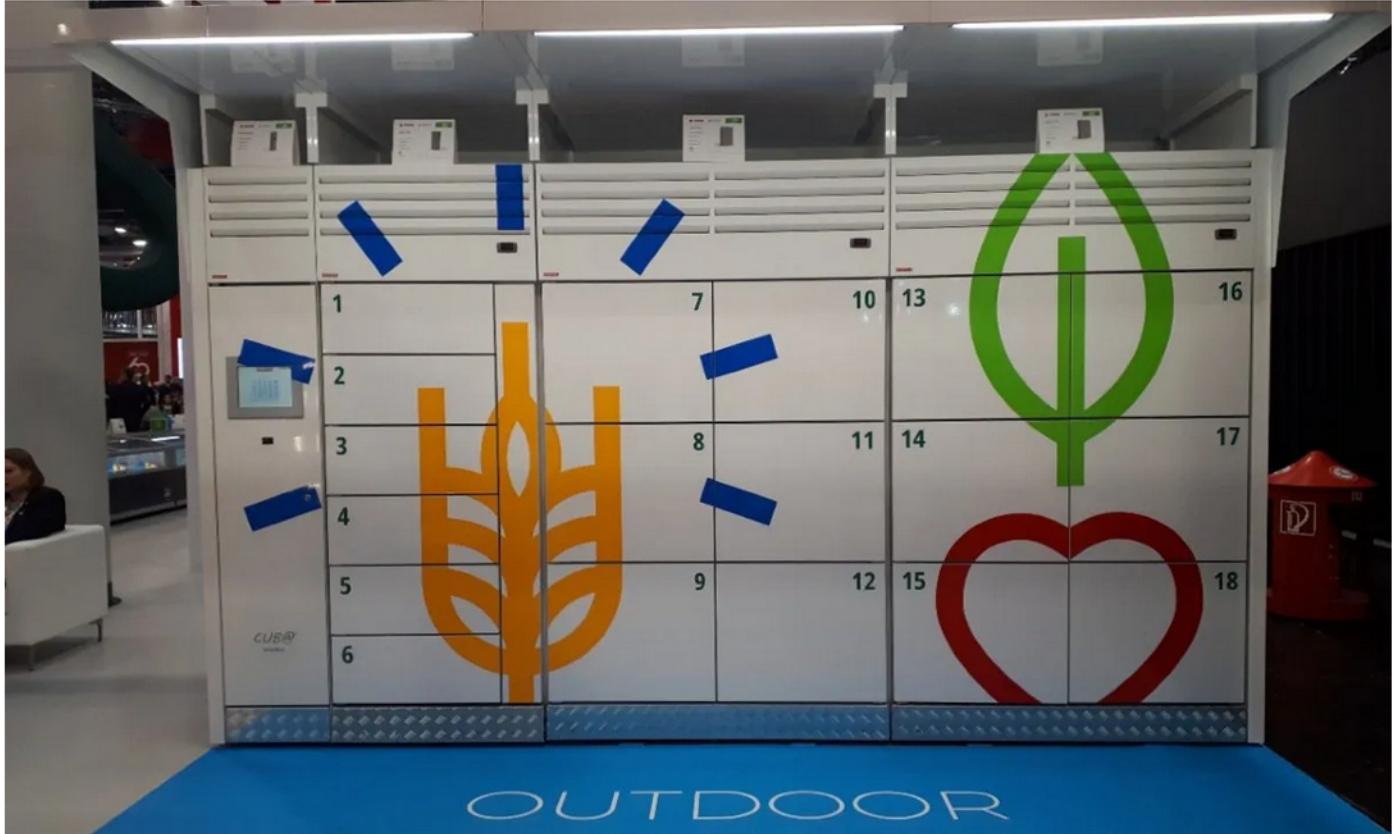


Multitude of R290-Based 'Refrigerated Lockers' Have Emerged to Serve Changing Food Shopping Habits

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Oscartielle's outdoor R290-based refrigerated locker on display at EuroShop 2023.

Italian OEMs [Oscartielle](#), which is part of the [Arieg Group](#), and [Epta](#), as well as Japanese manufacturer [Panasonic](#), were among the many exhibitors showcasing plug-in propane (R290)-based refrigerated "click-and-collect" supermarket lockers at the EuroShop 2023.

Other locker exhibitors presenting these lockers at the trade show, which took place February 26 to March 2 in Düsseldorf, Germany, included Finland's [CoolCenter](#), Belgium's [my eSafe](#) and Poland's [ES System K](#).

The lockers, which are commonly used by supermarkets for click-and-collect shopping services, have grown in popularity over the last few years as consumers have demanded greater flexibility and convenience, explained representatives from the companies.

While largely similar, each manufacturer offered some variation in format and function.

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Epta (Bricks)

Originally launched in 2018, Epta Bricks is a plug-in R290 locker unit for commercial applications that comes in outdoor and indoor models. The units can include LT, MT and ambient-temperature modules.

Over the last five years, Epta has installed around 100 units in France, four in Italy, one in Australia and one in Mexico, said Pavel Pardo, the company's EMEA Digital Project Manager.

Building on its experience to date, Epta has developed a new version of Epta Bricks, which was on display at EuroShop. In addition to supporting click-and-collect services, the new model is also designed to enable impulse purchases, acting like a large vending machine. For this function, compartments have clear doors, allowing customers to view its contents, which could include everything needed for a pasta dinner or aperitif, Pardo explained.

Other new elements include a power-saving mode, remote defrost, fully wireless operation, thicker door insulation and a more powerful condensing unit, he added.

With one of the new models installed in southern France – where Pardo says refrigerated lockers are particularly popular – Epta is aiming for more sales in more countries.



(Source: Costan)