



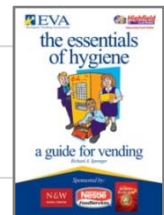
Vending: the break that keeps you going

About 3,700,000 food and drink vending machines are located in Europe. The vending industry in Europe is mainly a hot drinks business. Over 70% of vending machines in Europe offer hot drinks, the remaining 30% vend anything from sandwiches to cold drinks, hot meals and snacks. The machines are a convenient point of sale, equivalent in size to a shop of 1m².

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The vending sector **responds to the needs** of the consumer. In Europe, more than 10 million hot drinks and millions of cans of cold drinks are vended every day alongside snacks and food. To keep up with the consumption trends, the vending sector constantly develops new solutions.

- Machines are cleaned and refilled regularly by operators. It is a very **hygienic and safe** manner to deliver food and drinks.



- Vending operating companies offer a **wider range of products** and machines and develop tailor-made solutions.

- Ingredient suppliers have **reformulated some products** on offer, proposing, for example, chocolate powders with less sugar or fat, skimmed milk powder for creamers or chocolate bars which are lower in calories.



- R&D departments continuously develop new, tasty products **with health benefits**. They range from flavanols in chocolate or antioxidant-enriched cocoa to cereal bars.

- **Fruit**, especially apples, are now more frequently on offer in vending machines; however, there are still a lot of technical barriers to overcome.



- Products from vending machines deliver **hydration and energy** to perform all day long at work.



- **Coffee** brings more than hydration and increases mental alertness. Employees can share social, convivial contact around a cup of coffee. Studies show that coffee reduces risk of liver cancer and gout in men over 40. It also lowers type 2 diabetes risk for postmenopausal women, and protects thinking and memory in older women. Coffee also contains significantly higher levels of soluble dietary fibre than other commonly consumed beverages. It helps to reduce the risk of Parkinson's disease and cardiovascular disease.
- One can also indulge in **chocolate**, as consumption of small amounts of dark chocolate is associated with reduction in blood pressure. Moreover, chocolate boosts brain power. A small amount of dark chocolate each day reduces the chances of developing a blood clot. Furthermore, daily treats of chocolate during pregnancy have a positive impact on the future baby's behaviour.

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