

Leonardo Backgrounder

Background

- A *Brachylophosaurus Canadensis* (duck-billed dinosaur) was discovered by the Judith River Dinosaur Institute in Malta, Mont. on July 27, 2000.
- The fossil was named Leonardo because there was graffiti on a boulder near where it was discovered that read “Leonard Webb and Geneva Jordan, 1917.”
- Leonardo is one of only four existing *Brachylophosaurus* specimens uncovered to date.
- According to the Guinness Book of Records, Leonardo is the most complete, reticulated* dinosaur fossil ever unearthed.
- Leonardo is “mummified,” with more than 90 percent of the dinosaur covered with fossilized soft tissue
- Paleontologists believe Leonardo was about four years old when it died more than 77 million years ago.
- The science team suspected there would be fossilized organs within the torso of the dinosaur, but the fossil needed to be scanned using state-of-the-art equipment at NASA’s Johnson Space Center in Houston more than 2,000 miles away.
- A member of the science team solicited help from Sealed Air Corp. packaging experts to create a protective packaging solution to safely transport the fragile fossil more than 2,000 miles across the country from Malta, Mont. to NASA’s Johnson Space Center in Houston.
- Bill Armstrong, technical development manager for Sealed Air Corp., assembled a team of other packaging experts from Sealed Air, International Safe Transit Association (ISTA), Lansmont Corp. and the U.S. Navy to develop a custom package design.
- The team worked throughout 2007 to create a custom-packaging solution with the support of Sealed Air’s Danbury Packaging Dynamics Lab.
- The fossil was shrink-wrapped with Sealed Air’s CorTuff® high-abuse shrink film to stabilize the fragile surface.
- After the film was successfully shrink-wrapped around the fossil, the unit was blocked and braced on the base using Sealed Air’s Instapak® foam.
- The team carefully moved the assembled crate to the trailer and mounted it atop a shock isolation system layered with three inches of Sealed Air’s Stratocell® H polyethylene foam.
- After the 2,000-mile trip, “not a grain of sand was out of place,” according to one of the scientists.
- Upon arrival in Houston, the science team immediately began scanning the fossil to determine if any fossilized organs were present.
- The findings will be revealed when *Secrets of the Dinosaur Mummy*, the documentary filmed throughout the process, debuts worldwide at 9 p.m. EST on Sept. 14 on Discovery HD.

* resembling or forming a network

Sealed Air Product Used for Transportation

CorTuff® film

CorTuff® high-abuse shrink film is the strongest shrink film available in the market today for industrial applications such as rugs and other textiles, and building materials. It offers a cost-effective packaging alternative with unprecedented impact strength that can be used as a primary shipping media – protecting products in-transit and in-store. Replacing heavy gauge film, clamshell and corrugated packaging, CorTuff® film wraps a wide range of product shapes, weights and sizes, from large consumer goods to odd-shaped items, all wrapped on-site and on-demand. Also, CorTuff® shrink film uses less energy to perform – dramatically reducing utility costs.

Instapak® foam

Instapak® foam packaging is a fast, easy and versatile process for on-line, on-site production of protective polyurethane foam packages. Significantly reducing the costs of storage and handling, Instapak® foam expands up to 200 times its liquid volume in seconds to foam protective cushions. Instapak® foam has unique cushioning properties that protect products during shipping, warehousing and handling.

Stratocell® foam

Stratocell® H polyethylene foam features up to six inches of thickness in half-inch increments. The high density foam provides cushioning protection against repeated shock. Stratocell® polyethylene foam is a cost-efficient cushion for light or heavy objects.

About Sealed Air

Sealed Air is a leading global provider and manufacturer of a wide range of packaging and performance-based materials and equipment systems that serve food, medical, and an array of industrial and consumer applications. For more than half a century, Sealed Air employees around the globe have applied deep understanding of customers' businesses to deliver innovative packaging solutions. Operating in 51 countries, Sealed Air's widely recognized and respected brands include Bubble Wrap® cushioning, Cryovac® food packaging technologies, Jiffy® protective mailers and Instapak® foam-in-place systems. For more information about Sealed Air, please visit the Company's web site at www.sealedair.com.

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