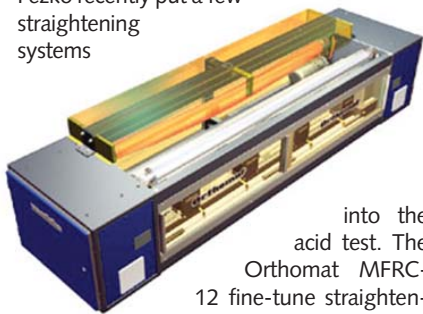


Straightening System from Mahlo at Fezko Thierry a.s.

The well-known European textile group, Fezko Thierry a.s. in Strakonice in the Czech Republic, manufactures upmarket industrial fabrics. With the additional system supplied by Mahlo, the company is now able to improve the satisfaction of its customers, mainly suppliers of the automotive industry.

In consideration of the existing quality standards set by its customers, Fezko recently put a few straightening systems



into the acid test. The Orthomat MFRC-12 fine-tune straightening system and other comparable, relevant products from competitors. All systems were installed and tested in front of a huge laminating machine. Mahlo outpaced the competitors. The precision, speed and quality of Mahlo's installation satisfied the textile manufacturer. Mahlo's straightening system is already installed and in production.

The competent, prompt and streamlined service, along with the excellent communication with the customer at all levels were especially complimented by Fezko Thierry. The manufacturer's innovative strength and its feeling for the market were highly appreciated.

Crealet Ltd. commemorates its five year company jubilee

Exactly five years ago, the Swiss company Crealet Ltd. was founded in the scope of a management buy-out. A step which required a great deal of optimism and courage especially at that awkward economic period.

But a creative team with a long professional know-how, a live team spirit and big personal engagement earned the reward for its daring. The company has established itself well on the market. The name of CREALET meanwhile stands for successful development, distribution and service all around customer-specific system solutions in the field of electronic warp feed.

Within a very short space of time, CREALET has developed a complete prod-

uct portfolio which includes a wide selection of special accessories and applications. Solutions ready for weaving are the distinctive mark as against competing ones.

New MHM website coming soon

The new MHM website is currently under construction and will be launched soon. Besides main product range new innovations are expected including full video downloads and much more technical information in relation to machinery and equipment.

The new website will also show impressive range of Graphic Printing Equipment along with superb range of Rotary Screen Printing machines and related equipment.

Rieter announced Lower 2008 sales and profits than forecast

Rieter Holding Ltd. announced sales and profits for the Rieter Group will be lower than any forecasts for the year. The company cites the current global economic downturn, which has negatively impacted both textile machinery and automobile markets. The Textile Systems Division reports received orders are expected to decline 65 % in 2008 when compared to 2007 figures, and sales will decline 30 %. Operating profits before special charges also will not meet forecast figures.

Decreased demand for automobiles worldwide also has affected sales for Rieter's Automotive Systems Division. After reporting reduced profits in the first half of 2008 and anticipating lower sales for the rest of the year, Rieter launched an extensive restructuring program.

The program included the transfer of manufacturing operations and capacity adjustments in addition to a hiring freeze, termination of temporary employees, overtime reductions and early retirements.

In addition to the measures previously implemented, Rieter is reducing capital expenditures and is working to lower working capital. The company also continues to implement part-time work schedules for employees in North America and Europe, as well as layoffs of both temporary and permanent personnel.

The restructuring will cost the company some 250 million Swiss francs, and impairment charges on goodwill amounting to 100 million Swiss francs will have to

be recognized. Rieter expects consolidated sales in 2008 to be more than 20 % lower than in 2007. In light of the current unsettling financial picture, Rieter said it will not make any financial forecasts for 2009 at this time.

The first WINGS production system now operating at Wellknown

The first POY production system equipped with WINGS has been commissioned at Wellknown Polyesters Ltd. in Daman, India.

With a festive ceremony, the twelve-position system was unveiled by Wellknown CEO, Anil Gupta and Stefan Kroß, Oerlikon Barmag's Managing Director, in the presence of numerous guests and the international trade press.

In his speech Mr. Gupta said, "It is not only about Wellknown or Oerlikon Barmag, but about a great relationship. An understanding for a vision and faith in implementing innovative ideas." Congratulating Oerlikon Barmag for its unique achievement he added, "With us being the first in the world using this WINGS technology, it not only strengthens the relationship but – indeed – makes it very special!"

In his subsequent speech, Kroß made reference to the demanding markets at which Wellknown Polyesters targets its special yarn products. For this reason, the company's machine shop is equipped with the very latest innovative technologies. Stefan Kroß further added, "Wellknown Polyesters was one of the first filament yarn producers to recognize the worldwide potential of our WINGS technology".

The joint direct spinning plant project, which is about to be launched, includes poly-condensation facilities as well as a considerably larger number of WINGS units.

The WINGS system integrates the godets and the tangling unit into the winder. In addition to increasing productivity and efficiency, this plug-in machine unit – first unveiled at the ITMA 2007 in Munich – guarantees POY manufacturers consistently good yarn quality.

Requiring less air and space and offering savings potentials in terms of operating staff, the system helps increase efficiency. The optimized yarn path ensures even gentler yarn treatment and hence secures first-class yarn quality.

Pakistan Textile City to develop World-class industrial zone to help industry to meet global challenges

Pakistan Textile City Limited, a public-private joint venture, is driven with the vision to develop and manage the first World-class industrial zone for value added textile industries to help the industry meet global challenges.

One of the main features of Textile City is to provide Stable & Uninterrupted Power supply to each of its qualified allottee.

On 21st November 2008, the Management of Pakistan Textile City Limited signed the contract for 'Technical Advisor' services with renowned consultant Mr. Najam Farooqui for its upcoming captive Power Plant of 250 MW at Textile City, Eastern Industrial Zone, Port Qasim.

Mr. Najam Farooqui is a seasoned international consultant in the field of Power Generation. A foreign qualified professional and member of renowned international institutes in UK and USA, Mr. Farooqui has served as consultant for a large number of Power Plant projects in Pakistan, China, UK, UAE, Iran, Iraq and Armenia. Mr. Farooqui has served as a Director in HUB Power Company Board for 12 years, besides being associated as its Technical Advisor acting as Operations Director.

On behalf of World Bank, he has been contributing his services for important IPP projects including Gul Ahmed Energy (126MW) at Karachi and Koh-e-Noor Energy (128MW) at Lahore.

At present, he is also working as a Project Consultant for different international clients on projects for KESC (SITE and Korangi Power stations), LESCO (Gas fired power stations) and PEPCO (Rental Project)."



Mr. Zaheer A. Hussain, CEO, Pakistan Textile City is shaking hands with Technical Advisor Mr. Najam Farooqui.

Amsler Tex AG and KARL MAYER cooperate to produce a new fancy yarn for producing warp-knitted lace

Flames bring to mind raging infernos, destruction and fire-fighting, but they are also often used to represent passion, romanticism and startling colour effects. The lace shown here, with its flickering palette of red and yellow and orange, is just one example which arouses the senses and sets pulses racing.

The bright, bold colours blaze playfully and unrestrained over the delicate design, which features luxurious flowers in a simple, abstract arrangement with ornamental foliage – a classic look in terms of the pattern but a real trail-blazer in terms of the colours used.

Two specialist companies, KARL MAYER, an experienced manufacturer of warp-knitted lace and Amsler Tex AG, a company with unique ideas and an innovative supplier of equipment for producing fancy yarns, have cooperated to create this textile, which represents a modern interpretation of the timeless art of seduction.

Amsler Tex AG, a specialist in producing fancy yarns worldwide

Articles made from products produced by Amsler Tex AG bring diversity to textiles and an air of extravagance to classic favourites, regardless of whether they are being used to produce melange effects in T-shirts, salt-and-pepper effects on denim or a pronounced natural look on shirts.

This Swiss company manufactures machinery for producing fancy and special yarns, has been active at an international level for more than 40 years, and is regarded as the 'gold standard' within the sector.

Several thousand machines running in more than 40 countries worldwide and a considerable growth rate bear testimony to the success of Amsler Tex AG. The experience and creativity of this company and the high quality of the yarns produced by Amsler are the reasons why this company has enjoyed consistent growth rates.

The equipment produced by this manufacturer produces high-strength yarns, enables the flame effects to be located in just the right places, can be incorporated into virtually every type of spinning machine, and is complemented by professional software solutions, both for developing the yarns as well as for the spinning process. Amsler Tex AG operates a worldwide service network

and is always happy to liaise with its clients, enabling it to develop products specifically tailored to meet the needs of its customers – and KARL MAYER has been particularly impressed by this strategy.

A new fancy yarn for producing warp-knitted lace

The product designers at Amsler Tex and KARL MAYER have developed a special flame-effect yarn which is designed to stir the emotions. The development work was based on an 'injection' process. In this process, two yarns are twisted together and short fibres are injected into the form-locking connection. So-called slubs or flames are produced, whose length, thickness and distance apart can be varied to create different structural effects on the fabric.

The slubs can also be used to produce coloured effects. This gives rise to a whole wealth of design possibilities, which can only be fully utilised, however, if the yarns can meet the high demands of processing on high-tech warp knitting machines in terms of their stability, quality and strength.

This is backed up by thorough and extensive work carried out by both KARL MAYER and Amsler Tex. The textile specialists in both companies drew up a list of requirements, modified the spinning sequences, and studied yarn running on the warp knitting machine. The latest model in the multibar raschel machine series was used for doing this in order to simulate high-tech production conditions and also to make full use of the performance features of the new ML 45.

The optimum construction of the fancy yarn for use in warp knitting was found to be a combination of polyamide and Tencel[®] for the twists and cotton for the slubs. The thick spots that were required for creating the design were located fairly close together, so that they could be used to produce eye-catching colour effects as the yarns were processed during warp knitting.

Test runs carried out on the ML 45 showed that this type of yarn construction could be processed without any difficulties whatsoever. The trials involved producing short runs over a section of the working width. An attractive pattern was produced, which should make the world of lace brighter, livelier and more interesting especially for younger women.

New Montex JV for quality finishing production



New Montex JV by Monforts.

A new stenter, the Montex JV is introduced by A. Monforts Textilmaschinen which has been designed and engineered in Germany and is produced in Monforts joint venture facility, Monforts Fong's Textile Machinery Ltd. in China. With each model being built under Monforts control in cooperation with its partner, world leading name, Fong's, quality production is assured. The new Montex

JV incorporates proven Monforts technology with all service and spare parts activities undertaken from Germany, ensuring direct customer contact.

The Montex JV stenter is marketed outside China solely through Germany. As an additional stenter in the German manufactured Monforts range including the Montex 7000 Series, the JV offers an attractive price performance ratio but does not include all the options available with Montex 6500 and 7000 Series units. Competitively priced and built to German quality standards, the Montex JV offers an attractive option for standard finishing techniques.

Designed for both woven and knitted fabrics, the stenter is available in configurations from 4-10 treatment chambers, working widths of 60cm-240cm and stenter speeds of 5-100m/min. Standard features include Monforts proven TwinAir system with separately controlled top and bottom air flows to ensure reproducible fabric results at all times. The latest 'Golden' Hercules stentering chain are fitted to offer even further improved long term lubrication extending re-greasing intervals to more than 12,000 hours, depending on the treating processes.

Fully encapsulated bearings ensure that the roller chain runs dry through the stenter and requires minimum lubrication. Monforts patented direct lubrication system; with lubricant injected directly into the bearing. The interval for re-greasing has been extended from 6,000 hours to more than 12,000 hours under average performance conditions of 160°C and 70 m/min. The 'Golden' Hercules chain offers further improved sealing for the bearings. This ensures a reduction of grease loss due to heat dissipation by more than 60%. The Montex JV also features Monforts fully programmable 'Mastermind' PLC control system.

Italian Finishing Technology technical workshop for Iranian Textile Companies

After a period of crisis Iranian textile industry observed a good momentum due to the modernization and development of whole industry. The importance of textile and clothing in the Iranian economy is unquestionable (12,3% of total national production and 14,8% of total workforce). Meanwhile local textile consumption and total industry production have been increasing. Most important pattern of Iran's textile industry is evolving towards non apparel segments.

Now many local companies are addressing their attention to more added value products. The consequence is a requested updating of finishing technology by Iranian textile industry.

In order to respond to this need the Association of Italian Textile Machinery Manufacturers (ACIMIT) and the Italian Institute for Foreign Trade (ICE) will organ-

ize a technical workshop on Italian technology for finishing sector in Teheran on next February 17, 2009. It follows several promotional initiatives that ACIMIT and ICE have been realizing for many years on Iranian market.

Generally most of the people involved in the Iran's textile industry know very well Italian machinery. In 2007 Italian exports to Iranian market reached a value of € 34 million (+19% on previous year). In the first eight months of 2008 Italian sales amounted to € 20 million. Finishing machinery represent 21% of total Italian exports.

300 Italian companies (with 20,000 employees) that produce machinery for a value of about Euro 2,400 million, pay the highest attention to the requests of the textile industry to propose new solutions of innovation, productivity, safety with the utmost satisfaction of their clients. The quality of the Italian textile technology is testified by the high number of Countries where the Italian machinery are sold: about 130. Exports represent 78% of total sales. Asia (with a share of 43%) is the main destination for Italian sector exports, followed by Europe (38%), Latin America (9%), North America (5%) and Africa (5%).

Clarification of personnel adjustments at Oerlikon

Oerlikon has clarified an announcement in the press to the effect that the company is planning over 1,000 further layoffs. Over the last four months, several segments of the Group have taken measures to secure their results, acting on their own authority within the Group's decentralized entrepreneurial structure.

These measures include an unavoidable reduction of staff levels worldwide, with around 50 percent of temporary workers. The implementation started as from the fourth quarter 2008 and includes temporary contracts not renewed and vacancies not replaced. In total, 1,000 employees are affected.◆

Albany International announces planned reduction in manufacturing capacity in Europe

Albany International Oy, an affiliate of Albany International Corp. (NYSE:AIN), announced its plan to discontinue operations at its dryer fabric manufacturing facility in Konala, Finland. Over the last several years, similar steps have been taken in North America and Europe to match capacity to the global demand for paper machine clothing, as the global paper industry has continued to consolidate and eliminate capacity. The proposal, if implemented, is estimated to affect up to 133 employees and is subject to review under local law and would be implemented in accordance with such law and in consultation with the Works Council. The planned action at Konala in no way reflects on the performance of the affected employees; it is a business necessity, driven by the existing and anticipated market conditions.

The Company remains committed to the dryer fabric business and will continue to provide customers with strong expertise in Product Application, Sales and Marketing, Service, and Research and Development to ensure outstanding product quality. It is planned that dryer fabric sourcing will continue to be available from manufacturing operations in Germany, China, France, and Mexico.