

KARL MAYER delivers its 100,000th machine – a fantastic achievement

A pioneering spirit, circumspection and hard work are just some of the attributes of a successful company – and this still applies today.

Once again, the celebration recently held at KARL MAYER shows that strong management and a high level of innovation both pay off, especially in economically difficult times. On 19 February, the 100,000th machine left the production line of this traditional manufacturer. Appropriately decorated and accompanied by loud applause, it made its way to the dispatch hall at the company's headquarters in Obertshausen. There, it was welcomed by the staff, the management board, members of the Mayer family, officials from the town of Obertshausen, and representatives of the advisory council, who all came together to celebrate this milestone in the company's history.

The success story of this medium-sized, family run company began in 1948, when the first warp knitting machine was built. This simple production machine could reach a speed of 400 min⁻¹ and is now on show in the KARL MAYER Academy. The technology of modern high-speed tricot machines may be more sophisticated but the principles have remained the same, and they can now operate at speeds of up to 4,000 min⁻¹ – this increase in speed reflects the enormous progress that has been made in the last few decades.

In his speech to the assembled staff and guests, the Managing Director, Herr Fritz P. Mayer, stressed that it was not simply a question of celebrating the successful development of its machines, but also the continuity and staying power enjoyed by the company for more than 60 years.

He was particularly pleased at the timing of the production of the 100,000th machine. Although the decision to celebrate this event had been taken last year, when the order situation was dire and the mood was extremely pessimistic, the order books are now full. Customers have been investing so heavily over the last few weeks, that the company can now look forward to the next few months, and hopefully the whole trading year, with confidence, stressed Herr Fritz P. Mayer.

The question now was to carry out the tasks that lay ahead on schedule and with KARL MAYER's usual high quality. The Managing Director said that he was relying on the workers especially to see this through. He thanked them for the great commitment that would be needed, and said that he appreciated the hard work of the staff in the past. Whether they were design engineers or assembly fitters, specialists in the production or dispatch departments, or administrative staff, every single worker at their workstation had contributed to the current success of KARL MAYER, and had every reason to celebrate, he said at the end of his speech. He then declared the buffet, which was as sumptuous as ever, open, and the entertainment was provided by the company's own orchestra.

Still the focus of attention, and the reason for holding the celebration in the first place, is the HKS 4 EL, which will begin its journey in the next few days. Its destination is Houndey, a customer in Taiwan, which illustrates the global nature of KARL MAYER's operations. When the 25,000th machine was delivered in 1968, 80% of the company's production was exported, and the 50,000th machine was shipped to Brazil in 1974.

ASTM Subcommittee on industrial fabrics expands scope to include high performance fibers

A subcommittee of ASTM International Committee D13 on Textiles has recently changed its title and the scope of its work. Subcommittee D13.19, previously on tire cord and fabrics, has been retitled D13.19 on Industrial Fabrics and Metallic Reinforcements.

According to Dawn Caullwine, quality manager, DuPont Kevlar's Cooper River facility, and chair of D13 as well as D13.19, the standards development work of D13.19 was initially geared toward test methods for materials used to reinforce mechanical rubber goods, including tires. Changes in technology have led the subcommittee to expand its scope to include high performance fibers used in safety and protective end uses such as bullet-resistant applications.

Caullwine says that the change in scope and title reflects a new emphasis on reinforcement materials by D13. Reinforcement materials covered by D13.19 are used in the following applications, among others: belts (automotive, conveyor), concrete, flaps, floor mats, hoses, pipes, plastic (fiber reinforced), rubber, tarps and tire cords.

"The data generated using D13.19 standards can be compared between products, providing quality control for testing," says Caullwine. "This allows consumers to be able to compare two materials to determine which better meets their needs."

Interested parties, particularly steel bead wire producers, are invited to join D13.19. The subcommittee is currently working on a proposed new standard for tensile testing of high performance tape and is considering work on test methods for high performance papers. ASTM International welcomes and encourages participation in the development of its standards. For more information on becoming an ASTM member, visit www.astm.org/JOIN.

ASTM International is one of the largest international standards development and delivery systems in the world. ASTM International meets the World Trade Organization (WTO) principles for the development of international standards: coherence, consensus, development dimension, effectiveness, impartiality, openness, relevance and transparency. ASTM standards are accepted and used in research and development, product testing, quality systems and commercial transactions.

Courtesy: www.astmnewsroom.org.



The Managing Director, Herr Fritz P. Mayer, giving his speech at the event held to celebrate the production of the 100,000th machine.

Trützschler Nonwovens offers spare parts & service for Fleissner Nonwovens machines, Ansbach

As of January 2010 Fleissner GmbH in Egelsbach is offering spare parts and service for all machines and lines delivered by Fleissner Nonwovens Ansbach. As agreed between the two companies, all necessary documents have been transferred to Fleissner GmbH, Egelsbach.

Fleissner Nonwovens GmbH und Co. KG in Ansbach, which was mainly producing conveyor belt drying and thermobonding lines with its own business activities under Mr. Gerold Fleissner since 2003, was closed down by the end of last year.

Together, the three companies Fleissner GmbH in Egelsbach, Erko Trützschler in Dülmen, and American Trützschler, USA, form the new business unit of Trützschler Nonwovens. As a system provider it is TRÜTZSCHLER NONWOVENS' ambition to produce and sell cutting-edge technology for the nonwovens industry. The product range includes the complete staple fiber preparation and web formation with roller cards or aerodynamic web formers as well as all web bonding methods.

of IWTO, who was nominated as committee chairman for the year 2010.

The main intent of the IYNF 2009 was to raise the awareness and profile of natural fibres, including wool, and emphasize their value to the global consumers and to society while helping to sustain farmer income. The DNFI will build on the achievements of the IYNF 2009 and maintain future cooperation and projects between the many different natural fibre organizations.

SATRA at China Open Day

Towards the end of last year, companies based in China were invited to discover more about SATRA Technology Centre, its Far East operations and what it has to offer in leading technical services.

SATRA's inaugural "Open Day", held at The Royal Lagoon in Dongguan, was attended by many locally based Chinese and Western companies as well as visitors from Shanghai and Hong Kong.

It was an informal affair with people free to come and meet one-to-one with various SATRA experts and managers to discuss particular business needs.

It was also a chance to talk to SATRA China Office staff about the convenience of local testing. As a result, three new members were signed up to SATRA for 2010.

In attendance from SATRA UK was chief executive Austin Simmons, who talked about plans for the future.

He also commented on SATRA research, laboratory accreditation and quality assurance, areas of work that have seen a rise in demand despite global recession.

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Senior expert, Steve Rose, was kept busy all day with a steady flow of questions about SATRA's laboratory accreditation programme which has gained worldwide recognition in enabling companies to set up testing at source. With this in mind, SATRA displayed a range of its own in-house developed test equipment.

Mr Rose also demonstrated SATRA production efficiency systems, including the latest in stitching technology and the new SATRASumm 7 which helps footwear factories save waste and money by more efficient use of both leather and synthetic materials.

Another topic of major interest was stricter regulations on the materials used in footwear imported into Europe and USA, especially restricted substances EU legislation under REACH.

Many open day visitors signed up for SATRA's Bringing Products to Market in Europe seminars the following week. A proportion of Chinese SATRA members become part of the open day by displaying their own products to the visitors. This proved to be a popular attraction, especially to companies wanting to see how SATRA expertise can help improve the quality of products.



Discover Natural Fibres Initiative (DNFI) founded

As a follow up after the successful initiative "International Year of Natural Fibres 2009 (IYNF 2009)" declared by the United Nations (UN), the member organizations of the IYNF 2009 Steering Committee have met to discuss the scenario beyond 2009.

At the meeting it was unanimously agreed to continue the co-operation between all relevant Natural Fibres in the future as a permanent ongoing project with the name of "Discover Natural Fibres Initiative (DNFI)".

DNFI is an alliance of key international natural fibre associations/organizations including CCI, ICAC, Bremen Cotton Exchange, ITMF, IWTO and many others. It was agreed that the Secretariat of the "Discover Natural Fibres Initiative (DNFI)" should rotate annually to one of the alliance organizations. The Wool Industry is present through Henrik Kuffner, Director General

Hohenstein Institute renames business units

In view of the increasingly international orientation of the Hohenstein Institute, some of the business units of the International Textile Research and Services Centre have been renamed as of 1 January 2010. The main focus of the renaming was to strengthen the 'Hohenstein' umbrella brand name. In future, the following companies will operate under the brand name: Hohenstein Laboratories GmbH & Co. KG (previously: Hohenstein Research Institute Prof. Dr. Jürgen Mecheels GmbH & Co. KG).

- ❖ Hohenstein Institut für Textilinnovation e.V. (Hohenstein Institute for Textile Innovation) (previously: Hohenstein Clothing Physiology Institute).
- ❖ Hohenstein Academy e.V. (previously: Hohenstein Technical Academy)
- ❖ Hohenstein Textile Testing Institute GmbH & Co. KG

Schloss Hohenstein in Bönningheim has been the headquarters of the Hohenstein Institute Research and Service Centre since 1946. With the renaming of the business units, the Hohenstein Institute is paying tribute to its increasingly international orientation and focusing on the umbrella brand name of Hohenstein.

Oerlikon Barmag: WINGS 2010 comes out in black

Two years after its market launch, WINGS now comes in a new guise. The new release has been optimized above all in servicing, string-up and its operation window. And all the measures are also extremely user-friendly as well.

WINGS 2010 can now also be used for titers up to 400 denier final. For this reason, WINGS now covers the broadest range of manufactured POY filament yarns and provides yarn producers with greater flexibility. Visually, the winding machine has moved from its revolutionary red to an elegant black – WINGS is no longer "new", it has become a permanent fixture that has firmly established itself in the market after only two years.

WINGS integrates godets and tangle unit into the winder. In addition to increasing productivity and efficiency, this plug & play machine unit, which premiered at the ITMA 2007 in Munich, guarantees POY producers constantly excellent and even yarn quality. And less space requirements and savings potentials with regards to operating staff make a valuable contribution towards increasing efficiency. The optimized yarn path ensures even gentler yarn treatment and hence first-class yarn quality.



Black is beautiful: WINGS changed its colour.

Oerlikon Barmag, a division of Oerlikon Textile GmbH & Co. KG with sites in Remscheid, Chemnitz, Wuxi and Suzhou (both People's Republic of China), was founded as Barmag AG in 1922. The company is the world market leader for spinning systems and equipment for man-made fibers, such as polyester, nylon and polypropylene, and texturing machines.

The primary Oerlikon Barmag markets are Asia, and China and India in particular, as well as the Middle East and Europe. Correspondingly, the company – with its approximately 1,700 employees – has a worldwide presence in 120 countries as part of the Oerlikon Textile network of production, sales and service organizations.

At the Oerlikon Barmag R&D Center – the largest of its kind in the world – within the company's headquarters in Remscheid, highly-qualified engineers and technicians develop innovative and technologically-leading products for tomorrow's world.

New combi coater from Monforts

A new multi-purpose coating device by Monforts offers 'air knife' and 'knife over roller' techniques for coating applications of 15 – 100 g/m² and 50 – 1500 g/m² textile weights respectively; and fully integrated electrics for Montex Qualitex control.

The Matex Coating unit is ideal for a wide variety of specialised coating applications; suitable for both woven and nonwoven textiles. Compactly-built, the Matex Coat is a universal coating device for fine coating hydrophobic pigment up to

tarpaulin and truck covers. The coating unit is suitable for paste or foam applications.

In the 'air knife' mode, for example, it is ideal for coating products such as silicon coating for airbags, fine coating for outdoor textiles and denim pigment coating, upholstery, mattresses and sun protection.

The 'knife over roller' is ideal for pile locking/back stabilisations, blackouts (foam applications), vertical blinds, table cloths, sportswear (foam applications), tarpaulin, dusters and nonwovens.

Integrated electrics

Featuring fully integrated electrics, which can be easily 'clipped' into the Montex Qualitex controls and requiring no adaptation, the new coating unit can be retrofitted into existing ranges. It is preferably installed at the front end of the Montex stenter.

Coating weights

Coating weights of 15 – 100 g/m² wet can be applied using 'air knife' techniques and paste viscosities of 1000 – 100,000 mPas.

For 'knife over roller' techniques coating weights of 50 – 1500 g/m² can be achieved with paste viscosities of 3000 – 120,000 mPas.

The Matex Coat is designed for use with fabric widths of 180 – 360 cm and features a motorised driven coating drum.

The doctor blade is adjusted manually and features an optional automatic, pneumatic quick lifting device for seams – where two batches are sewn together. The knife can be turned and is adjusted in steps of 0.01 mm. The 400 mm diameter drum under the knife is a hard chromed roller.

A driven fabric transport roller to control fabric tensions of 25-250 Nn is also optionally available. Standard foam mixers can be applied and a traversing device for paste/foams is also available. The Matex Coat offers a high performance ratio and is competitively priced.



New combi coater from Monforts.

New Lawson Software suite that helps fashion companies meet sourcing and production challenges

Lawson Software unveils latest industry-specific enterprise software suite that helps fashion companies meet sourcing and production challenges.

Lawson Software introduced **Lawson for Fashion**, a comprehensive enterprise software system for fashion companies, including brand owners and manufacturers of apparel and accessories as well as private brand retailers. Lawson for Fashion helps fashion companies improve profits, combat chargebacks and accelerate product time-to-market, while helping reduce software implementation time. It is built on the latest version of the Lawson M3 Enterprise Management System, Lawson M3 10.1.

This latest industry-specific enterprise software system based on the Lawson M3 system. It combines core enterprise business software with industry-specific applications, such as Lawson Fashion PLM and Assortment Replenishment Planner. It also includes Analytics for Fashion, a pre-configured Business Intelligence solution with KPIs and scorecards specific to the fashion industry. Analytics for Fashion helps companies track and measure key operational data, which helps foster better, faster decision making.

Lawson for Fashion also offers the Lawson Value Management tools, which help companies identify and quantify, in advance, potential business process improvements and helps prioritize improvement opportunities within their business. This software is derived from the company's in-depth expertise in the fashion industry, using proven industry processes and the company's experience from hundreds of implementations. This helps fashion companies gain greater control over their margins, products and relationships throughout the supply chain.

Lawson for Fashion includes many application enhancements:

- ❖ Assortment & Replenishment Planner, which helps companies manage assortment planning, buy plans and inventory push all the way to eventual product phase out.
- ❖ Lawson Analytics for Fashion, which provides business intelligence without having to develop analytic tools in-house. The solution combines 80 pre-configured key-performance indicators (KPIs) with 90 built-in industry-specific scorecard templates and helps companies make better, faster decisions.
- ❖ New package management function-

ality, which includes capabilities for complex package structures and SSCC (Serial Shipping Container Code) plates, which helps speed products through shipping and receiving.

- ❖ An advanced costing and pricing toolbox, which provides capabilities to help merchandisers source more effectively based on the cost of alternative supply methods.
- ❖ A standard PLM (Product Lifecycle Management) interface between Lawson Fashion PLM and the Lawson M3 Enterprise Management System, which helps companies more easily transfer style information between the two systems.

Propper International, Inc., - apparel manufacturer specializing in military and law enforcement gear is among the first Lawson customers to move to the latest version of the Lawson system.

Propper, which is one of the largest suppliers of uniforms to the U.S. Department of Defense, is using the system to help it streamline key business processes relating to production and business management.

"When we got an advance look at the new Lawson for Fashion offering with its M3 10.1 Enterprise Management system, it really impressed us and we became a pilot site. The numerous enhancements and new features are tailored around our industry-specific needs and proven best practices," said Devin McCarthy, IT director for Propper. "With all our data and information in Lawson for Fashion, we are able to connect business processes from initial product concept to delivery to the end customer, which helped us to maximize efficiency and agility at Propper."

"With our latest version of Lawson for Fashion we are redefining enterprise applications for the fashion industry, giving companies tools they need to help turn their inventory into cash faster – based on our deep knowledge of the fashion industry and its challenges from serving more than 350 fashion customers globally," said Frédéric Champalbert, general manager, Fashion, for Lawson. "With Lawson for Fashion we help our customers improve key business processes by converting data into actionable information."

Lawson Software provides software and service solutions to 4,500 customers in equipment service management and rental, fashion, food & beverage, health-care, manufacturing & distribution, public sector (United States), service industries, and strategic human capital management across 40 countries.

SDL Atlas launches new web site with easy to use product search functionality

SDL Atlas, one of the leaders in textile testing technologies, launched its completely redesigned web site. The revamped site – at www.sdlatlas.com – offers site visitors a comprehensive look at the company's textile testing equipment, laboratory products, consumables, and service offerings for the fabric, apparel, yarn, and fiber industries.

Features of the new site include:

- ❖ Search capabilities that allow users to find products based on a list of categories, applications, or standards.
- ❖ A search function that allows customers to quickly find information on the textile testing products, consumables, and services they need.
- ❖ A listing of related consumables for each product, as well as ordering and contact information, offering SDL Atlas customers a one-stop-shop for all of their textile testing solutions.
- ❖ Up-to-date information in the "About Us" section, including SDL Atlas Update newsletter articles, press releases for media, and an event listing highlighting the trade shows and events at which SDL Atlas is participating.

Chuck Lane, President, SDL Atlas said. "This site is more than a list of products. It is a source of information about textile testing and testing standards. With the varied search functions in the site, every visitor will be able to find a navigation method which suits their needs."

SDL Atlas is the world's largest, most complete global source of textile testing, quality control, and laboratory equipment.

For more information on all SDL Atlas products, visit www.sdlatlas.com or contact the local representative Naz International in Pakistan. ♦



Screen shot of the new website by SDL Atlas.