

Press Release

Bicomponent Fibers with Compact Spinning Process

Neumünster, Milan 12-19 November, 2015 - **For the production of bicomponent fibers, high take-up speeds are necessary in order to achieve homogenous filament formation. Previously, this was only possible with a two-step staple fiber process. With the Staple FORCE S 1000 from Oerlikon Neumag, bicomponent fibers can now also be produced in the compact spinning process.**

Oerlikon Neumag has many years of experience in the production of bicomponent fibers in the two-step process. This competence has been successfully transferred to the Staple FORCE S 1000. It is a small, compact staple fiber line that works according to the one-step process. Spinning and defined drawing take place in direct succession without intermediate storage of the spun tow in cans. Compared to conventional one-step processes, which work with take-up speeds of approx. 80 meters per minute, the Staple FORCE S 1000 achieves a take-up speed of approx. 1000 meters per minute and is thus also suitable for the production of bicomponent fibers. For example, the production of core/sheath bonding fibers made of PET/CoPET is now possible in the compact spinning process.

Cost-effective, flexible and compact

With a throughput of up to 15 tons per day, its compact construction, easy handling and energy-efficient operation, the Staple FORCE S 1000 is not only attractive for fiber manufacturers focusing on special applications and on 'on-demand' deliveries, it also enables nonwoven producers to efficiently integrate fiber manufacturing into their own production operations.

By means of virtual reality, interested parties at the ITMA in Milan can see the advantages of the system for themselves: the fact that installation is possible on a standard industrial floor minimizes investment costs. Energy and water savings through a dry drawing process lead to a reduction in operating cost and protect the environment. "Cost-effective, flexible and compact – this appeals to our customers and opens up diverse new market potential for them," concludes Mathias Gröner-Rothermel, Senior Manager Business Development Plant Engineering from Oerlikon Neumag.

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About Oerlikon

Oerlikon (SIX: OERL) is a leading, globally-active technology group supplying growth markets with market-leading technologies and services for surface solutions, systems for manufacturing manmade fibers, transmission systems and drive solutions as well as prevacuum and high vacuum technologies and pumps and the corresponding accessories. The leading Oerlikon technologies enable customers to increase their product performance and productivity, utilize resources and energy more efficiently and make a contribution towards sustainable development. As a Swiss company with a history stretching back more than 100 years, Oerlikon and its in excess of 15,500 employees are present at more than 200 sites in 36 different countries. In 2014, sales totaled CHF 3.2 billion. The company, which invested CHF 121 million in research and development in 2014, employs more than 1,300 specialists for developing innovative and customer-oriented products and services.

For further information: www.oerlikon.com

About the Oerlikon Manmade Fibers segment

With its Oerlikon Barmag and Oerlikon Neumag brands, Oerlikon Manmade Fibers segment is the world market leader for manmade fiber filament spinning systems, texturing machines, BCF systems, staple fiber systems and artificial turf systems and – as a service provider – offers engineering solutions for the entire textile value added chain. As a future oriented company, the research and development at this division of the Oerlikon Group is driven by energy-efficiency and sustainable technologies. With the expansion of the product range to include polycondensation systems and their key components, the company now caters to the entire process – from the monomer all the way through to the textured yarn. The primary Oerlikon Barmag markets are in Asia, and – for Oerlikon Neumag – in the USA, Turkey and China. Correspondingly, Oerlikon Barmag and Oerlikon Neumag – with just under 2,500 employees – has a worldwide presence in 120 countries as part of the Oerlikon Manmade Fibers network of production, sales and distribution and service organizations. At the R&D centers in Remscheid, Neumünster and Chemnitz, highly-qualified engineers and technicians develop innovative and technologically-leading products for tomorrow's world.

For further information: www.oerlikon.com/manmade-fibers