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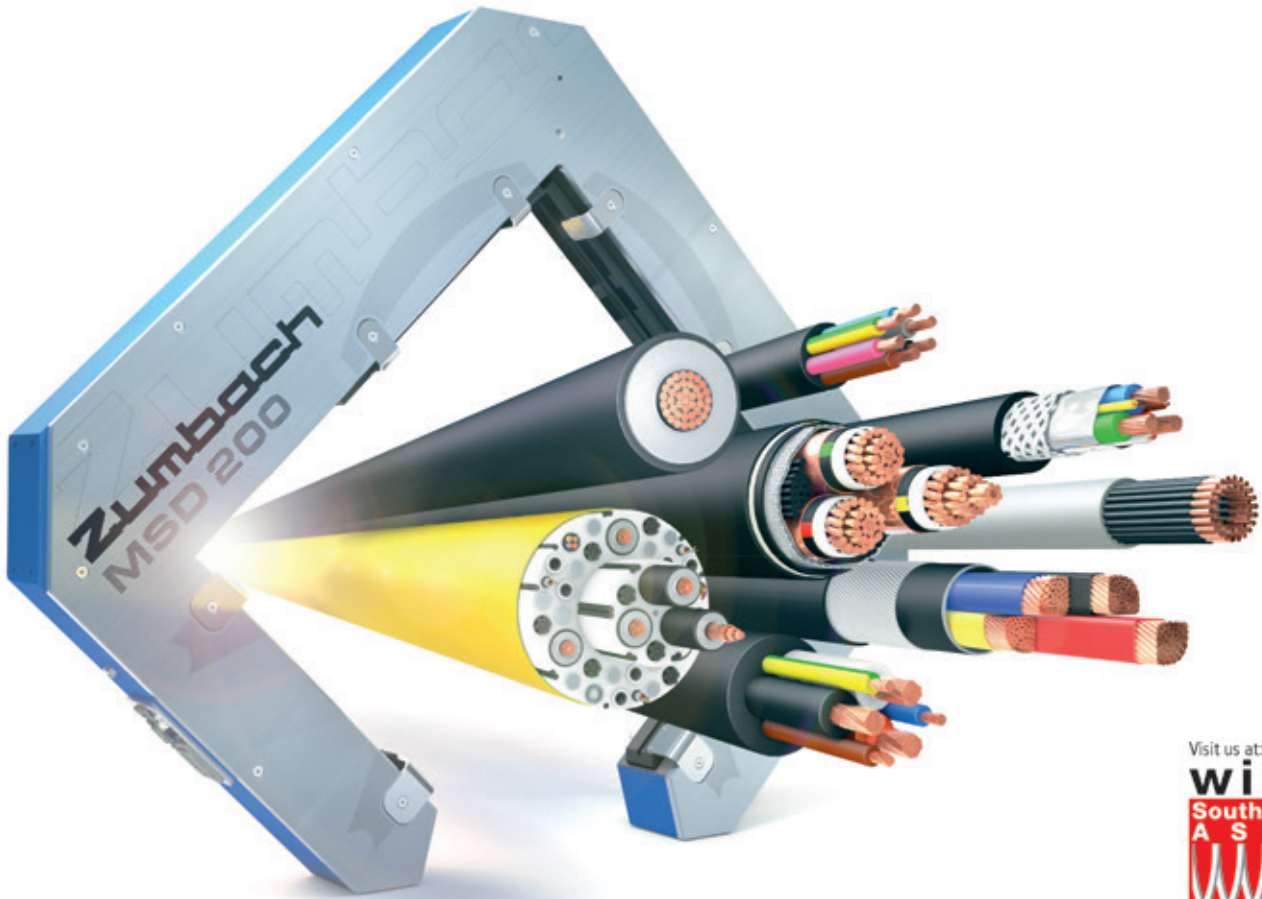
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US copies only:

EUROWIRE (ISSN No: 1463-2483, USPS No: 022-738) is published bi-monthly by Intras Ltd and distributed in the USA by SPP, 17B S Middlesex Ave, Monroe NJ 08831. Periodicals postage paid at New Brunswick, NJ. POSTMASTER: send address changes to Eurowire, 17B S Middlesex Ave, Monroe NJ 08831

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 ISSN 1463-2438

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At the front of South American growth

Mention Brazil and a host of images spring to mind. Without doubt its phenomenal success on the football field, Rio carnival, the FIFA World Cup next year, the Olympic Games in 2016.

More recently it has been the country's strength as a financial force to be reckoned with in terms of its economy, with a massive explosion in industrial and agricultural growth seeing it become South America's leading financial power and regional leader.

The opportunities afforded international trade investors make this an incredibly attractive market for business. Admittedly, a long and thorough administrative process has caused a few headaches along the way, but the rewards seemingly far outweigh the problems in getting a foothold in the country.

It is little wonder then that the wire and cable industry turns its attention to the city of São Paulo for the first staging of wire South America in October.

Tube exhibition TUBOTECH has been successfully staged in the country for the last 14 years. Grupo Cipa staged a wire exhibition in conjunction with the 6th TUBOTECH two years ago and has now joined forces with Messe Düsseldorf in a bid to ensure this show joins the stable of already successful wire events around the globe.

Expectation for the first wire South America is, quite rightly, very high. A list of large and influential exhibitors is already lying in wait for the doors of the Exposições Imigrantes Exhibition Centre to open from 1st to 3rd October.

Our coverage of the exhibition begins on page 66 and if you are attending, please stop by Stand 544 to say hello, as well as to collect your free copy of *EuroWire*, *Wire & Cable ASIA* or *wiredInUSA*.

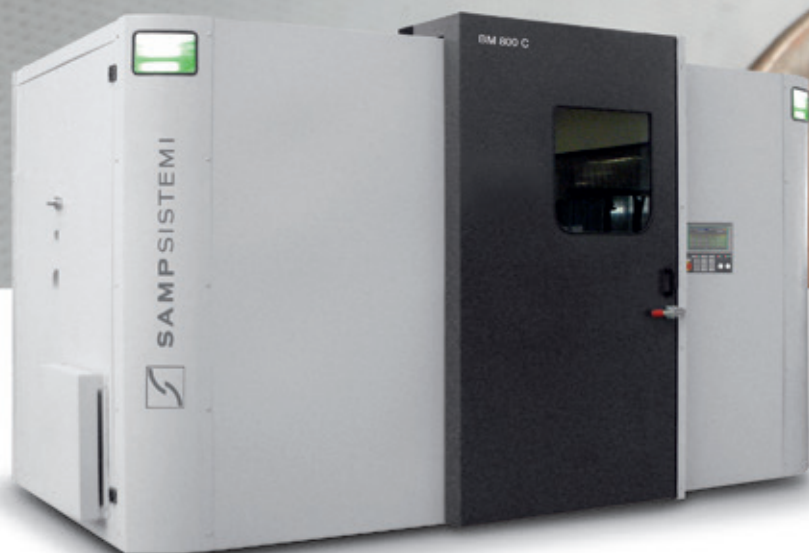
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David Bell
 Editor

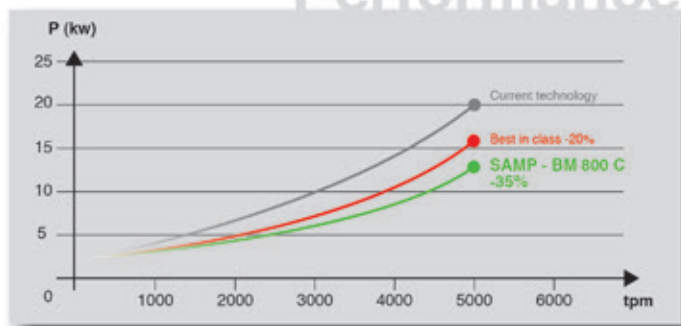
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- Focus on Scandinavia (Finland, Sweden, Denmark & Norway)

Getting Technical

PV Ribbon: Overview of product specifications and comparison of production processes



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IWCS 2013

10-13 Nov: **IWCS 2013** –
trade exhibition –
Charlotte Convention Center,
Charlotte, NC, USA

Organisers:

IWCS

Tel: +1 717 993 9500

Email:

phudak@iwcs.org

Website: www.iwcs.org

2013

November 2013

4-5 Nov:

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conference – Milan, Italy

Organisers:

ACIMAF, CET, IWCEA, IWMA, WAI

Fax: +44 1926 314755

Email: info@iwma.org

Website: www.cabwire.com

2014

March 2014

11-15 Mar:

METAV – trade exhibition –
Düsseldorf, Germany

Organisers: Verein Deutscher
Werkzeugmaschinenfabriken e.V.
(VDW)

Fax: +49 69 756081 74

Email: metav@vdw.de

Website: www.metav.com

April 2014

7-11 April:

wire/Tube Düsseldorf – trade
exhibition – Düsseldorf, Germany

Organisers: Messe Düsseldorf

Fax: +49 211 456 0668

Email: wire@messe-duesseldorf.de

Website: www.wire.de

May 2014

6-7 May:

Wire Expo – trade exhibition –
Indianapolis, USA

Organisers: Wire Association
International

Fax: +1 203 453 8384

Email: sales@wirenet.org

Website: www.wirenet.org

14-17 May:

Lamiera – trade exhibition –
Bologna, Italy

Organisers: Ucimu-Systems

Fax: +39 0226 255 894

Email: lamiera.esp@ucimu.it

Website: www.lamiera.net

June

16-18 June:

2104 China (Guangzhou)

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Metalurgy Exhibition** – trade
exhibition – Guangzhou, China

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▲ *The world's most advanced ropes will come from Bridon's facility*

New advanced offshore rope development plant

INTERNATIONAL rope manufacturer Bridon has launched a state-of-the-art facility for the development of the world's most advanced offshore ropes.

The Bridon Technology Centre (BTC) houses a range of purpose-built equipment to test rope properties and performance, enabling Bridon to refine complex rope constructions and optimise their design. The facility will develop the largest and most sophisticated rope products ever made available to offshore customers.

Bridon has cited offshore industry demand as a key reason for the Centre's development, noting the sector's need for stronger, more sophisticated ropes that can perform at the highest levels in the world's most punishing environments.

Bridon has invested £5 million in the centre's custom-made testing and analysis equipment, which is designed to evaluate advanced rope constructions for their suitability in

even the most challenging conditions. The facility has the capacity to test samples from ropes that will weigh hundreds of tonnes, assessing their strength under extreme loads, their endurance against bend fatigue, their rotational characteristics, and their response to repeated layering on smaller, more economical spools.

It also has the latest 3D Microscope technology to examine ropes in minute detail, allowing for some of the most rigorous examinations ever conducted. BTC also affords Bridon the opportunity to work with customers on selected technical projects. Over the coming months, the company is expected to enter into talks with major operators looking to optimise a rope for their equipment or application.

The launch of the Bridon Technology Centre follows the opening of Bridon Neptune Quay in November 2012 – a new manufacturing facility capable of

producing the largest and most complex ropes in the world.

Bridon chief executive Jon Templeman said: "BTC will be a high-tech hub for next generation rope development, where the finest minds in rope technology use sophisticated testing equipment to validate the designs of the largest and most complex ropes ever made. This state-of-the-art facility will enable us to develop and test ropes that perform at the highest levels in the harshest conditions on Earth, and to collaborate with our customers on tailored solutions to the toughest challenges they face.

"Following the launch of BTC and Bridon Neptune Quay, Bridon now operates the world's most advanced rope development, manufacturing and testing facilities – giving us the brains and the brawn required of a global technology leader."

Bridon International Ltd – UK
Website: www.bridon.com

Five...four...Ormiston Wire to the International Rescue!

FIVE...Ormiston Wire came to the aid of International Rescue in the 1960s when Gerry Anderson required a wire solution for his classic puppet show, Thunderbirds.

The solution from Ormiston Wire contributed to the success of an innovative and inspired series that remains a much-loved TV classic among

audiences and a valuable brand name around the world.

Four...The series, which followed the adventures of International Rescue chief Jeff Tracy and his five sons, plus London agent Lady Penelope and her lugubrious chauffeur Parker, was an expensive and ambitious series, shot in full colour and always climaxing with a dramatic action sequence. However, it was important that, among these explosive action sequences, an equally impressive appearance was put in by the 'actors'.

Three...Anderson wanted fine metal wire that would not only suspend the marionettes and control movement but also act as electrical cables that carried control signals to electronic components concealed in the puppets' heads to allow facial movement. But with the programmes being shot on 35mm film in colour – the highest grade of television production by far in the mid-1960s – the wire also had to be thin enough not to be too obviously visible on film. Ormiston Wire, which had over 150 years of experience, provided the solution.

technical issues in filming the marionettes by supplying a very thin yet durable metal wire filament to manipulate the puppets, providing enough strength to support the marionettes as well as the right specification to carry the electronic signals. The 0.125mm diameter wire developed, manufactured and supplied by Ormiston was also darkened so there would be no reflection from the bright studio lights of the model stage, making it as invisible as possible.

One...London, UK-based Ormiston was also employed in many other Anderson series, including Fireball XL5, Stingray, and Captain Scarlet and the Mysterons, and played a significant part in supporting a hugely successful British film-making enterprise that produced innovative and popular entertainment exports throughout the 1960s.

Lift off... Thunderbirds are go... again! In 2013 it was revealed that Thunderbirds is to be revived using a mix of live-action model sets and CGI animation and, once again, Ormiston will be providing vital support to the stars of the show!

On the right track

Nexans has signed a €36 million contract with Infrabel, the Belgian railway operator, to supply 1kV power distribution cables for network refurbishment projects over the next two years.

"This will amount to more than 5,300km of cables, 90 per cent of which will be manufactured by our Belgian units. The remaining 10 per cent will be produced by other Nexans plants across Europe," said Koen Van Gucht, sales and marketing manager for Nexans Belgium.

Nexans – France
Website: www.nexans.com

Two...The company solved all the

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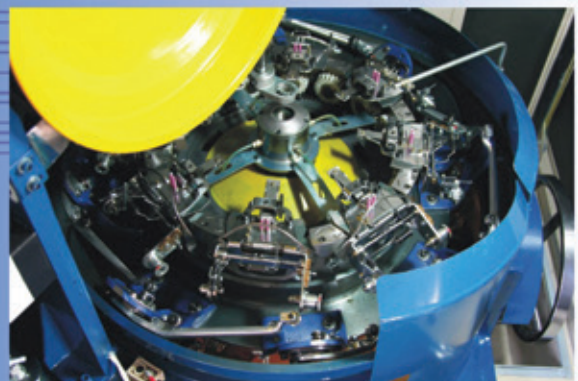
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Introduction

- OMEYA Technology is one of the largest manufacturers in Taiwan as well as the world known supplier for wire and cable equipments. We are experts at designing and manufacturing high quality of machines (**Drawing Machine, Stranding Machine, Extrusion Line, etc.**) for clients to produce better and more competitive wires and cables.

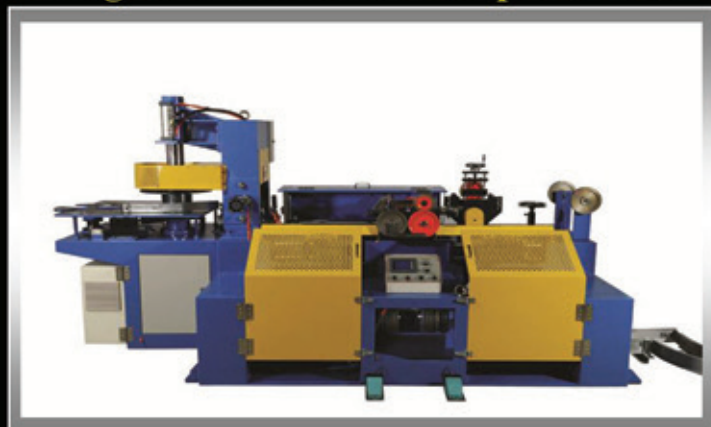
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New UK sales manager

CommScope Inc has appointed James Leyland as UK sales manager.



▲ New UK sales manager James Leyland

Mr Leyland will leverage his ten years' experience providing IT solutions in the property and telecoms industries to drive new business development. Based in London, he will report directly to Jim Curran, managing director, Enterprise, Northern Europe.

\$450m Brazil deal

Subsea 7 SA has signed a contract worth around \$450 million with Petrobras for the operation of the pipe lay support vessel (PLSV) Seven Phoenix on a day-rate basis for five years, with operations starting in the third quarter of this year.

The vessel has operated for Petrobras for several years and is currently under contract with this client.

They really are the record breakers!

IT has been a record-breaking third quarter for leading wire and cable lubricant manufacturer Metalube, which is 33 per cent ahead of its previous record quarter and overall sales are 25 per cent ahead of last year. This continues a trend of growth over the past three years that has seen sales double.

Coinciding with this good news and as part of the UK Government's Export Growth Week, the company recently welcomed Clive Drinkwater, director UK Trade & Investment (Northwest) to its factory in Manchester.

"We export nearly all of our products and it is very encouraging that the UKTI are supporting our industry. Clive Drinkwater discussed with us in depth the many opportunities and challenges that we face as a successful exporter," said Douglas Hunt, commercial director.

The company plans to celebrate its year-end (August) with the presentation of its well-earned



▲ Pictured from left, Clive Drinkwater, director UKTI (Northwest); Douglas Hunt, Metalube commercial director; Peter Thompson, UKTI; and Robert Brown, Metalube chairman

and highly prestigious Queen's Awards. The Lord Lieutenant of Greater Manchester will present the accolade on Thursday, 5th September 2013 with employees, families and local dignitaries.

"The presentation day will coincide with our annual sales training week, when many of our international team from

India, China, Malaysia and Brazil will join us in Manchester," added Mr Hunt.

"It will give us the opportunity to thank all our employees for their hard work. Success like this doesn't happen on its own and we are privileged to work with such a fantastic team."

Metalube Ltd – UK
Website: www.metalube.co.uk

Wind farm research – strictly for the birds

Renewable energy companies Vattenfall, RES, SSE and ScottishPower Renewables will join Scottish Natural Heritage (SNH), RSPB Scotland and the Scottish government in a research project to investigate the impact of wind farms on bird populations.

The new programme of research will be carried out under the aegis of the newly launched Scottish Windfarm Bird Steering Group (SWBSG).

The research will examine collision risk, displacement and cumulative impacts as well as reviewing habitat management schemes implemented by wind farm operators in Scotland.

The results of the research will help inform the Scottish government and Scottish Natural Heritage on how future monitoring should be conducted, and what guidance should be offered to wind farm developers.



▲ Joining forces to investigate the impact of wind farms on birds. Photograph courtesy of RSPB

Professor Colin Galbraith, SNH director of policy, said: "This new research programme is vital to help us understand the interactions between windfarms and birds across Scotland.

"It is particularly important, and significant, that the industry is working with the Scottish

government, SNH and RSPB to deliver this important initiative over the coming four years, which will help develop a clearer understanding of how to maintain bird populations alongside wind farms."

Scottish Natural Heritage – Scotland
Website: www.snh.gov.uk

Going underground

Construction and civil engineering company Costain has completed tunnelling work on an 8km stretch of underground route for the UK National Grid's underground electricity superhighway project, London Power Tunnels (LPT).

Costain – UK **Website:** www.costain.com



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▲ Closing down in Hudiksvall and Stockholm, Sweden.
Photograph: Ericsson

Hudiksvall and Stockholm plant closures

Ericsson has announced the closure of its copper cable manufacturing operations in Hudiksvall and Stockholm, Sweden. The company said that supply of copper is outstripping demand in Europe as the market moves further towards fibre-based networks.

"The decision is based on the fact that Ericsson's production of telecom cables is small from a global perspective, and that we also have a small market share. Unfortunately, our production has not been operating at full capacity for a long time and has struggled with profitability," said Tomas Qvist, Ericsson's head of human resources in Sweden.

The closure is expected to be complete during the third quarter of 2013.

Ericsson – Sweden

Website: www.ericsson.com

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Stand 401

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Fax: +44 (0) 1233 820591
E-mail: pwm@btinternet.com
www.pwmltd.co.uk

Remote first for Miyachi

MIYACHI Europe, a supplier of laser and resistance welding systems and laser marking products, now offers remote services for high-end resistance welding modules, reducing total cost of ownership thanks to maximised uptime and reduced travel cost.

Available for the Miyachi Peco ISQ20 series with programming pendant AWS, AWS3 systems, MG3 standard, as well as most customised resistance welding systems, this new business service is ideal for customers with high system uptime demand. Remote services from Miyachi Europe minimise support efforts and avoid planning and cost for on-site technical support. Specific AWS3 and MG3 products can be upgraded to remote access capabilities.

Remote access is achieved with the use of a PC and the installation of a VPN connection that serves as an interface between the Miyachi Peco product and the remote service expert. The company offers a complete hardware and software package. Service can be provided on demand with an hourly rate, or with an annual service contract for 20 hours of remote services at a special rate.

Training for remote services of multiple systems support on-site is offered upon request. Remote services are currently offered through Miyachi Europe in Puchheim, Germany, and additional regional service centres will be added in the future.

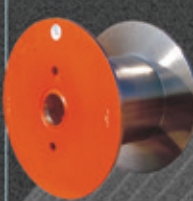
The new business service increases uptime as it allows for fast and efficient diagnostics remotely. It eliminates travelling time to the site and reduces development time by providing remote application support.

Miyachi Europe Corporation – Germany
Website: www.miyachieurope.com

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New managing directors



▲ Dr Ralf Bergmann



▲ Bernhard Nick

DR Ralf Bergmann and Bernhard Nick have been appointed as joint managing directors of Highvolt Prüftechnik Dresden GmbH.

They succeed Dr Bernd Kübler, who is retiring from the position after 11 successful years on 30th September 2013.

Mr Bergmann studied electrical engineering at the Dresden University of Technology and obtained a doctorate in the field of high-voltage and high-current technologies.

He has been head of sales responsible for international business development at Highvolt since 2003. His previous positions include project manager in technology and sales/marketing at Siemens.

Mr Nick majored in electrical engineering at Bundeswehr University, Munich, and completed a postgraduate degree in engineering management through the University of Hagen.

He joined Maschinenfabrik Reinhausen GmbH in 1998 and was involved in the company's core operations, most recently as head of OEM sales.

He went on to be appointed as manager of the Power Quality (PQ) division in 2010 and additionally took over management responsibility for the Power Distribution (PD) division in 2012.

"Highvolt has grown enormously over the past years. We are innovative world leaders in the field of high-voltage and high-current testing, and our turnover has increased from around €8 million in 2002 to approximately €50 million last year," said Dr Bergmann.

"We have also set ambitious targets for the coming years. By reinforcing the management team, Highvolt is well equipped for the future."

"We have customers all over the world, and more than 90 per cent of our sales come from exports. With a market share of 35 per cent, Highvolt is number one in its industry," added Mr Nick.

"We will maintain our successful strategies in order to further cement Highvolt's leading position in the world market."

Highvolt Prüftechnik Dresden GmbH – Germany
Website: www.highvolt.de

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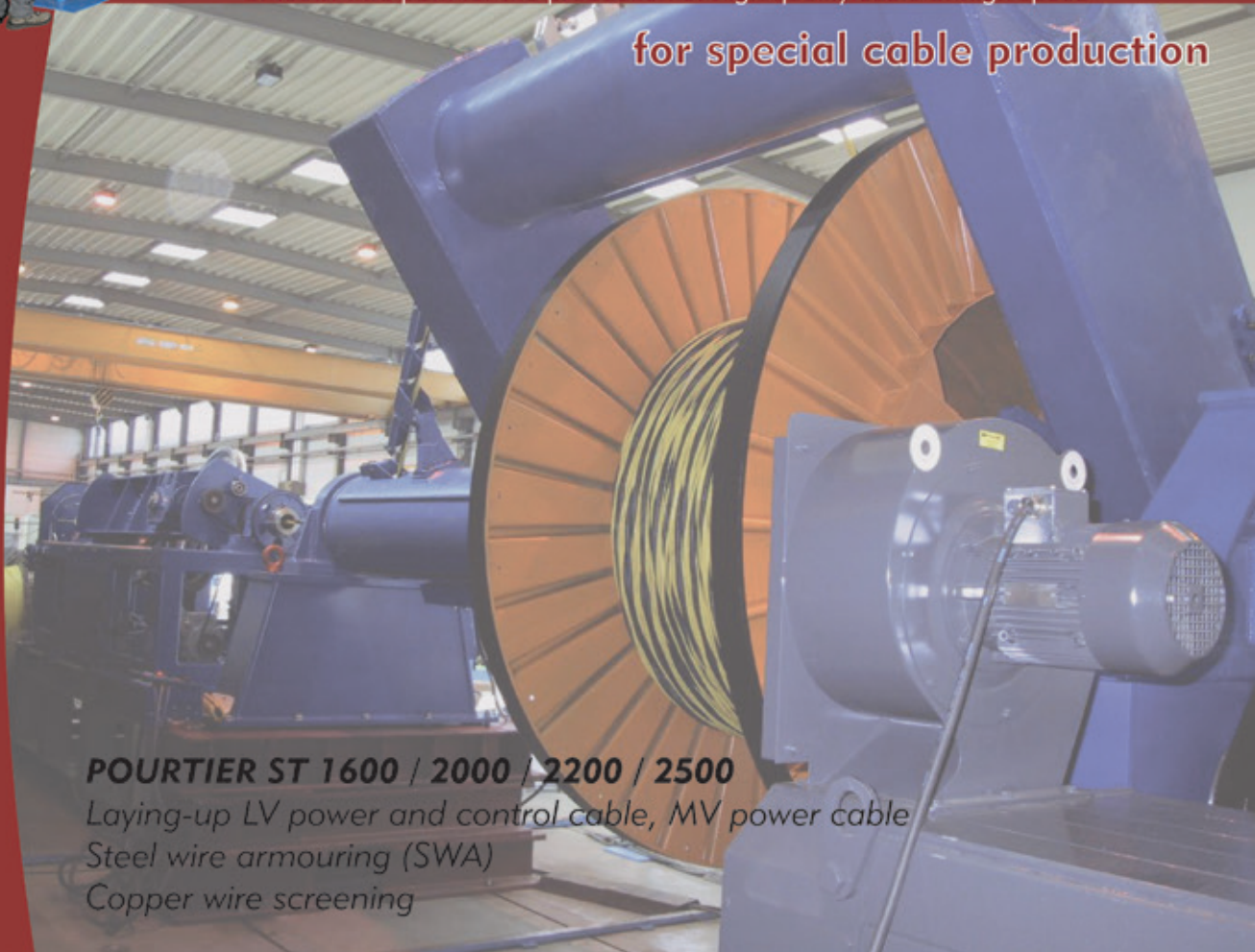
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Customised and innovative stranding solutions

FLYMCA is continuously manufacturing special solutions adapted to the global cable market. Its expertise covers the complete set of machines for stranding and laying-up of conductors, cables and ropes for the power field as well as for the steel ropes market.

The stranding technology, under increasing development over recent years, is one of the company's key areas of expertise. A huge technical knowledge helps customers to achieve goals together with a full capability that runs from research and development to

final delivery. This continues with after sales service going through the whole engineering, manufacturing, assembling, software and control as well as installation and commissioning by experienced staff.

Among the deliveries are a tubular for 30 Bob with bulk-head for armouring optical fibre and a bow cabler with a motorised and precise tension control on each conductor, a screening line for HV underground cables, several sets of portic type take-ups for 70 and 100 tons, and a set of special taping heads for 4 pads 800mm diameter with motorised

inclination adjustment during operation and 250mm internal bore.

Sister company Flyro has a huge inventory of used machinery covering the whole wire and cable industry.

Special offers can be made combining used and new equipment as well as revamped solutions that will modernise equipment mechanically, and update electrical solutions to achieve more efficient production.

Composed of a skilled and experienced team as well as modern and large facilities, Flymca and Flyro can meet customer requirements for the wire and cable industry, matching needs and budget with top class and customised solutions.

Both Flymca and Flyro will be at wire Southeast Asia, Bangkok, Thailand, from 17th to 19th September, and at wire South America, São Paulo, Brazil, from 1st to 3rd October.

Flymca and Flyro – Spain
Websites: www.flymca.com
www.flyro.es

Two new machines for Surtel Kablo

Surtel Kablo has bought two new machines from a Turkish machine manufacturer with the commissioning due to complete in October.

One machine is a steel wire armouring line for cables with a drum twist take-up and 48 steel-wire capacity. This machine will also be able to strand four cores regarding to the four pay-offs.

The second machine is composed of one take-up and five pay-offs, all drum twist. This will allow Surtel to produce sector shape cables. This machine also has 70 steel-wire capacity for armouring larger sizes of cables.

Surtel Kablo – Turkey

Website: www.surtel.com.tr



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New city office

Modular Wiring Systems, a subsidiary of electrical cable manufacturer Tratos Ltd, has opened a new London office in the heart of the city.

Conveniently located in Farringdon, London, Modular Wiring Systems' new office will help to further strengthen existing customer support with local connections, in addition to allowing the company to develop relationships with key contractors working throughout the capital.

The company provides a complete design, manufacture and supply service for high and low level modular sub-circuit distribution systems prefabricated off-site. The systems are designed for rapid and easy installation. The company has already been awarded a number of contracts in the city, including the prestigious Shard.

The new office is located at 10 Eagle Court, Britton Street, London, EC1M 5QD.

Modular Wiring Systems – UK
Website: www.modularwiring.com

Western Isles seek power

SCOTTISH Hydro Electric Transmission has submitted a needs case to the UK energy regulator, Ofgem, for a Western Isles transmission link. The utility said it had set out "a strong case" and now awaits a decision on whether financial investment in the scheme will be allowed.

The submission follows the publication in May of the Scottish Islands Renewable Report, which said there were benefits to developing renewables on the islands but that additional support for this was needed "to represent value for money for the consumer."

SSE director of transmission David Gardner said: "The publication of the Scottish Islands Renewable Report has been followed by some encouraging discussions that have demonstrated a desire to overcome the issue of islands affordability.

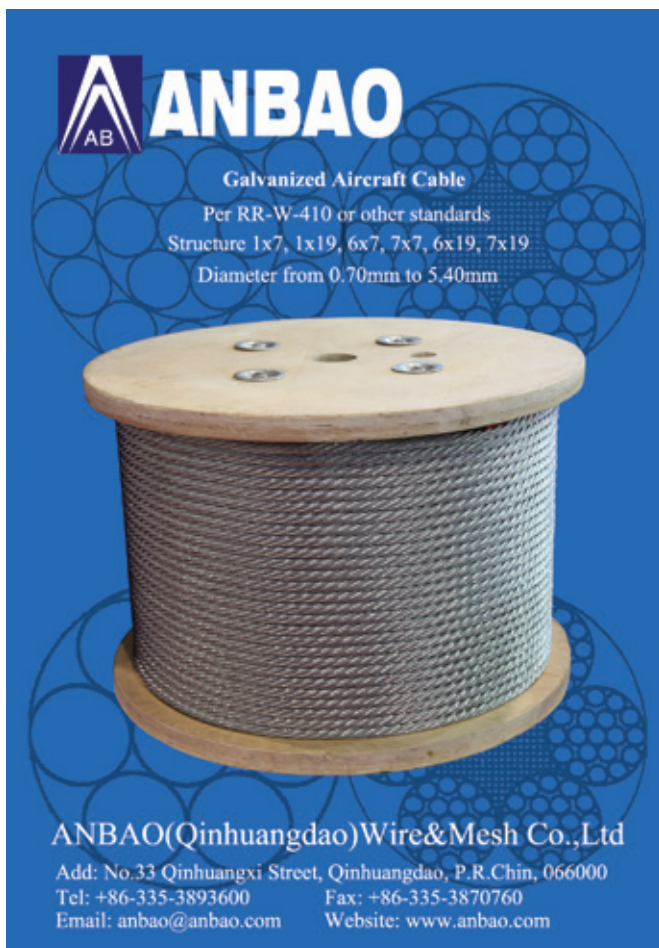
"After nine years of developing proposals we are hopeful that government will help us make the case for this vital transmission infrastructure to release the wealth of renewables on the Western Isles."

Comhairle nan Eilean Siar (Western Isles Council) welcomed news of the needs case submission.

Leader Angus Campbell said: "I cannot overstate the importance of this [first 450MW cable] project to the Outer Hebrides in terms of economic regeneration and carbon reduction.

"I hope that Ofgem will now approve this investment without delay so that the cable contract can be awarded later in 2013, ending years of uncertainty over this project."

Scottish Hydro Electric Transmission – Scotland
Website: www.scotland.gov.uk



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Lukas is a global supplier of machinery for the wire and cable industry, located in Germany/Bavaria. As a leader in technology, Lukas is well known for its high quality and high precision products. Both standard machinery and customized solutions are provided.

We are exhibiting at the WIRE Southeast Asia Show in Bangkok, BITEC (Sept. 17 - 19, 2013)

Our current product highlight is a Vertical Taping Line with Vertical Sintering Oven. It is suitable for nearly all available kinds of tapes, such as: e. g. PTFE, Kapton, Mica, Polyester, Fleece, Laminated Tapes, Metal Tapes. The high speed and high precision taping is enabled by a closed loop tape tension control and a very precise speed synchronization between the capstan and the taping heads.

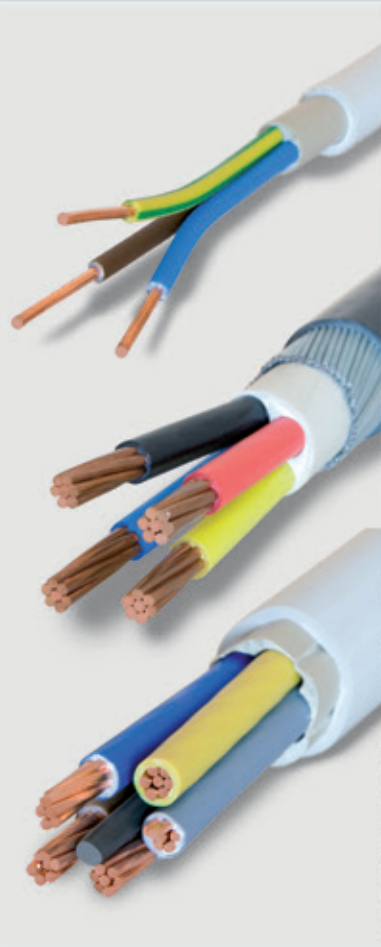
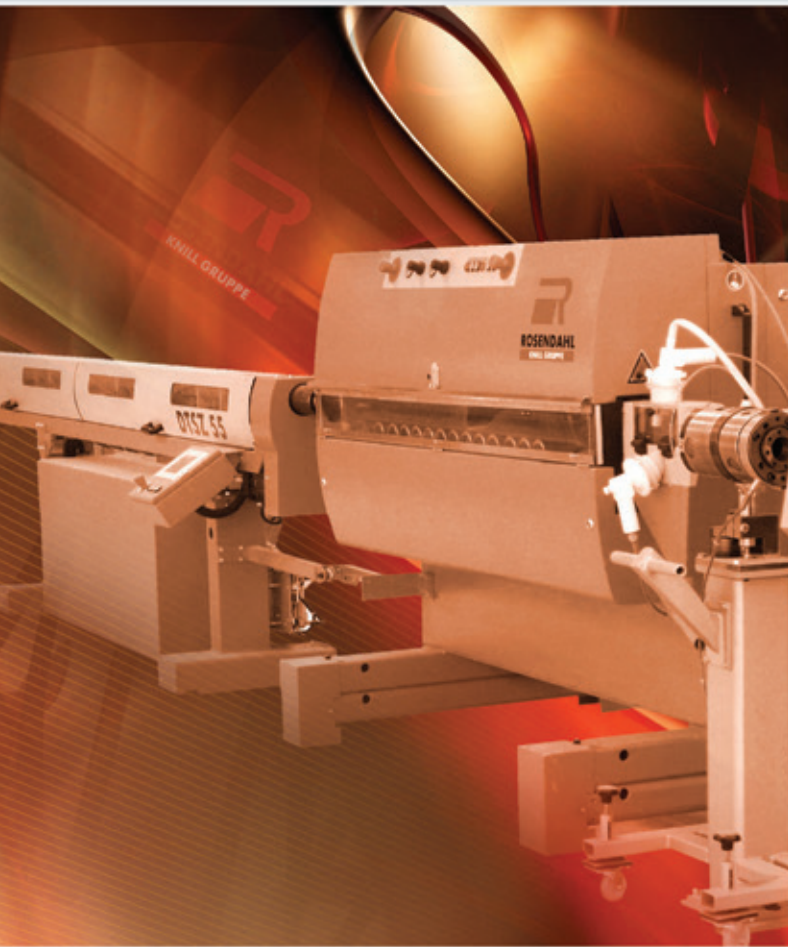
Depending on the application, the line can be equipped with a cooling unit for the taping area or equipment for quality control.

We are looking forward to welcoming you during the show! Booth no. J23, Hall 103

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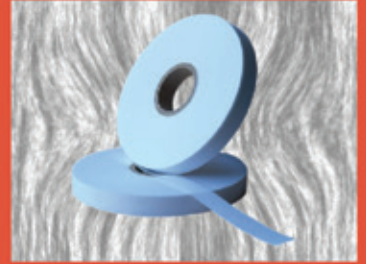
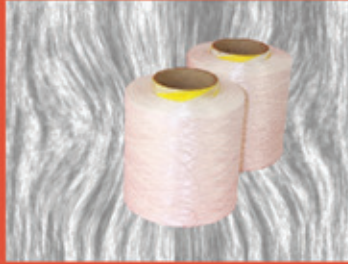


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High precision worldwide

KÄMPFER Würz operates worldwide in chipless forming technology, as well as high precision parts and components for a variety of uses.

The company produces and sells sophisticated forming tools, mainly for rolling mills and drawing dies, but also for the automotive, aeronautical and space engineering industries.

The company is future-orientated and places a high level of importance on using the latest technology in all its machinery.

The production halls house 9-axes CNC lathes and milling machines, as well as numerous CNC profile grinding machines and external, internal and surface grinding machines, enabling Kämpfer Würz to produce high precision tools with complex geometries.

The machinery also includes 4-axes electrical discharge and wire EDM machines with extra-fine-cut technology, in addition to profile-grinding centres being the hub of the grinding shop. All machines are equipped for any kind of steel and tungsten carbide.

To keep the measuring laboratory at the same high-end level, CNC-3D coordinate measuring machines analyse 3D cylindrical profiles.

Kämpfer Würz is certified in DIN EN ISO9001:2008 and DIN EN ISO 14001:2009, and is also an authorised economic operator (AEO).

Kämpfer Würz Umformtechnik GmbH – Germany
Website: www.kaempfer.de

New technical director

Jörg Wadehn has been appointed as technical director of Joachim Uhing GmbH & Co KG As successor to Burkhard W Bohn who retired in December 2012.



▲ New technical director
Jörg Wadehn

Chartered engineer Jörg Wadehn (mechanical engineering) has worked for Uhing since November 2012 and has to his credit a wide range of technological expertise in executive positions in international companies including AVL Zöllner, Kiel, the world's largest private manufacturer of engine dynamometers, and Vestas Wind Systems A/S.

Mr Wadehn convinced with his technical versatility, his expertise in filing patents, and the executive positions held so far.

In his new field of responsibility, Jörg Wadehn will continue developing the tried and tested Uhing products for future applications, promote the development of innovations and further optimise the production processes.

Joachim Uhing GmbH & Co KG – Germany
Website: www.uhing.com

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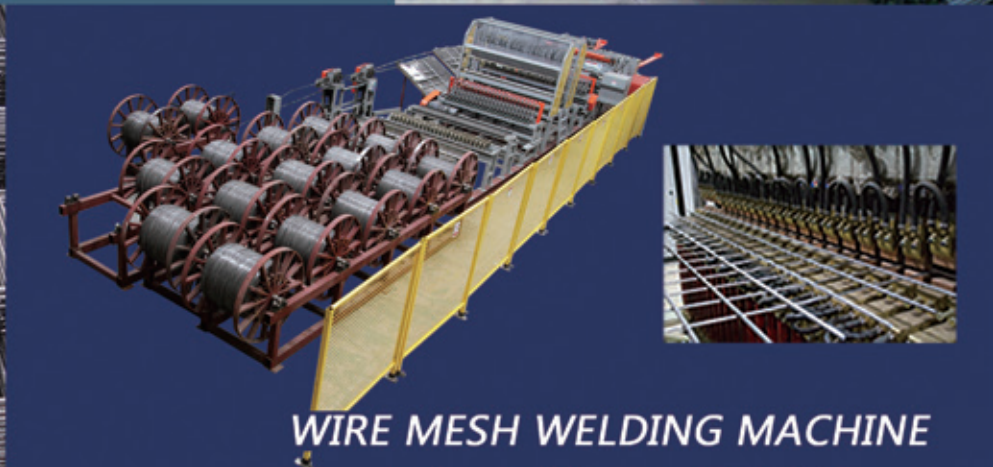
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Sket machines are in demand



▲ Pipe clamp stranding SRW 1 +48 x800 delivered to Kiswire in Malaysia

IN the last two years Sket has supplied a number of long high-speed tubular stranding machines for the stranding of steel wire and steel wire strand.

In particular, machines type SRW 630 and SRW 800, with bobbins having 630mm and 800mm, respectively, and in excess of 40 bobbins, have been much in demand.

Amongst these, machines types SRW 1+48x630 and SRW 1+45x680 have been supplied to DSR in Korea and Bridon in England.

Now, in the form of a machine type SRW 1+48x800, the longest and largest machine to date has been supplied. This machine is producing to the full satisfaction of customer Kiswire in Malaysia.

The trend for such machines for a wide variety of wire rope work applications seems set to continue, at least for a further two years. Another machine type SRW 1+48x630 is currently under construction for DSR in Korea.

With the supply of this machine in the second half of 2013, DSR will have two Sket machines of this type at their disposal.

Following on from this, the manufacture and supply of a further such machine for a Turkish customer will take place during early 2014.

Sket Verseilmaschinenbau GmbH – Germany
Website: www.sketvmb.de

Powering data centres

Nexans is supplying both standard XLPE SWA mains power cables and Lineax H07RN-F cables to power Interxion's data centres in the Old Truman Brewery, East London.

Power cables were installed under raised anti-static computer flooring and Nexans Lineax H07RN-F cable was selected to power the mission critical facilities including five back-up generators, tri-vector UPS systems, four 11kv/400v transformers, switchgear and intelligent PDUs.

Nexans worked closely with Harding Electrical to project manage the stock of pre-cut lengths to ensure the cable could be called off as, and when, required. A major challenge was delivering the product into central London on a timed delivery basis, but with limited space for off-loading. With further space limitations on the site, Nexans collected the empty cable drums once the cable was installed.

Nexans Lineax H07RN-F flexible power cable has a maximum operating temperature of 85° for fixed installations and was installed using trefoil cleats.

Nexans – France
Website: www.nexans.com

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Fibre across the battlements of York

CITY of York Council (CYC) along with partners CityFibre and Pinacl Solutions, is striding ahead with its aim of becoming the most digitally connected city in Europe by 2015 by extending its state-of-the-art pure fibre network.

Already connecting over 100 council sites, more than 60 schools and CCTV camera locations, the network reach has recently been expanded to include St Mary's Primary School in the village of Askham Richard and a number of additional new CCTV locations, which are now benefitting from gigabit speed connectivity.

"Our growing pure fibre footprint puts us ahead of many other UK towns and cities in terms of our digital connectivity," said Coun James Alexander, leader of City of York Council.

"Digital infrastructure is crucial to underpinning our jobs and growth agenda and along with CityFibre and Pinacl Solutions, we intend to maximise its benefits for the people who live, work and visit here. We will continue to add new premises and services to the network to best support our city's needs both now and into the future."

St Mary's Primary is one of the last few schools to be connected to the fibre infrastructure. It joins the growing list of schools in York reaping the benefits of a high-speed Internet connection, ensuring schoolchildren and teachers have access no matter where they are located.

CityFibre rose to the challenge posed by the school's rural location, which is one of the furthest away from the metro fibre network. CityFibre laid an additional 3.58 kilometres of fibre

to make the connection whilst taking great care to ensure that the natural beauty of the countryside and village were not compromised in any way. St Mary's and Askham Richard have now gone from being a location that would probably never have got a decent Internet connection straight to being able to access gigabit speeds thanks to the investment in fibre infrastructure by CYC and CityFibre.

CityFibre has also completed the connection of five new camera locations to the City of York Council's dedicated CCTV digital network running on the metro fibre core. This brings the total number of cameras connected to 120, with more planned.

Rob Hamlin, director of business development at CityFibre, said: "At a time when many UK towns and cities are looking to encourage investment in fibre infrastructure and the need for gigabit connectivity is growing, York is leading the way with its collaborative approach.

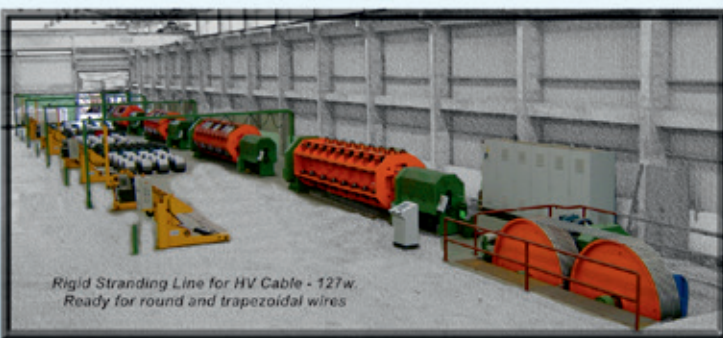
"CityFibre's model and expertise in designing and deploying networks enables CYC to increase its connected footprint and hook-up additional sites as required, in a cost efficient and timely fashion.

"The fibre infrastructure is 100 per cent future-proofed, ready for the addition of even more connections. Our approach to building gigabit cities ensures that use of the infrastructure can be maximised to reach every community within a city."

CityFibre – UK
Website: www.cityfibre.com

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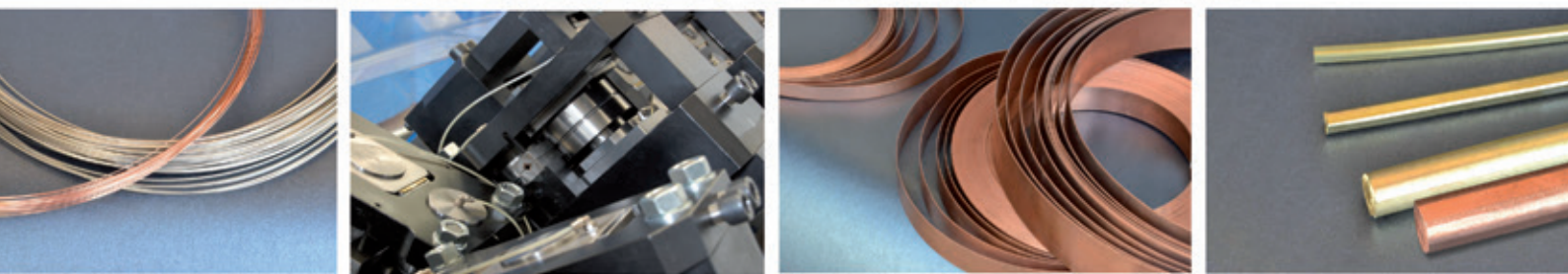
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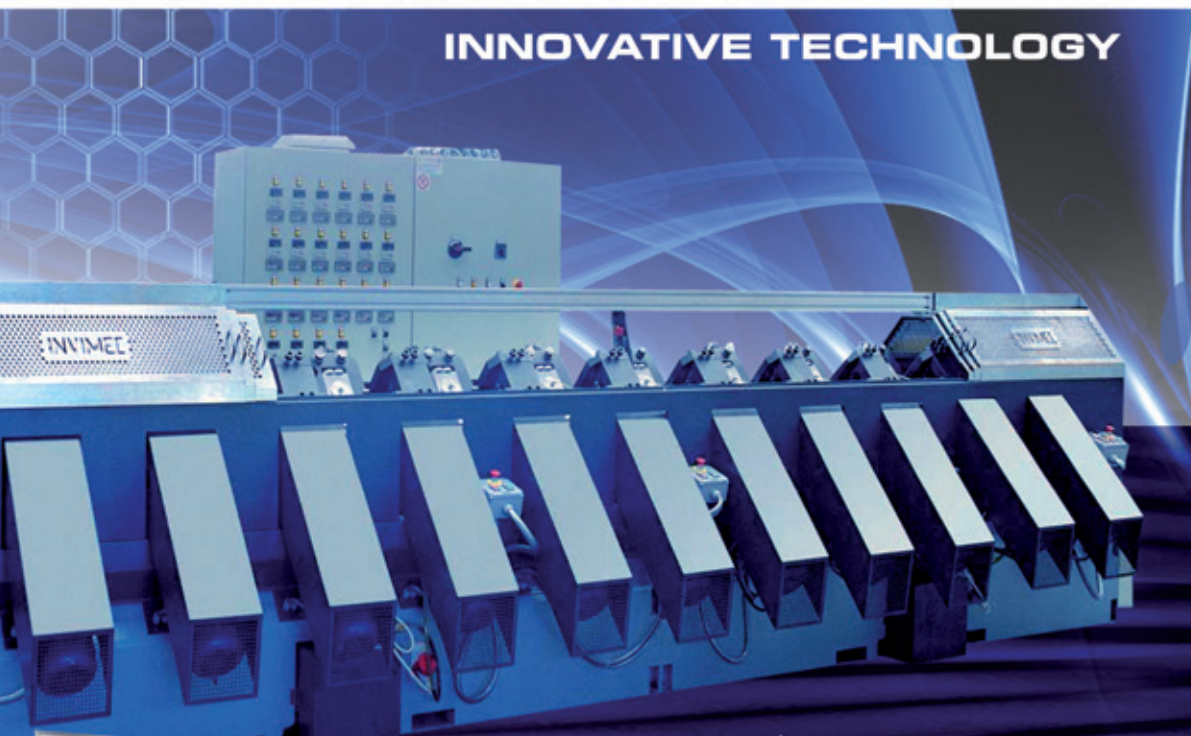




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Machine contract in France

CONTINUOUS casting technology specialist Rautomead has agreed a contract with Le Bronze Industriel (LBI), Suippes, France, for the supply and installation of an RZR 1500/4 machine at one of its plants in France.

This contract is the result of three years close' cooperation between the two companies in developing a process to cast specific copper alloys for LBI's strategic global markets, and is yet another example of Rautomead's strategic business drive to develop new markets and applications using the company's continuous casting technology and expertise.

Brian Frame, managing director of Rautomead, said: "This joint development project with LBI is an excellent example of how a customer and supplier can work closely together with the common goal of creating a new technology that delivers improved product quality and reduced operating costs."

The new RZR 1500/4 machine is designed for the production of specific copper alloys with very precise alloy content and control, which will result in a jointly-patented process development.

Rautomead Ltd – UK

Website: www.rautomead.com

Wealth of experience at Balloffet

Balloffet has been manufacturing since 1870 and now has several subsidiaries the USA, UK and Germany, as well as a worldwide agents network.

The company produces natural diamond dies from 6µ to 3mm; synthetic mono-crystalline dies from 6µ to 1mm; poly-crystalline (PCD) dies from 50µ to 30mm; compacting, stranding and special shaped dies; enamelling guides; extrusion tooling (guides and dies); special tooling with diamond insert; and repolishing machines and equipment.

Balloffet's services include repolishing; training of operators/technicians in Balloffet's training centre and showroom;

training of operators/technicians at customer's plant; and control and technical report of customers' dies.

The company is a quality partner, registered as ISO 9001-2000, giving the surface conditions, accuracy of the diameters and the technical characteristics of wires and cables.

A forerunner in manufacturing innovation (drilling, forming, sizing, polishing), and tight control of the products, customers get a constant manufacturing process and a guarantee of reliability of its production.

Balloffet – France

Website: www.balloffetdie.com

Creasorb paper gets presentation award

A technical paper presented by Martin Tennie, manager of research and development and technical support for the Creasorb® business of Evonik Corporation, was awarded Best Presentation to Subcommittee A (cable construction and design). Mr Tennie's paper, "Superabsorbent polymers as water-blocking components in cables", presented new research to determine the best ways to gauge the effectiveness of superabsorbent polymers (SAPs) as water-blocking materials.

The announcement was made at the ICC Spring 2013 meeting held in Pittsburgh. Bobby Mitra, business director Creasorb-Nafta, accepted the award on behalf of Mr Tennie, who presented the paper at the Autumn 2012 meeting of the IEEE Power & Energy Society's insulated conductors committee.

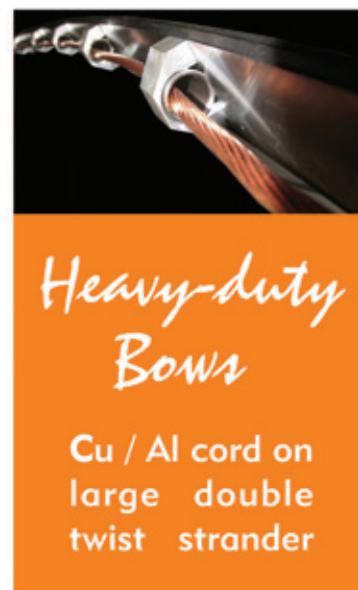
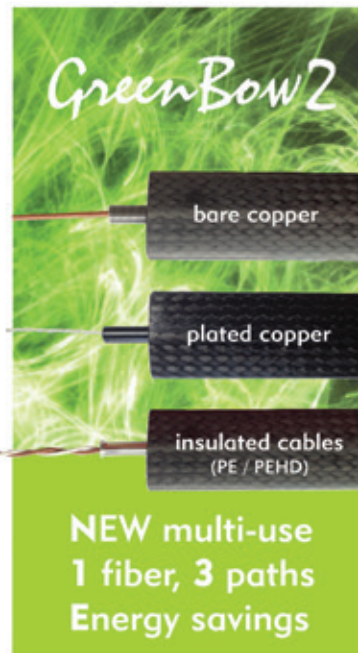
Noting that the current body of material

specifications as well as performance standards for dry water-blocked power cables focus on the rapid swelling reaction and high absorption capacity of SAPs in their "dry" state, Mr Tennie presented test results that not only reinforced the findings of a previous study demonstrating that the long-term stability of a hydrated SAP is critical to water penetration performance over the life cycle of the cable, but also pointed to the importance of the type of cross-linking agent, and the modulus of elasticity of the SAP.

Test data discussed by Mr Tennie showed that SAPs designed to optimise these properties exhibited much improved cable penetration results, compared to SAPs designed for faster swelling and high absorbency.

Creasorb – Germany

Website: www.creasorb.com



bowtechnology@gaudiergroup.com
www.bowtechnology.com

Creative technological leadership: woven wire mesh for industry and architecture

WHEREVER challenging demands are placed on metallic meshes, GKD – Gebr Kufferath AG is the company to turn to.

The technical weaving mill with its headquarters in Düren, Germany, is a leading producer of woven wire mesh made of metal, plastic wires and fibres.

Under the umbrella of GKD – worldwide weave four autonomous business

units – solid weave (industrial meshes), weave in motion (process belt meshes), creative weave (architectural meshes) and CompactFiltration (compact filter systems) – contribute to the company's global success.

The driving force behind this is GKD's technological leadership combined with its closeness to the market and customer focus.

The combination of state-of-the-art weaving technology, interdisciplinary problem-solving competence and innovative strength give this owner-managed enterprise a unique market status.

GKD consistently transfers the product strengths and technical know-how of its individual business units to new sectors and is continually opening up new areas of application.

Leading companies in the automotive and aerospace industries, in medical and environmental technology, in the chemical, pharmaceutical, food-processing and textile industries, in the paper- and wood-processing industries as well as builders of internationally renowned architectural works are all customers of this medium-sized, internationally active company with its staff of 591 employees.

Gebr Kufferath AG – Germany
Website: www.gkd.eu

Drums roll ...

Nexans continues to reinforce its commitment to sustainable development by rolling out a programme to collect and reuse wooden cable drums issued by Nexans UK.

The drum return programme is the latest phase in Nexans' packaging purchasing green initiative. In 2010 the company became the world's first cable manufacturer to upgrade to drums holding the PEFC™ certification (Programme for the Endorsement of Forest Certification schemes). Today, Nexans' Green Drums hold both PEFC (for Europe) and FSC (worldwide) certifications.

Nexans – France
Website: www.nexans.com

Visit our Stand No.512 at Wire South America 2013 San Paulo, Brazil, from 1st up to 3rd October 2013



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Coils max. dia. 500 mm
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Solid cable dia.: min. 5 – max. 10 mm
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Production: linear speed 300 - 350 m/minute



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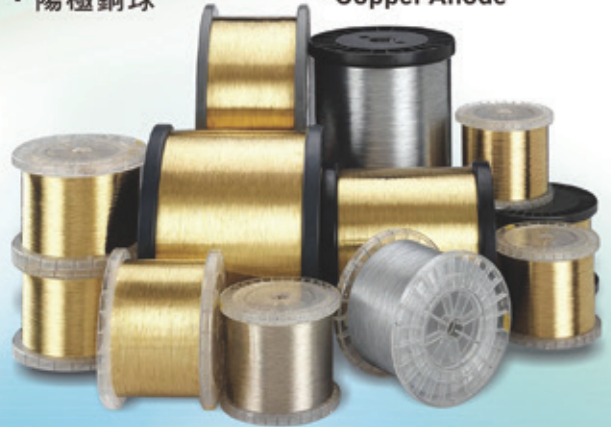
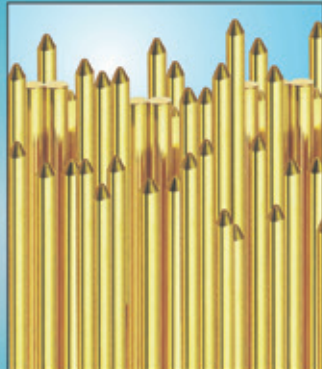
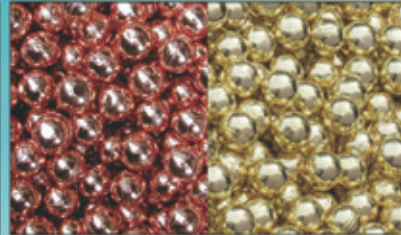
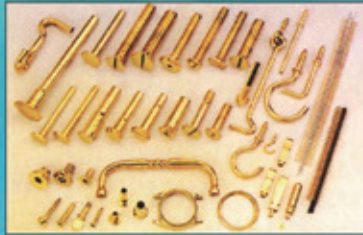




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Ajex & Turner also makes premium quality diamond slurry, HI-LAP spray, diamond and CBN needle files and tools for precision lapping and grinding, and Diamond Dresser. The company also undertakes diamond depositing on any hard metal for any application. Plasma coating of ceramic and tungsten carbide facility on any hard metal is also available.



▲ The William Hughes site in Plovdiv, Bulgaria

William Hughes booming in Bulgaria

WHEN William Hughes opened its new production facility in Bulgaria in 2004, it was hard to imagine that nine years later the operation would have proved so successful that the factory has expanded four-fold.

Located near Plovdiv, Bulgaria's second city, William Hughes' 4,320m², custom-built factory now employs 131 people and its scope and product capability continues to grow as new machinery and processes are added.

William Hughes specialises in the manufacture of springs and bent wire assemblies. Production is split between its UK headquarters in Stalbridge, Dorset, and Bulgaria, depending on the type of product and the location of the customer; for example, products requiring a higher labour content are generally channelled to Bulgaria.

Torsion springs are a particular area of expertise in Plovdiv and there is additionally a strong local demand for this type of spring.

William Hughes is also an approved supplier for Johnson Controls, and a major new contract for Turkey involving parts for a popular minibus has

accounted for a 20 per cent increase in turnover.

Over 45 new parts are involved, including a mixture of bent wire, springs and assemblies.

Turkey is only a few hours from Plovdiv by road (414km) so the benefits of supplying locally are many.

Other supplier customers include Fehrer, Lear and CTS, with most parts destined for the automotive market, in particular vehicle seating.

As demand for its high quality products has grown, new machinery and processes have been installed in Bulgaria to help support the UK manufacturing facility.

For example, last year, four new wire-forming machines were installed bringing the total in Bulgaria to 29.

Robot welding capacity has been increased two-fold with six robots being fully utilised.

The company has also added two vertical injection-moulding machines with a capacity of 120 and 250 tonnes.

Traditionally, William Hughes

has made clipped car seat mats but these new machines allow the seat mats to be over-moulded, dispensing with the need for clips altogether and providing an assembly that is both strong and fast to manufacture.

New finishing processes have also been installed at the factory, enabling wire parts to be coated with Delta Tone and Delta Seal for corrosion protection.

Max Hughes, managing director, said: "Establishing our first overseas production facility was an exciting experience.

"We have seen a growing demand for our products from the developing local markets in Romania, Serbia and Turkey as well as the traditional markets in the UK, Poland, France and Germany.

"We are delighted with the continuing success of the project. With our reinvestment programme, we look forward to the continuing growth of our facilities to the benefit of both the local economy and our overall UK capability."

William Hughes Ltd – UK
Website: www.wmhughes.co.uk

Plant investment is a boost for Rautomead

ESSEX Germany GmbH, part of the LS Cable Group, is the largest producer in Europe of round and shaped enamelled wires and CTC (continuously transposed cables) products.

In 2010, the company took the strategic decision to invest in a copper wire rod manufacturing capability for installation in the Bad Arolsen factory. A Rautomead oxygen-free copper wire rod machine was selected and brought into operation during 2011.

This RS 3000 model has the capability to produce both 8mm and 12.7mm diameter CuOF wire rods, but it is being used primarily to make the larger diameter rods for rotary extrusion feedstock.

Continuous cast oxygen-free copper wire rod has specific and particular advantages when used to produce rectangular sections by continuous rotary extrusion.

Mr Von der Heide, director operations, Essex Germany, said: "This technology was new to us at Bad Arolsen and required a steep learning curve for both our staff and operators.

"However, we have received excellent technical support and service from the

Rautomead team, both here on-site and online from the UK."

Rautomead has supplied over 70 of this type of machine in recent years for production of CuOF and copper alloys. Feedstock rod for continuous extrusion is one of the most popular applications of the process.

Today, there are over 330 installations of Rautomead machinery in over 45 countries, which has established the Rautomead brand as a global innovator and specialist in the design, manufacture and provision of continuous casting equipment for copper, copper alloys and precious metals, as well as a valued partner on turnkey projects for specialist upstream and downstream product manufacturers.

Rautomead Ltd – UK
Website:
www.rautomead.com



▲ RS 3000 continuous casting machine

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Valuable and versatile

ORMISTON Wire is providing valuable advice and support to customers in specifying and selecting wire braid, one of the most versatile products Ormiston has available.

The wire is available in a wide variety of stock specifications, including copper (plain and tinned), aluminium, clear PVC coated, and antenna braid. As is the case with most Ormiston products, special requests for any customer specification can also be produced.



▲ Wire braid from Ormiston Wire

Wire braid has featured in a number of Ormiston case studies in recent years. Copper wire braid was used to distribute the power required to light the innovative Mike Stoan lighting structure at the Avenues Mall in Kuwait.

A braid using palladium – a soft, silver-white metal that resembles platinum – has also been produced for an overseas customer, demonstrating Ormiston's commitment to leading innovation within the global wire community.

"Wire braid is one of the longest serving products in our wire portfolio," said Mark Ormiston, managing director.

"Its versatility and strength means it can be used in a wide range of applications, such as electrical conductivity and as armouring for other cables."

Ormiston Wire Ltd – UK
Website: www.ormiston-wire.co.uk

\$170m contract

Subsea 7 has won a contract valued at approximately US\$170 million from Statoil for the Mariner field, located in the UK sector of the North Sea.

The contract is for the engineering, procurement, installation and construction (EPIC) of 39km of rigid flowlines and flexible riser systems, together with associated subsea structures, protection systems and tie-ins.

Project management and engineering work will commence immediately at Subsea 7's offices in Stavanger, Norway, and Aberdeen, UK. Offshore activities utilising a variety of Subsea 7 vessels are scheduled to commence in 2015 and to be completed in 2016.

Thomas Sunde, vice president sales and marketing (North Sea and Canada), said: "We are extremely pleased to have been awarded this significant project from Statoil for their Mariner field development in the North Sea."

Subsea 7 SA – Luxembourg
Website: www.subsea7.com

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Higher speed broadband heading for the UK

CITYFIBRE has announced an agreement with Level 3 Communications that will enable it to launch dedicated gigabit-speed Internet services over its pure fibre networks throughout the United Kingdom.

As part of the agreement, CityFibre will connect its next-generation metropolitan fibre networks to Level 3's global IP network, offering CityFibre customers access to Level 3's world-class High-Speed IP Service. Customers connected to the network will receive the ultimate in enterprise-grade connectivity – a dedicated symmetrical gigabit-speed Internet service, with virtually limitless capacity and incredibly low latency.

CityFibre focuses on deploying fibre-based infrastructure and services to the UK's secondary cities and towns, supporting decentralised economic development.

Its Internet Leased Lines will enable businesses to greatly increase their productivity and competitiveness by exploiting smarter and more efficient working methods, such as cloud-computing, advanced teleconferencing, real-time commun-

ications and voice over IP (VoIP). These services will transform workplaces, increasing employee efficiency and job satisfaction.

"Level 3 Communications owns and operates one of the largest IP networks in the industry, and we're pleased to have CityFibre as a customer," said James Heard, Level 3 regional president of EMEA.

"Our network has more than 6.0 terabytes per second of global peering capacity and the ability to serve customers in more than 500 markets in 55 countries. Our leadership in providing enterprise-grade Internet services and a best-of-breed IP service is ideal to power the Internet provisioning over CityFibre's pure fibre networks."

Internet Leased Lines will be rolled-out over the next 12 months, with York being selected as the launch city. (See the story on page 29.)

York has one of the most resilient economies in the North of England, home to world-class science, technology and creative businesses, and a tourist industry that attracts over 7 million visitors a year.

CityFibre already operates an extensive fibre network in the city and recently announced that a significant new data centre was to locate there as a result of the high-quality fibre network.

CityFibre is working with Level 3 to select the next cities in line for launch, extending the service further.

Greg Mesch, chief executive at CityFibre, said: "We are delighted to announce this agreement with Level 3. Its world-class IP service, combined with our future-proofed metropolitan fibre networks, make a very powerful combination. We are excited about the huge benefits that these services will bring to businesses throughout the country.

"It is no surprise that cities around the world are seeing the deployment of pure fibre networks delivering gigabit services.

"Pure fibre is the future of business connectivity, and we are very pleased to be working with Level 3 to make this a reality in the UK."

CityFibre – UK
Website: www.cityfibre.com

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Geotechnical milestone for Wikinger

KEY geotechnical feasibility studies on the site of Wikinger offshore wind farm have been successfully concluded at a total cost of €20 million.

Stratigraphic samples of sedimentary and metamorphic rocks were drilled and seismic surveys were carried out to determine the structure of the terrain.

The studies comprised a full geological survey of a 34km² area of seabed.

The work represents a milestone towards achieving project consents

from the regulator Bundesamt für Seeschifffahrt und Hydrographie (BSH).

The findings will be used to define dimensions and design of turbine foundations and will confirm the method of installation of the wind farm, including cabling and the electrical substation.

Wikinger is a 400MW wind farm in the Baltic Sea, 35km off the coast of the German island of Rügen.

With an investment of €1.5 billion, the project will generate €650 million in local and regional taxes through a 20-year period and will create around 2,000 direct and indirect jobs. Once in operation, the wind farm will produce electricity equivalent to the consumption of 350,000 German households.

Development of the Wikinger offshore wind project is making swift progress, with construction scheduled to begin in late 2015 and commissioning in early 2017.

Wikinger – Germany

Consent for 450MW UK wind farm

Global renewable energy developer Mainstream Renewable Power has secured planning consent from East Lothian Council for onshore cable works to connect its 450MW Neart na Gaoithe offshore wind farm to the UK's national grid.

As part of the onshore works, the company will develop a 12km long buried cable between Thorntonloch Beach, East Lothian, Scotland, where the subsea cable is planned to reach shore, and Crystal Rig onshore wind farm in the Lammermuir Hills, where the grid connection will be made.

Located off the coast of Fife, Scotland, the Neart na Gaoithe wind farm is expected to be operational by 2017, generating enough electricity to power around 325,000 Edinburgh homes.

Commenting on the approval, Mainstream Renewable Power Scotland offshore manager David Sweeney said the project will contribute to Scotland's goal to achieve renewable energy generation by 2020.

Mainstream Renewable Power – UK
Website: www.mainstreamrp.com

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Database of regulated substances

BOMcheck is a web database, an industry collaboration to manage supply chain compliance with the EU REACH regulation RoHS directive and other regulated substances in North America, Europe and Asia Pacific.

Led by Philips, Siemens, GE, Osram, Sony Mobile, Schneider Electric, Toshiba, Agfa, Texas Instruments and TE Connectivity, most of whom also play a leading role in the IEC 62474 materials declaration standard, BOMcheck is currently used by over 480 customers to gather materials declarations from over 3,100 suppliers worldwide.

To date, suppliers have published over a million RoHS and REACH materials declarations in BOMcheck.

Each declaration has the same format and is signed electronically by a supplier's authorised individual to meet the quality and trustworthiness requirements in clause 4.3.4 of the EN 50581 standard for RoHS2 technical documentation.

Putting faith in Sket engineering

AFTER a successful implementation of the huge projects "Neptune 2" of Kiswire Korea in Malaysia and "Bridon Neptune Quay" in the UK last year, another customer has put its confidence in Sket Verseilmaschinenbau GmbH as a supplier of large machinery for making steel wire rope.

Brunton Shaw UK signed a contract with Sket for planning and designing, manufacture and delivery of a Tandem Cage-Type Strander for making non-rotating (multi-strand) and offshore ropes with 24 outer strands.

The machine MKVS 1+16x2000+8x2300 type comprises a rotating pay-off suitable for reels with a flange diameter of up to 4,500mm and a maximum weight of 225 tonnes, and a traversing take-up designed for 5,000mm reels weighing 400 tonnes max.

The stranding cages can accommodate eight bobbins having a flange diameter of



▲ Stranding machine type MKVS 1+16x2300+8x2700 delivered to Bridon in the UK

2,300mm or 16 bobbins with 2,000mm flange diameter.

Detailed technical solutions tailored to Brunton Shaw's particular requirements will ensure the highest performance and operating reliability of the line

designed to manufacture special ropes with diameters of up to 160mm. The equipment will be installed in the first half of 2014 at the Brunton Shaw site in the UK.

Sket Verseilmaschinenbau GmbH – Germany
Website: www.sketvmb.de

Backbone in place to meet Internet demand

Internet exchange DE-CIX has completed construction of the backbone network for its flagship DE-CIX Apollon platform. The fibre optic network connects four supernodes and three feeder sites across the city of Frankfurt, Germany.

The mesh network can support 100Gbps transmission and has a total capacity of 12Tbps.

The network will provide the foundation of DE-CIX's new switching platform, expected to be ready for service in September 2013. ADVA Optical Networking has supplied its 4x28Gbps metro 100G technology, housed within its FSP 3000 reconfigurable optical add/drop multiplexer (ROADM) platform.

When DE-CIX completes the roll out of 100Gbps capability, the DE-CIX Apollon network will include more than 300 100G ports. It is believed this will put it among the largest metro networks in the world.

Harald A Summa, CEO for

DE-CIX, said: "DE-CIX has experienced 50 to 100 per cent increases in traffic each year for the past 15 years, and we expect this trend to continue.

"Because of this, we've built this future-proof platform that can be easily upgraded when the

time is right to further extend advanced, high performance capabilities to our clients." With the backbone in place, DE-CIX will attach Alcatel-Lucent's 7950 XRS core routers.

DE-CIX – Germany
Website: www.de-cix.net

State-of-the-art expansion

In the framework of further expanding its commitment in the polymer films industry, Tosaf has now completed a substantial expansion of its production simulation labs in Israel. New and enhanced state-of-the-art laboratory systems now allow a full range of basic developmental and customer-specific test runs.

The versatile set of test and simulation devices includes a multilayer co-extrusion blown film line, a cast film line, a corona surface treatment system and a printing simulator. A cold chamber supports the development of advanced additives for cold climate environment.

With a newly installed, modified QUV system, Tosaf is responding to increasing customer demand for results from accelerated weathering in aggressive environments. A specialised greenhouse simulation is dedicated to the accelerated testing of agricultural films exposed to UV light, high temperatures and humidity.

Tosaf Compounds Ltd – Israel **Website:** www.tosaf.com

Record-breaking Alcatel-Lucent

ALCATEL-LUCENT has broken a new record for the amount of data that can be transmitted over transoceanic distances on a single optical fibre.

In a test carried out at Alcatel-Lucent's Innovation City campus in Villarsceaux near Paris, France, researchers from Bell Labs successfully sent data at speeds of 31 Terabits-per-second (Tbps) over 7,200km – a capacity exceeding that of the most advanced commercial undersea cables today by a factor of three. This was achieved with a span – the distance between amplifiers maintaining the entire length – of 100km.

The researchers were able to achieve the highest-ever capacity for undersea data transmission on a single fibre. The experiment leveraged Bell Labs' pioneering work in 200 Gigabit per second (Gbps) single-carrier data channels*.

At such speeds and distances signal distortions and noise make data recovery very challenging. To counter this problem, in this new test Bell Labs researchers made use of innovative detection techniques and harnessed an array of technologies in modulation, transmission and signal processing twinned with advanced error correcting coding.

The experiment used 155 lasers, each operating at a different frequency and carrying 200 Gbit/s over a 50 GHz frequency grid to dramatically enhance the performance of current WDM (wavelength division multiplexing) systems, which are today being deployed with speeds up to 100G.

Details of the experiment were presented in a post-deadline paper presented earlier this month at the Opto-Electronic Communication Conference (OECC) conference in Japan.

This record is the latest in a long series of two dozen records over the past 15 years, all showcasing breakthroughs by Alcatel-Lucent that have transformed long distance data transmission.

Among them is the invention of Dense Wave Division Multiplexing (DWDM), the introduction of non-zero dispersion fibre and single-carrier coherent detection.

Philippe Keryer, chief strategy and innovation officer of Alcatel-Lucent, said: "Undersea fibre-optic transmission is integral to the digital economy, delivering vast amounts of video and data between countries, regions and continents.

"As our customers cope with increasing demand on their networks for data capacity and higher-speeds of transmission, our researchers are intensifying their application with tests like this to develop new technology solutions to transform global data networks. This underlines the strategic R&D focus we recently announced as part of The Shift Plan."

*First presented at the ECOC (European Conference on Optical Communications) conference in 2011.

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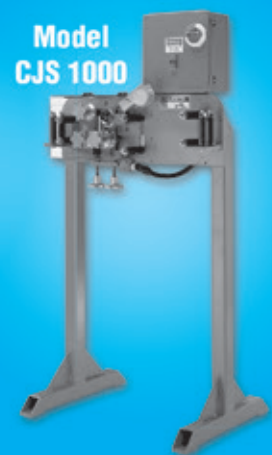
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Steel

Specialisation in steel-intensive bridge projects enables Chinese producers to step up their exports to the United States

"The Verrazano-Narrows Bridge was a feat of American engineering when it was built across New York's harbour in the 1960s. Now, it is being repaired with steel made in China."

John W Miller and Chui Wei-Yap of the *Wall Street Journal* would give other examples of a Chinese presence in important US undertakings, including the San Francisco-Oakland Bay bridge replacement described in our last issue ("Bay Bridge's broken bolts," *EuroWire*, July 2013). Cheap steel from China obviously has its appeal for price-conscious project managers.

But the reporters also cited another reason for the current surge of Chinese steel imports into the US, even as domestic producers "are awash with" excess capacity: the relative scarcity of American contractors with expertise in specialised projects like bridges. ("US Icons Now Made of Chinese Steel," 19th June).

The example of the Verrazano-Narrows – the longest suspension bridge in the US – is instructive. Last year, New York's Metropolitan Transportation Authority (MTA) awarded a \$235.7 million contract for its repair to Tutor Perini Corp, a California contractor. Tutor Perini subcontracted the fabrication of steel decks to China Railway Shanhaiguan Bridge Group, which the MTA says is using 15,000 tons of steel plate made by China's Anshan Iron & Steel Group. The decks will replace the concrete-paved upper roadway of the two-level bridge.

The MTA said it had tried to find a contractor whose bid for the project incorporated American-made steel. But, an MTA spokesperson told the reporters, there was only one such bidder: Structal-Bridges, Canada's largest steel bridge manufacturer, with facilities in both the US and Canada. Its bid was twice Tutor Perini's.

Even so, MTA officials said, price was not their sole consideration. They told the *WSJ* that Chinese companies have become specialists in making parts for bridges being built or renovated across the United States.

Supply and demand? Or skill?

Messrs Miller and Wei-Yap said the bridge work is one of the reasons for the current surge of Chinese steel into the US.

In the first four months of 2013 these shipments jumped 33 per cent (to 480,095 tons) from a year earlier. The increase is particularly striking because total US steel imports for the period fell 17 per cent, to 10.6 million tons.

US steel mills, meanwhile, have been less and less active. As of 15th June, domestic production had fallen to 76.7 per cent of capacity, from 78.8 per cent a year earlier.

In 2012, the US produced 88.6 million tons of steel: 5.7 per cent of the world's total.

Bill McEleney of the National Steel Bridge Alliance (Omaha, Nebraska), whose members make bridges and bridge parts, said many US companies can build bridges; but not many are experienced with the flat-deck design being used these days to build or renovate heavily trafficked bridges. In rapidly urbanising China, such construction is booming.

"The Chinese are building many more of these kinds of bridges, so they have more fabricators," Mr McEleney told the *WSJ*.

Most of the steel coming in from China now goes into projects like bridges and buildings: "sweet spots," according to the *WSJ*, for Nucor Corp, the third-largest US steelmaker, which makes half of its steel for the construction industry.

"Construction is essential to our business," said Dan DiMicco, Nucor's chairman and former chief executive. While construction steel commands less of a premium than automotive steel, it is one of the biggest steel markets in volume terms.

It is also one that domestic steelmakers are looking to for growth in the wake of several high-profile bridge collapses and calls to boost infrastructure spending, and in anticipation of a rebound in the large private and civic projects which consume 70 per cent of the steel used in construction.

Wrote the *WSJ* reporters: "The surge in Chinese imports is threatening those hopes."

For its part, the China Iron and Steel Association seems unaware of any home-court advantage deriving from expertise in bridge work. In its view, growth is a simple matter of supply and demand, and Chinese steel exports have been rising because Chinese steelmakers are more competitive.

"Why is it that we can export more?" mused Li Xinchuang, the trade group's deputy secretary-general. "It's because of competitiveness on price and service."

Transatlantic cable

US Steel is allowed more time to cut the emissions from its new coke ovens at Clairton

As reported by Len Boselovic of the *Pittsburgh Post-Gazette* (19th June), more than six months after firing up a new battery of coke ovens at its Clairton plant, US Steel was still trying to bring the new equipment into compliance with air quality standards set by the Allegheny County Health Department. Costing \$500 million, the battery was designed to enable the plant, a longtime source of air quality complaints in the region, to significantly reduce emissions of possibly hazardous pollutants.

In a prepared statement the Pittsburgh steel producer said that it was "appropriate to anticipate" that it might take longer for "a complex innovative process to be fully implemented." The company, which began operating the new battery last November, received an extension of the shakedown period to 31st July. The steelmaker said it expected to meet all but one of the requirements by that date.

Jim Thompson, manager of the county's air quality programme, acknowledged that Clairton emissions are well down from levels of five years ago. Mr Thompson told the *Post-Gazette* that the sole remaining problem concerns emissions that leak from the battery when coal is inserted into the ovens to begin the baking process. These may include coal dust and small amounts of hazardous pollutants such as benzene and other fine particulates, he said.

"In the last two weeks, it's gotten much better," said Mr Thompson.

Two new towers will be installed at Clairton later this year to reduce emissions from the quenching of hot coke with water. That is the last major project stemming from a 2008 consent decree in which US Steel agreed to reduce emissions at the plant, Mr Thompson said.

Clairton is North America's largest coke plant, producing about 4.5 million tons of the blast furnace fuel annually. The new battery can produce about 960,000 tons of baked coal annually.

➤ The *Post-Gazette's* Mr Boselovic noted that US Steel has also experienced problems this year with a new coke plant at its Gary Works, in Indiana. Chairman and CEO John P Surma told analysts on 30th April that the company had "encountered some challenges" at the front end of the equipment, which relies on different technology from that deployed at Clairton. Citing weak steel market conditions, Mr Surma said the company was delaying construction of a second coke-making module at Gary until it resolved the issues with the first unit.

Aluminium vs steel

➤ A contrarian Alcoa seeks to adjust the congressional mind-set on tax breaks for corporations

Poised in June to take up a review of corporate tax rates and tax deductions, the US Congress would also incidentally indicate

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which industry – steel or aluminium – carries more weight in today's Washington. As reported by *Bloomberg News*, the nation's biggest aluminium maker, Alcoa Inc (Pittsburgh), has broken with its steel industry counterparts to lobby Congress for the elimination of corporate tax deductions in exchange for a cut in the tax rate to 25 per cent from 35 per cent.

Alcoa is a member of a coalition of companies, the Alliance for Competitive Taxation (ACT), that considers a lower statutory corporate rate more beneficial to business than numerous tax deductions. *Bloomberg's* Marc Heller wrote: "That turns on its head the conventional wisdom that manufacturers will fight to preserve corporate tax breaks."

The other members of ACT are, for the most part, in service industries (eg banking) and less capital-intensive industries (such as technology), which lobbyists and tax analysts say have

less use for tax deductions for domestic production. But where the Alcoa position stands out more strikingly is in contrast to that of the American Iron and Steel Institute (AISI).

In an 15th April letter to the House Ways and Means Committee's tax reform working groups, Thomas J Gibson, the association's president and CEO, strongly urged against proposals for a reduction in the statutory corporate tax rate, to be paid for by eliminating all or most corporate deductions and credits.

Some analyses reportedly have suggested that eliminating deductions to pay for rate reductions would amount to a \$48 billion tax increase for manufacturers, while granting tax cuts to retail and financial services industries. Wrote AISI's Mr Gibson, to the lawmakers, "This is concerning to the steel industry, and should be to the manufacturing sector as a whole." ("Steel Fights Aluminum for Breaks in Congress," 21st June).

► While diverging views among industries are not unusual, said Eric Toder, an analyst at the non-partisan Tax Policy Center, he told *Bloomberg's* Mr Heller that he found Alcoa's position surprising. Typically, Mr Toder said, manufacturers want compensation through the tax code for depreciation.

Another consideration was noted by a lobbyist with ties to manufacturing, who said that companies with a big international presence, such as Alcoa, are less concerned with deductions than with trends: for instance, whether or not the US moves to a territorial tax system, which would tax US multinational corporations only on what they earn at home, not on profits repatriated from overseas.

A territorial system would be much more valuable to those companies than corporate tax deductions, the lobbyist said.

Telecom

► A Cuban version of the Internet café raises hopes of better and wider online access in the largest island in the Caribbean

TelecomTVOne, a TV channel for the global ICT sector, has reported that the state telecom of Cuba, Etesca, is establishing 118 cyber salons that will make available to the 12 million-strong Cuban public "a censored version of a sub-set of part" of the Internet. The service will be costly, with the \$4.50 price of an hour's access nearly a quarter of the \$20 average monthly income in Cuba.

Taking note of the island nation's "painfully long, slow, incremental emergence from the electronic dark ages," *TelecomTVOne's* Martyn Warwick



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wrote that the cyber salon initiative offers an example of the easing of state control over electronic equipment and media since 2008, when an ailing Fidel Castro finally relinquished the presidency. It is now possible for Cubans with enough hard cash to buy DVD players and even some mobile handsets.

But Internet access has remained restricted, heavily censored, and prohibitively expensive for all but the political elite. Essentially, Mr Warwick wrote, the Internet has been the preserve of government and Communist Party higher-ups, some businesses, overseas companies (predominantly Spanish), and tourists. People on holiday, staying in hotels in Cuba, are routinely charged heavily for slow, selective, spasmodic access.

Trusted writers and scientists and some others in the "state-sanctioned second tier of the elite" do, Mr Warwick noted, have archaic dial-up Internet access. But these privileged exceptions are rare.

According to International Telecommunication Union (ITU) figures cited by *TelecomTVOne*, Internet penetration in Cuba is just 2.9 per cent. Some 16 per cent of the population can get access to limited and heavily policed e-mail via schools, universities, factories, officially sanctioned computer clubs, and Cuba's "overcrowded and overused" post offices.

These last, according to Mr Warwick, function much as social centres as well as arms of the state communications network.

- The Cuban government has declared that better and wider connectivity "is consistent with Cuba's stated strategy of continuing to facilitate more and more access to new technologies, depending on the availability of resources and with a focus that favours social use."

As of 4th June and the "slackening of the ropes" welcomed, if provisionally, by *TelecomTVOne*, a Cuban citizen who can afford it has apparently gained readier access to the Internet. After a tedious and bureaucratic vetting and authorisation process, a successful applicant will be credentialled by Etesca to make use of a computer terminal in a cyber salon. If the experiment is successful, more such salons can be expected to follow.

- When the late president Hugo Chávez was in office in Venezuela, Cuba benefited from highly preferential treatment. In 2011 the two countries were linked by a new fibre optic sub-sea cable. It is believed, Mr Warwick wrote, that this cable "is the backbone that will provide expanded 'high-speed' Internet access to Cuba."

Unlike the (former) world's richest man in their midst, Mexican consumers can expect to benefit from a new telecom law

Important as it is, the Cuban experiment in liberalisation ("Internet Café," above) is easily eclipsed by another recently launched Latin American telecom initiative. On 10th June the president of Mexico, Enrique Peña Nieto, signed a monopoly-busting law that is expected to drive down telecom prices and cost the country's richest man billions of dollars.

Carlos Slim, whose America Movil SAB controls 70 per cent of Mexico's cellphone business and 80 per cent of its landlines, had already taken reform-related losses that dropped him to second place, behind Microsoft founder Bill Gates, of the US, among the world's richest people.

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Writing from Mexico City, Tim Johnson of *McClatchy Newspapers* noted that Mr Slim saw his net worth plummet \$5 billion since March, when the law was proposed, as investors sold off the company's stock for fear of the impact.

President Peña Nieto has left no doubt of his intention to work major changes in the Mexican telecom industry. It took him less than three months to push his proposal through Congress, ahead of the likely unravelling of a broad pact cobbled together by the major political parties. As he was about to sign the measure into law, Mr Peña Nieto called attention to one of its chief aims: speeding economic growth by attracting foreign investment to Mexico.

Under the new measure, Mr Johnson reported, foreign companies are permitted to own 100 per cent of a Mexican telephone firm – up from 49 per cent; and 49 per cent of a radio or television broadcaster – up from zero. (“Mexico Opens Telecom Market to Foreigners in Move to Break Up Monopolies,” 10th June).

The legislation also sets up two new autonomous regulatory bodies. One, Ifetel, will have the power to dissolve monopolies by forcing companies to divest assets. It also will issue and revoke licences, and it will oversee the creation of two new private television networks and a non-profit broadcaster, perhaps along the lines of the British Broadcasting Corporation.

The other body, the Federal Commission on Economic Competition, will, Mr Peña Nieto said, “prevent, investigate, and combat monopolies, monopolistic practices, concentrations, and other restrictions of efficient market functioning.”

With a framework required to be in place within six months, the new regulatory bodies could issue their first rulings early in the New Year.

➤ *McClatchy's* Mr Johnson observed that the law's implementation is likely to further chip away at Carlos Slim's business empire. America Movil has lost nearly 40 per cent of its value since it became clear last year that Mr Peña Nieto would push to weaken its dominant position. The holding company has operations in 18 countries other than Mexico; yet, Mr Johnson wrote, it gains 35 per cent of its revenues from Mexico. Profit margins on its mobile service are among the highest anywhere in the world.

The new law also aims to reduce the dominance of Mexico's two powerful television broadcasters, Televisa and TV Azteca. Televisa holds 70 per cent of the country's broadcast television market, while TV Azteca holds just a little under the other 30 per cent.

Solar chargers

▶ Making it easier for mobile phone users in New York to power up, ‘corporate citizen’ AT&T does well by doing good

On 18th June, some 25 solar-powered charging stations sprouted in parks, beaches and other outdoor spaces in the five boroughs of New York, part of a pilot project from the wireless provider AT&T in partnership with the city. The stations – 12.5-foot steel poles with three petal-shaped solar panels fanning out at the top – can accommodate up to six devices at a time, regardless of wireless carrier, with dedicated ports for the iPhone, Android, BlackBerry, and standard USB charging cables.

Designed by a Brooklyn-based firm, Pensa, with solar technology from Goal Zero, a mobile solar start-up, they were to remain in place for periods of three to four weeks until October. If the experiment – costing \$300,000 to \$500,000 – is judged a success, AT&T could expand it to other cities.

“We view this as a commitment to being a part of the New York community as a corporate citizen but also as a way for New Yorkers to continue to engage with their technology as they continue to consume more and more data,” Marissa Shorestein, president of AT&T's New York division, told Diane Cardwell of the *New York Times*.

It is also, Ms Cardwell observed, good for the company's bottom line: “The city has more mobile customers than any other market, and executives, who have promoted use of their network by providing free wireless in subways and at parks and cultural events, realised there was a need for more frequent charging. (“AT&T to Introduce Solar-Powered Charging Stations,” 17th June).

And it is the biggest area of growth for the major telecommunications companies, according to Eddie Hold, vice president of the Connected Intelligence unit at the market research firm NPD Group.

Noting that people are making fewer phone calls all the time (very few, in the case of the newer generation), Mr Hold said that to see a benefit from their data services the telecoms need to convince users to connect as many devices as possible. He told the *Times*, “The more you connect, the more data you use, the more money they make.”

The way forward

▶ Irreversible American decline?
A Canadian begs to differ

“The myth of American decline is firmly rooted in what historians disparage as ‘presentism’ – the tendency to base projections solely on current conditions, without regard to history or context.”

Addressing the “myth” in a recent column, David Olive, who writes on business in the *Toronto Star*, concludes that the pundits who say America is on the skids are wrong. (“American Decline Has Been Exaggerated,” 7th June).

Mr Olive acknowledges the many problems of Canada's closest neighbour, from a lack of genuine universal healthcare to infrastructure and education deficits “of awesome proportions.” He also takes note of “an epic foreign-policy blunder” in Iraq; “riotous greed” culminating in a Wall Street meltdown and resulting Great Recession; and the “tragic incompetence” by which New York and Washington were left naked to their 9/11 enemies and Hurricane Katrina destroyed a large portion of a great city, New Orleans.

But he firmly believes that the problems of the US are fixable; and that, despite the harrowing fallout of the last, “lost” decade, “America remains far more likely to dominate this century, as it did much of the 20th, than any of its rivals.”

Here, much abridged, are the factors Mr Olive marshalled in support of his thesis:

➤ Since the Wall Street crash of 2008-09, the stock market has recovered to set new heights, as have the profits of

Transatlantic cable

corporate America. The greenback's status as the world's reserve currency is unchallenged. Incredibly, foreign investors account for a higher percentage of US equities ownership today than at any time in the 68 years over which that confidence indicator has been measured.

- The US is producing more, and more exportable, goods than ever before, with far fewer workers. Thus America leads the world in productivity; and in innovation, as well. Unmatched in playing rapid catch-up, in just three years the US has closed its once-yawning gap with a China that led the world in solar-energy technology.
- Even at this low point in American economic vitality, the US has an economy (roughly \$15 trillion in size) about twice that of a quickly industrialising China. Chinese gross domestic product (GDP) is expected to nominally match America's by mid-century. But even then the gap between the two nations' GDP per capita – the chief measure of standard of living – will see Chinese affluence continuing to trail that of Americans by a wide margin.
- Also by mid-century, in the estimate of demographers, the US will have added a stunning 40 million people to its population, while most of the industrialised world shrinks or, at best, stagnates in population growth. With immigration reform, a recent study by the Center for American Progress foresees a resulting \$1 trillion boost to the US economy.
- Over the past four years, domestic oil and gas reserves in the US have jumped 20 per cent, greatly advancing the prospect of self-sufficiency in energy. And fuel-efficiency improvements in the American vehicle fleet have slowed energy-consumption growth.

- Public finances are on the mend, notably at the state level. (California, fiscally crippled as recently as two years ago, will end 2013 in the black).

With joblessness on the mend, if only gradually – and as many as 12 million currently illegal, or undocumented, immigrants coming out of the shadows – state and federal treasuries will be bolstered by increased income tax revenues, even without tax hikes.

- The world's largest internal economy is nonetheless zealously seeking ambitious trade pacts which would, if they come to fruition, generate high-skills jobs and replenish domestic treasuries.

Europe regards the Comprehensive Canada-Europe Trade Agreement (CETA) now under negotiation as a framework for a similar pact with the US, which is already in talks for a Trans-Pacific Partnership among countries accounting for nearly 40 per cent of global GDP.

Former US Secretary of State Madeleine Albright once asserted: "We are the indispensable nation. We stand taller. We see further into the future."

Referencing that burst of patriotic fervour, the *Toronto Star's* Mr Olive wrote, more tactfully: "The time to go short on America will arrive only with exhaustion of limited public funds on elephantine statues of George Washington in America's largest cities."

Dorothy Fabian
USA Editor

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▲ Managing director Doug Whyte

Research pays off

HYDRO Group, Aberdeen, UK-based global design and manufacturer of underwater cables and connectors for subsea, underwater, topside and onshore applications, invested £300,000 into research and development in 2012, and has now developed the 36kV Dry Mate Hydro Bond Renewable Connector (HRC).

Doug Whyte, managing director, said: "The new connector is a significant advance on our previous product, the HRC 12kV, with an impressive reduction in installation time from 24 hours to less than 12 hours, and its ability to carry three times more power."

The reduced installation time means the 36kV Dry Mate HRC is a lower risk, more cost effective and safer option, due to the reduction in offshore man hours. The connector has a 25-year operational lifespan and the ability to work at water depths of 100m and temperatures of -4°C to over 25°C.

"The advancement of systems in the offshore renewable sector is at an incredibly progressive and evolving phase. There are, however, currently no standard interconnect products defined within this market.

"Being first to develop any innovative product is always challenging, but the team at Hydro Group have taken advantage of this gap in the market, and established a forefront position in this area – providing extremely rewarding results," added Mr Whyte.

The success of Hydro Group's existing HRC product line means the new connector is being considered for a number of projects currently under development. These all involve submerged interconnection with varying detail regarding systems architecture, but a common need for underwater interconnection with the ability to carry increasingly higher levels of power.

The group plans to continue its strong level of investment into the development of HV connection infrastructure in order to enhance connection technology for subsea connection of offshore energy networks. This continued progression aims to help contribute to Hydro Group maintaining a leading position as a supplier of appropriate technology for the emergent applications.

Hydro Group's cable and connectivity solutions are developed to withstand the harshest environmental conditions, including salt water, solar effects, storm force winds and dynamic tidal and wave motion.

These factors place extreme loads on the subsea systems, connectors and cables, resulting in the company's connectors being designed and manufactured for flexibility and environmental endurance.

Hydro Group Plc – UK
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Category 8 cable for data centres

DATWYLER has developed 'CU 8203 4P', a compact S/FTP AWG23 cable which complies fully with the anticipated requirements of the new Category 8.2 as specified in the ISO/IEC draft.

The new international standards for Category 8 copper cable and balanced cabling systems for 40 Gbit/s are currently being developed as Draft Standards IEC 46C/976/NP and ISO/IEC TR 11801-99-1.

Unlike the proposed standards for symmetrical Category 8 data cables discussed just a few years ago – at that time for structured premises cabling and with a maximum limiting frequency of 1.2 gigahertz (GHz) – the sole use foreseen by today's international standardisation bodies is in data centres with a maximum limiting frequency of 2 GHz.

Standard ISO/IEC TR 11801-99-1 defines a point-to-point connection between active devices at a maximum distance of 30 metres, comprising 26 metres of installation cable and 2 metres of patch cable on either side. Such a connection can replace expensive fibre optic and twinax cabling in data centres.

Other new developments with S/FTP and F/FTP as well as the appropriate patch cables (flex cable) will follow. Datwyler places particular emphasis on the fact that with regard to attenuation (NEXT, PS-NEXT) the new cables provide a large amount of spare capacity at the limit values discussed and defined.

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Although flat profiles and shaped wires are used in a huge range of environments, all application areas have one thing in common: mediocre quality is not an option. Manufacturing tolerances are extremely tight; the surfaces of the cold-rolled profiles must be cleanly worked and exhibit no anomalies. It is surprising that manual measurements by skilled workers are still widespread today. The manual checks do not just interrupt the production flow but also consume valuable time and involve a certain margin of error. Nobody can afford to make errors.

The majority of optical systems equipped with laser or CCD cameras measure the shadow height of a product. This, however, like the human eye, is subject to heavy fluctuation if the product is not precisely aligned with the laser beam. A deviation of a twist angle of one degree may already lie outside the permissible tolerance range. So how can perfect production of flat profiles and profile wires be ensured?

Zumbach's answer is in its product range. It includes various solutions

for in-line height and width measurement of profiles which are able to measure with extremely high precision, regardless of position and twist, and no worries about incorrect measurement. Robust and compact measuring systems can easily be integrated in existing production lines. Measurements are performed using either laser technology (ODAC®, DVW 1, DVO 2) or the light-cut method with image processing (Profilemaster® PMM 30/50/80).

Measuring with laser technology: Zumbach's ODAC® laser measuring heads measure the height and width of any profile without contact and ultra-fast (1,200 measurements/s). The extremely dirt resistant scanners ensure maximum error detection and permanent calibration – incomparable with manual measurement methods and, in view of tight manufacturing tolerances, an advance in quality in every respect.



▲ Pivoting support DVW 1 with ODAC® laser dimension measuring head

The pivoting mechanism of the DVW 1 support rotates the ODAC® laser measuring heads mounted on it continuously around the measuring axis within $\pm 2.5^\circ$, $\pm 5^\circ$, $\pm 7.5^\circ$ or $\pm 10^\circ$. Extremely accurate measurements are ensured by the continuously pivoting motion of the laser heads together with the electronic 'minimal value detection' of the relevant dimension.

With the DVO 2 oscillating device for ODAC®, the angle can be increased to $\pm 50^\circ$, thereby ensuring maximum possible measurements of profile dimensions. The values acquired from the DVW 1/DVO 2 and ODAC® are processed via a connected USYS system and used for automated production monitoring.

Measuring with the light-cut method: Product quality can also be assured using image processing profile measuring systems. Zumbach's Profilemaster® PMM 30/50/80 are non-contact in-line and off-line high-tech systems for measuring profiles. The CCD megapixel gigabit Ethernet cameras used measure fields with diameters of within 30, 50 or 80mm. One to six laser/camera modules continuously measure the cross-section of the moving profile. A powerful PC-based processor adds the cameras' partial images, consisting of straight lines and curves, together to yield the momentary cross-section of the profile. All relevant dimensions such as width, height, thickness, angle and radii are added together to form the full cross-sectional picture.

Zumbach Electronic AG – Switzerland
Website: www.zumbach.com



High quality steel reels and handling systems

made in Germany



IWE
Spulen und Handling GmbH
www.iwe-reels.com
info@iwe-reels.com

CableData Collector finds defects in live cables

EA TECHNOLOGY has launched the most effective instrument yet for identifying defects in live cables of distribution voltages.

The CableData Collector works by testing for partial discharge (PD) activity: small discharges, which result in damage to the cable, and if left unattended will lead to insulation failure.

EA Technology commercial director Neil Davies said: "Measuring PD activity is a very accurate way of assessing the condition of cables and their likelihood of failure and outage.

"The ability to test cables without the need to de-energise them is a real benefit. Essentially, they can be fixed before they fail and cause expensive outages."

The instrument quickly detects PD activity in live cables by measuring radio frequency currents. It works with most types of single and three phase insulated

cables at distribution voltages, up to several miles/kilometres in length.

Information about PD activity is recorded by the CableData Collector hardware and can be sent to EA Technology for expert analysis. Alternatively, users can buy EA Technology's software package to perform their own data analysis. In either case, they will have access to clear reports on cables affected by PD activity and recommendations for remedial action.

CableData Collector instruments are supplied as complete, ready-to-use kits, with Radio Frequency Current Transformers (RFCTs), cabling, USB-powered data collection unit and carry case, together with optional software, training and factory technical support. Kits are also available for rental, or EA Technology engineers can provide cable testing as a site service, anywhere in the world.

EA Technology Group – UK
Website: www.eatechnology.com



▲ The new CableData Collector from EA Technology

Launch of new fine wire spooler

Cemanco has launched a KMK fine wire spooler and re-winder for material down to 0.05mm (0.002") diameter. The design is modular and allows the integration of mechanical as well as a dual laser controlled traverses for high quality windings. The laser guided flange detection system allows precise winding of bi-conical and stepped spools.

All control functions are accessed and displayed by means of a single control wheel and a digital display. Displayed functions include spool rpm, length of material, rpm up and down ramp and basic settings like maximum rpm, sense of rotation and dancer settings. Take-up spool speed can range from 0 to 2,800 rpm and in this configuration the maximum pay-off spool weight is 15kg.

Cemanco LC – USA

Website: www.cemanco.com

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A NEW AUTOMATION SYSTEM FOR AC/DC CORD SETS

M Power Tech Inc. has launched a new packaging line for Cordset and Power Cord products. Integration of cable winding, tying, an packing with plastic bag or cardboard sleeve.

The auto boxing and palletizing system options complete the production with less labor required.

Effectively reduce 70% labor cost while increasing the productivity 3 times higher.

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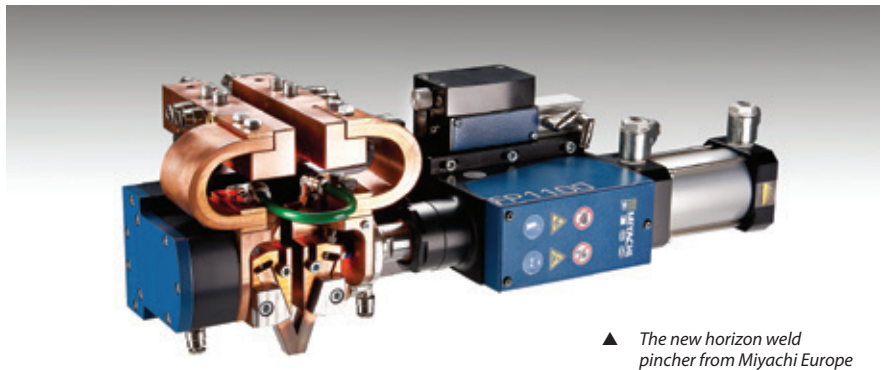
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Email: whm@dgzhangli.com



▲ The new horizon weld pincher from Miyachi Europe

A 'new horizon' welder

MIYACHI Europe has launched Miyachi Peco's "new horizon" resistance welders, a new generation of resistance welding equipment that allows users to choose the ideal solution by selecting modular components best for their application.

Users can choose from a total of 24 innovative modules to configure up to 400 weld heads and weld pinchers that best fit their applications and technical specifications.

This innovation is a major step forward in technical specification and performance. The modularity of components allows users to benefit from a versatile product portfolio combined with short delivery times and high serviceability.

Technical service and maintenance cost can be reduced by up to 33 per cent as individual components can be exchanged on-site. Flexibility is doubled as a weld head or a weld pincher can be turned into a different version in minutes on-site.

The Miyachi Peco new horizon product line is trademarked globally and is available for ordering at any of Miyachi Europe's seven sales offices located in Puchheim, Germany; Helmond, The Netherlands; Prague, Czech Republic; Paris, France; Turin, Italy; and Budapest, Hungary.

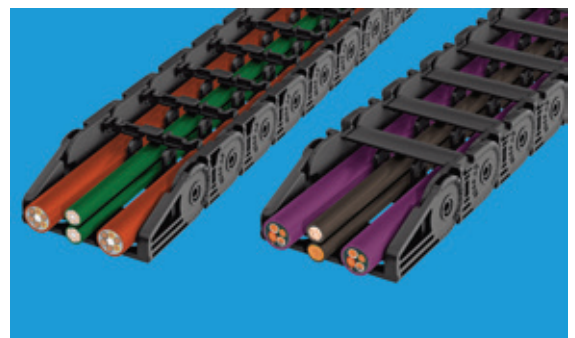
Miyachi Europe Corporation – Germany

Website: www.miyachieurope.com

Cable carriers available in 30 versions

Easytrax and Quicktrax cable carriers are now available with a new inside width of 50mm. Tsubaki Kabelschlepp added the new versions to the cable carriers from the Easytrax 0320 and Quicktrax 0320 series.

Both ranges use an intelligent, two-component design. This makes Quicktrax a compact and affordable cable carrier and ensures fast cable laying and a high level of stability for Easytrax.



▲ Quicktrax (right) and Easytrax (left)

On Quicktrax the crossbars with film hinge allow quick opening, while on Easytrax the cables can simply be pressed in. The latter also features a very high filling capacity, thanks to laterally hinged crossbars. Both cable carriers are available as versions opening inside or outside.

Easytrax 0320 and Quicktrax 0320 are available in 30 versions each. The inside height is 20mm for Quicktrax and 18mm for Easytrax. As standard, the bend radius is 28, 38, 48, 75 or 100mm.

Tsubaki Kabelschlepp GmbH – Germany

Website: www.kabelschlepp.de

Preheating with temperature control

WITH the Preheater 6000 TC (Temperature Control), Sikora offers a solution for precise conductor preheating, the basis for high-quality cable production.

The Preheater 6000 TC is positioned before the extruder and preheats the wire by means of inductive heating up to 200°C.

A controlling module controls the power of the Preheater 6000 TC depending on the conductor material, the conductor dimension, the line speed and the desired temperature.

A non-contact infrared camera takes the temperature inside the Preheater.

With the approach of the direct integration of a wire temperature measurement in the Preheater and the feedback to its power control, it is assured that the wire temperature is always at its desired level.

The Preheater is available for a product diameter of 0.32 to 2.8mm (0.08 to 6mm²) and applicable for new lines as well as retrofitting on existing lines. The system comes with all common interfaces such as Ethernet, Profibus and Profinet as well as analogue ports.

Initially developed for Sikora's Preheater, the Wire-Temp 6000 is also now available as a standalone version and for retrofitting to existing preheaters. The Wire-Temp 6000 determines the conductor temperature independently from the cross-section, the material, the line speed and the surface structure of the conductor.

A big advantage over conventional systems is that the temperature measurement is made by means of a non-contact thermal image sensor in an infrared camera, which detects

the conductor and provides accurate measurements with no need for calibration.

The Wire-Temp 6000 is available for product sizes from 0.1 to 10mm and from 0.15 to 100mm.

Various communication interfaces are available for the transmission of the measuring values to a Sikora processor system, the line control or a laptop.

The universal interface module for connections to RS485, RS232, Profibus DP or industrial field buses such as CANopen, Ethernet/IP, DeviceNet and Profinet IO fulfils the demand. The interface module and all connection plugs are fully sealed for perfect protection against water, dirt and mechanical damage.

Sikora AG – Germany
Website: www.sikora.net



▲ Preheater 6000 TC with integrated Wire-Temp 6000

New brake for pay-offs and take-ups

Magnetic Technologies offers a variety of brakes for pay-offs and take-ups. The brakes, totally adjustable, give extremely accurate tension control and come in numerous sizes to fit customers' spools and reels.

Torque is developed magnetically and will remain the same year after year. Torque ranges from 0.11" ounces to 220" pounds. Single to multi-spool pay-off stands are also available.

Advantages include adjustability, portability, no electricity, and a minimum of floor space. Every brake or clutch is carefully engineered to give exceptional long life, for even the most demanding production standards. They are designed to be easily mounted and serviced or modified, should the need arise.

The company has added current controlled electric hysteresis brakes to its product offerings.

Available in sizes up to 220lb/inch, the brakes complement the extensive offering of permanent hysteresis and eddy current brakes and clutches.

Magnetic Technologies Ltd – USA Website: www.magnetictech.com

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Flat wire for high-performance springs

TECHNICAL applications now call more and more for springs with a compact design combined with high spring forces. In addition, due to highly automated manufacturing processes, often tight dimensional tolerances are requested.

- natural edges
- rounded edges
- rolled edges or
- defined radii

Whether in the automotive sector, precision engineering or medical technology, textile machinery or electrical connection technology, a high resistance to corrosion is often needed.

In the small to mid-latitudes thickness ratio natural edges provide an economical solution. Rounded edges, ie edges that go through a peeling process after cold rolling, offer an even closer and more regular width tolerance, especially for high quality products with very tight bending radii.

For such applications, stainless-steel flat wire is commonly used – both traditional materials, such as AISI 300 and 400 series as well as special alloys. Specialised suppliers are even able to offer almost all cold-formable materials, whose procurement is possible.

Rolled edges are formed by a vertical pair of rollers. This manufacturing step shows width tolerances similarly tight as rounded edges. Defined radii allow very tight customer specific requirements to be obtained.

Flat wire is available in industrial quantities from widths of about 0.05mm, with a tolerance of ± 0.005 mm. Thicknesses start from about 0.02mm (20 micron) and tolerances of less than ± 0.001 are possible.

Compared to steel strip, cold-rolled flat wire has the advantage of very large lengths without welds (wire up to 500kg per coil) and a homogeneous spread of strength across the entire cross-section.

Some specialised companies in this field achieve width-thickness ratios of up to 1:50, and even up to 1:70, while the majority of providers work in the range of 1:2 to 1:10.

In addition, a stable supply chain with a broad set of machines is recommended, that can ensure both small quantities for validation purposes and larger annual contacts with partial deliveries and accurately maintained tolerances.

Depending on the required applications, such a flat wire has:

Studer SA – Switzerland
Website: www.studersa.com

New family of cable certification testers

Fluke Networks has launched its new family of Versiv™ cable certification testers designed to help data communications installers more quickly, accurately and profitably achieve system acceptance for copper and fibre jobs.

Versiv is a powerful platform offering interchangeable modules for copper, fibre and Optical Time Domain Reflectometer (OTDR) testing, as well as new software innovations that speed test time and accuracy, and simplify testing setup, planning and reporting.

In a global study of cabling professionals, mistakes, complexity and rework are adding more than a week of labour to a typical 1,000 cabling drop installation, resulting in average losses of more than \$2,500.

To combat these growing challenges, Versiv has been built from the ground up to go beyond testing and troubleshooting to address the entire certification lifecycle. Its new capabilities help contractors manage the complexities of today's certification landscape and reduce errors that can threaten profitability.

Key to simplifying the complexity is the new ProjX™ management system. In addition to allowing team leaders to set up test parameters to work across multiple jobs and media, the system accelerates planning and setup of projects by allowing technicians to capture consistent test parameters across an entire job, or switch from job to job by simply clicking between projects stored in the tester.

Fluke Networks – USA
Website: www.flukenetworks.com

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Lubricants for Copper / Aluminium / Steel

PCD/ND Die Polishing Machine

Carbide Die Polishing Machine

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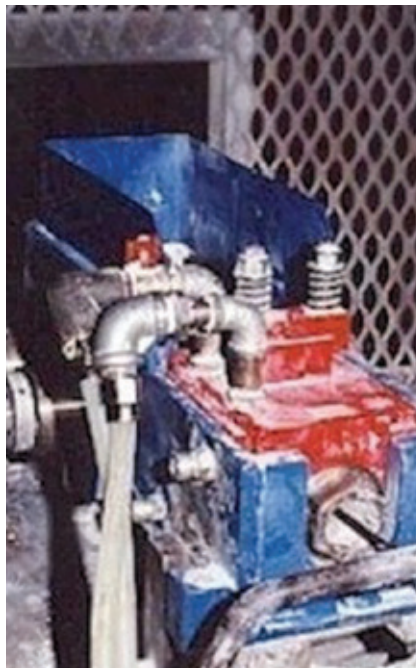
Advertorial on behalf of Decalub

Rod and wire lubrication problems eliminated

THE innovative LVC/PDH lubrication system provides high-performance anti-friction coat, reliable lubrication for the most demanding drawing applications, allowing the highest drawing speed with all steel rods/wires, including mechanically descaled uncoated (bare) 0.85-0.88%C rod.

Applications include drawing of spring wire, high-tensile rope wire, PC strand wire, CO₂ welding wire, plating wire, cold heading wire, etc.

The LVC/PDH lubrication system features automatic control of lubrication parameters, including lubricant pressure, temperature and viscosity, enabling the use of standard high melting lubricants (+220°C=428°F) which are converted from solid into liquefied state and instantaneously deposited on bare rod, providing a thick film of extremely stable thermal stability in all drafts, at the highest drawing speed, replacing phosphate, borax and their wet pre-coating substitutes, completely eliminating rod residual moisture.



▲ Rod coating and lubrication by LVC / PDH system

In operation, all these lubrication parameters 'communicate' together in a sensitive and automatic multi-

way interaction to form a consistent, exceptionally adherent full-film anti-friction lubricant coat, weight-adjustable, enabling frictionless drawing by physical separation of wire-die contact in all drafts, eliminating friction heat, greatly increasing die life, and providing superior surface finish and improved wire ductility.

Typical applications with the LVC/PDH coated rod: Output of 2.2 tonne/hour with 5.5mm 0.83-0.88%C mechanically descaled bare rod, in a 'frictionless' drawing application with die life of 200 tonnes/die in the first draft and a die wear of 0.2micron/tonne of wire drawn in the last draft.

Spring wire is drawn from mechanically descaled bare rod, without pre-coating chemicals, at 18m/s (3,600ft/min); 5.5mm 0.72%C rod drawn to 2.35mm at 16m/s (3,200ft/min); and 10.5mm 0.85-0.88%C rod drawn to 4.22mm at 8-9m/s (1,800ft/min).

Decalub – France

Email: info@decalub.com

Website: www.decalub.com

For extreme temperature and pressure applications

As oil and gas producers push their technology to ever-greater ocean depths to find sources of supply, there has been an increased need for long-distance, high-temperature and high-pressure sensors and communications devices.

Ametek SCP has developed the technology to produce a glass-sealed fibre optic feedthru (FOFT) for extreme high-pressure, high-temperature applications.

Ametek developed the FOFT to meet the harsh downhole environments encountered in the drilling and completion of oil and gas wells, and customers have qualified it for 30,000 psi and 300°C. The FOFT is currently configured for one to eight fibres in a 0.375" housing that can be welded or coupled with a standard high-pressure fitting. The FOFT has also been miniaturised to fit a high-pressure, high-temperature connector.

This rugged, high-performance fibre optic feedthru is constructed of low outgassing materials and configurable with standard single-mode and multi-mode fibres. It conveniently interfaces with standard 3/8" high-pressure fittings and is available in a variety of optional end terminations, including bare, stripped, SMA, ST, FC, APC and custom ferrules.

Ametek's process produces a hermetic seal between an optical fibre and a metal super alloy with a proprietary seal glass. The result is an extremely durable compression seal that can withstand extreme temperatures and pressures. The connector's robust construction also makes it highly resistant to corrosion and chemical attack.

Ametek SCP – USA

Website: www.ametek.com

KEIR - BackBone™ Flyer Bow

Features:

- Improved bow strength (no holes)
- Wire is out of the airstream
- Bow shaped like a wing for improved aerodynamics and low cw factor
- Wear strip eliminated and replaced by wear bushings with windows for easy inspection and dust cleaning
- Wear bushings can be changed while bow is mounted on the rotor

Advantages:

- Lower power (amps) consumption and reduced noise
- Higher TPM – maintaining wire quality
- Reduced bow breakage
- Increased life on wear surfaces reducing down-times and maintenance
- Wire breakds are contained within the bow – extending bow life

US Patent #6,233,513
#5,809,703 and Other Patents Pending

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Automation is the key to streamlined manufacturing



▲ Streamlined manufacturing to reduce costs

COMPANIES that invest in innovative computer aided engineering (CAE) systems with automation at their core can streamline operations by reducing costs and liberating employees from the most laborious and tedious aspects of the job.

Electrical design is increasingly being carried out by new design tools that allow manual and time-consuming tasks to be performed automatically and instantaneously. As well as delivering cost savings this can significantly improve design integrity and project turnaround times.

One company adopting this approach is Bürkert Fluid Control Systems, a manufacturer of control and measuring systems for fluids and gases. The company's products have a wide variety of applications and are used in a number of industries such as water treatment, hygienic processing, gas handling and microfluidics.

In re-evaluating its software and design needs Bürkert turned to Eplan, UK, for its CAE software. The company employed several Eplan tools, such as Electric P8 and the Eplan Data Portal, to help improve its design efficiency, productivity and accuracy.

As one of the leading electrical design suites, Electric P8 software contains all the design tools and report generators

required across all engineering disciplines, ensuring greater speed, accuracy and flexibility in product development and order fulfilment.

One of the biggest draws of Eplan P8 is the automatic error-checking features, automated design path suggestions and component selection from the Eplan Data Portal; a comprehensive database of pre-drawn circuits, assembly drawings, function templates and international designations. In total the software has 250,000 part drawings from 48 leading manufacturers including ABB and Festo, among others.

"We use Eplan for our control panel projects and it has simplified the design of complex electrical circuits, the integration of PLCs and HMIs and the production of reports such as BOMs," said Tom Carnell, Bürkert's engineering systems applications manager.

"We are also able to integrate other parts of the control panel project such as manuals, datasheets and Solidworks designs into Eplan, which is then sent to the customer as a PDF upon completion of the project."

Bürkert Fluid Control Systems – UK
Website: www.burkert.co.uk

Eplan – UK
Website: www.eplan.co.uk

Feature

Handling & packaging equipment (including reels, spools and wrapping)

In the early days of the Industrial Revolution manufactured wares were produced for near neighbours. Modern wire makers may be permitted something like nostalgia for that period they never knew. The purchaser of their product – attenuated, susceptible to damage from kinking, breakage, exposure – may be half a world away.

Making a virtue of necessity, the dedicated professionals reviewed in these pages have met and mastered the challenge of developing solutions for the handling and packaging of a finely wrought, high-value product.



Efficient, economic and cost saving wire, strand and cable handling with NPS packaging system



▲ The SV 402 from Niehoff

Cable and wire harness manufacturers have been working with the Niehoff Package System NPS which has been proven to be an efficient, safe, reliable and economical handling system for primary automotive cables as well as bunched wires, strands, conductors and cables.

The users of the NPS can achieve considerable cost savings in packing and transportation especially when the extrusion and assembly plants are situated hundreds, if not thousands, of miles apart.

The NPS comprises Niehoff's SV type spoolers which use a patented wire-laying algorithm and collapsible multi-way ABS plastic spools.

The spools, made in various sizes, offer a secure, stable and tangle-free package both when full or partially empty and enable the highest cable pay-off speeds into downstream processes.

A full NPS spool takes up only one third of the space required by a comparable conventional spool. Empty NPS spools can be fully dismantled and nested into each other and therefore need much less return transport space than traditional spools and packages of the same capacity.

The results are considerable savings in shipping and handling expenses. Upon return to the cable manufacturer NPS spools can be easily and quickly re-assembled, reloaded and then re-used for dozens of cycles. Further advantages are the savings on packaging material and the reduction of the cable scrap rate.

For all these benefits, the NPS has almost entirely replaced in Europe all alternatives such as cardboard barrels, boxes and disposable packaging. Like in the past, Niehoff continues to develop further NPS handling solutions.

Maschinenfabrik Niehoff GmbH & Co KG – Germany
Website: www.niehoff.de

Range of services

IWE Reels and Handling, Germany, delivers worldwide:

- Shipping reels made of steel from Ø300 to Ø4,000mm flange diameter
- Collapsible systems with folding or removable flanges for reducing the transport costs can also be selected
- Smooth internal flanges and drum surface for protecting the winding material
- Surface treatments like hot-galvanising, painting with two component lacquer or stainless steel

Accessories include:

- Lifting holes, fixing holes for safe loading, rim profiles for nail-less lagging, data plate
- Cable entry bow, transportation racks and more

Design and dimensions are according to customer specifications.

IWE Spulen und Handling GmbH – Germany
Website: www.iwe-reels.com

▼ Shipping reel from IWE Reels and Handling



Tag it!

Locating and writing off lost stock is a major drain on any business. If your company produces high value products this is a particularly time consuming and costly problem. However, this problem can be reduced through effective product identification and tracking.

UK-based IML Labels and Systems Ltd has a wealth of experience and knowledge of manufacturing high performance tags and self-adhesive labels to endure hostile conditions, extreme temperatures and rough handling.

Thermotag 600 withstands temperatures up to +600°C and is a product unique to IML.

Thermotag 600 was developed by the company, in conjunction with leading metal producers calling for tags which could be applied sooner in the production cycle to help maximise efficiencies.

It also resists crumpling and creasing to maintain data readability in environments where rough handling and mechanical control are used.

Thermotag 600 can be supplied plain or pre-printed in up to six colours and supplied in rolls suitable for thermal transfer overprinting, offering a solution to traditional metal tags.

IML's Rip-proof tags are ideal if ultimate strength and durability are the most prominent needs. Pioneered by IML in the

early 1990s, Rip-proof is available in nine distinctly different colours to support easy colour coding at long range. It is supplied plain or pre-printed up to three colours and can be overprinted with variable information by the customer using a thermal transfer printer. Rip-proof also springs back after creasing and crushing making it ideal for tough production environments; it withstands temperature ranges of -40°C to +200°C.

IML also produces a range of heavy-duty self-adhesive labels capable of adhering to uneven, rough and oily surfaces and withstanding the effects of weathering for prolonged periods.

IML Labels and Systems Ltd – UK
Website: www.Implabels.co.uk

Quality certified and assured

GMP Slovakia is a leading manufacturer of steel reels, drums and handling equipment for the wire and cable industry. The company is quality certified according to the European DNV certification, which guarantees excellent product quality. The range is very wide and includes many different models: reels for steel, copper and aluminium wire drawing and stranding process, drums for cable and rope in reinforced version for process and in lightweight version for transportation (which can be supplied disassembled to reduce transport costs).

GMP Slovakia also supplies collapsible reels for coil production and all the necessary equipment to handle reels, drums and coils. The most famous take apart reel is the patented Easycoil Plus, which is a collapsible reel that releases the coil automatically and can also be used as a coil lifter. The company has also designed a special reel for pay-off, which is very light and simple to use: the reel can be opened either by pneumatic gun or manually and is fully customised in dimension.

GMP Slovakia is a specialist in suggesting the correct reel for every use, thanks to the great knowledge of sales, technical and production staff who have worked in the reels business for several years.

Many different special products are also available: skid roll and dolly base for off-shore and umbilical big drums, all studied and designed by the technical department in cooperation with professional agencies following customer needs.



▲ One of the reels on offer from GMP Slovakia

During recent years the company has manufactured big cable drums for special projects, including drums with a flange diameter of 4.2m and a width of 7m for a loading capacity of 57 tons. The drums have been supplied disassembled and assembled at the customer's plant.


GMP Slovakia – Slovakia
Website: www.gmp-slovakia.com

Up to 250,000 Pounds of Reel Handling Capabilities

Tulsa Power Gantry Systems' Traversing Frame Take-ups and Payoffs are some of the most advanced on the market today now with capacities up to 250,000 pounds.

The units offer true walk through capability and unlimited lateral movement for your reel handling. Plus traversing the entire reel in front of the line creates an optimum layer wound package. The telescoping portal design conforms to your reel size, minimizing floor space requirements. Main drive systems are engineered to your specifications and feature an operator color touch screen interface. Overhead beam and fixed frame units also available.

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Southeast Asia remains resilient amidst persistent global economic uncertainty, projecting an average annual growth rate of 5.5 per cent to 2017. The region is increasingly becoming a manufacturing and industrial hub for many global companies seeking to locate and keep in touch with available business opportunities.

wire Southeast Asia, which takes place from 17th to 19th September at Bangkok's International Trade and Exhibition Centre, will highlight the importance of trade fairs with more than 300 companies exhibiting in both the wire and tube shows at the three-day event. Innovations and trends on high-performing machinery, processing and automation in the wire and cable industry feature heavily throughout the exhibition, which has attracted high profile exhibitors from large international companies, 15 per cent of which will be making their first appearance on the floor.

wire Southeast Asia 2013

17th – 19th September

10th International
Wire and Cable
Trade Fair for
Southeast Asia



As part of broadening the appeal of wire Southeast Asia, a series of technical seminars have been designed to bring the event closer to the wire and cable industry, providing unique insights into the trends shaping this sector. The first round of technical seminars will be held in Seoul, South Korea, on 22nd July, followed by Jakarta, Indonesia, on 24th July and ending in Bangkok, Thailand, on 26th July.

Prominent industry associations, including the International Wire and Machinery Association, the International Wire and Cable Exhibitors' Association, ACIMAF the Italian Wire Machinery Manufacturers Association, and the Iron and Steel Institute of Thailand again support Thailand's largest trade fair for the wire and cable industry.

Online visitor pre-registration is open until 9th September 2013. Visitors interested in taking part should pre-register at www.wire-southeastasia.com.

wire South America 2013




The first-ever wire South America – International Wire and Cable Fair – will be staged at the Exposições Imigrantes exhibition centre in São Paulo from 1st to 3rd October 2013.

The inaugural edition of the trade fair for wire and cable production and finishing will take place in parallel with TUBOTECH – 7th International Trade Fair for Pipes, Valves, Fittings and Components. Exhibitors at wire South America and TUBOTECH

will present their new products on a total floor space of 13,000m². Some 150 exhibitors will showcase their innovations from the wire and cable manufacturing and finishing, process engineering tools and auxiliary components, and measurement, control and test engineering sectors.

Support for wire South America is provided by IWMA – the International Wire & Machinery Association, WCISA – the Wire and Cable Industry



International Wire and Cable Fair

Octávio Frias De Oliveira Bridge on the Pinheiros River, São Paulo, Brazil. www.bigstockphoto.com Photographer - Celso Diniz

Suppliers Association and ACIMAF – the Italian Wire Machinery Manufacturers Association.

The conditions in the run-up to wire South America and TUBOTECH in São Paulo are promising: According to a report by GTAI (Germany Trade and Invest), the strength of Brazil's construction, automotive and consumer electronics sectors is causing a sharp rise in the demand for wire and cable products. Infrastructure expansion, the boom in the

construction industry, increasing investment in capital goods and favourable market conditions in the consumer goods industry are all generating strong momentum in an already buoyant area.

wire South America and TUBOTECH are excellent sources of information for visitors to Brazil and provide an ideal platform for international exhibitors interested in gaining visibility in the important and interesting market of the future that is South America.

Aztech Lubricants/ Kimik Ltd Stand 1021

Aztech Lubricants/Kimik LMTD are global providers of wire drawing and lubricant solutions. With over 125 years of cumulative expertise, they excel at providing a full line of calcium, sodium and potassium stearate drawing powders, RP oil, drawing oils and precoats.

Key name brands that will be showcased at this year's show include: EZDraw, EZClean and EZCoat.

Additionally, Aztech and Kimik offer a complete line of AZWipe spiral brushes, for an easy method to remove excess scale, rust or coatings from wire.

Aztech Lubricants LLC – USA
Website: www.aztechlube.com

Cerrini Srl Stand 607

South America, and Brazil in particular, represent one of the main markets of Cerrini extrusion technology. Since 1946 Cerrini has manufactured equipment and complete extrusion lines for the worldwide cable market.

All equipment is made directly by Cerrini at its manufacturing plants in Italy, where the main headquarters and technical offices are located.

Cerrini production includes standard extrusion cable lines as well as equipment and lines tailored to the specific needs of customers, and the company's flexibility to satisfy customers' requirements is well known, along with its many years of experience.

Cerrini's innovative products in cable extrusion technology allow better performance and the processing of the most challenging materials on the market: thermoplastics, HFFR compounds, solid and foamed fluoropolymers for high performance data cables, polyamide for THHN cables, rubber and XLPE, and silicone for safety fire resistant cables.

The company's experience in liquid silane crosslinking technology for energy cable production is well acknowledged with many working lines around the world, as well as fluoropolymers foam-insulated data cable extrusion lines.

On display in Brazil will be the new generation of rubber extruders with improved cooling capacity for the hardest compounds, the safety silicone cable

extrusion line with infrared vulcanisation and the SZ stranding machine for rigid and flexible conductors.

Cerrini Srl – Italy
Website: www.cerrini.it

Contrôle Mesure Systèmes Stand 657

Contrôle Mesure Systèmes designs, develops and manufactures a complete NDT range of products in eddy current and ultrasonic testing methods which comprise high performance instruments and systems, probes and transducers, accessories, and complete turnkey machines with its associated mechanics.

Main equipment manufactured by CMS includes:

- Eddy current rotating heads RotoETscan: for tubes and bars diameter range 1 to 220mm, for surface, subsurface, punctual flaws detection,
- Ultrasonic rotating head RotoUTscan for tube inspection welded or not, in stainless steel, titanium, zirconium, but also in carbon steel (diameter range 6 to 250mm) for longitudinal and transversal defect detection, thickness measurement as well as OD – ID and ovalisation

Ultrasonic and eddy current rotating heads (RotoUTscan and RotoETscan) can be combined with other CMS equipment (magnetising units, rotating systems, support coils).

It can be installed together in a strong control bench including centring devices. Supervision software allows display of combined signals (UT/ET) and creation of inspection reports that can be used as control evidence for quality services and customers. Data stored can be recalled for analysing and quality treatment

All the systems meet quality standards such as API, ASTM, DIN and can be used on and off-line. Through its products and its remote assistance, Contrôle Mesure Systèmes provides quality and productivity solutions for industrial applications worldwide.

Contrôle Mesure Systèmes – France
Website: www.cmseddyscan.com

Enkotec AS Stand 712

Enkotec will demonstrate its latest ENKOnail machine, the MM01.



▲ The MM01 from Enkotec

The ENKOnail series of nail manufacturing machines is intended for small and midsize capacity needs. These machine models include the MI01, producing 1,000 nails per minute at $\varnothing 2.3-3.8$ mm and 50-90mm lengths, and the new MM01 producing bigger nails of $\varnothing 2.8-4.2$ mm and 60-103mm lengths at a speed of 850 nails per minute.

The ENKOnail machines are based on the well-known Enkotec rotary forming principle making it possible to manufacture high-quality nails at a high speed and with low running costs. This machine type is synonymous with high efficiency and user-friendliness, featuring simple adjustments, quick tooling changeovers, easy access for cleaning and service, long tooling life, high stability, saving of space, and low-noise production.

Bent Petersen, managing director, said: "When designing the ENKOnail series, we have had a strong focus on assuring our customers optimal machine performance in relation to investment. Combined with our high-end ENKOnail+ series, the ENKOnail models allow us to offer a complete range of high-speed nail machines, where many tooling parts are common for all machine models, thus increasing their cost effectiveness." Enkotec constantly carries out research and development, in close cooperation with customers, to constantly improve the performance of its machinery, increasing the competitiveness for customers. Whether focusing on high-volume nail production, in-line nail manufacturing solutions, specialised nail solutions, small or midsize production runs, Enkotec can offer the machine needed to fulfil nail production needs.

After-sales service is an important part of the Enkotec concept and includes prompt spare-part deliveries and competent, technical support in order to ensure a smooth and uninterrupted production process.

Enkotec AS – Denmark
Website: www.enkotec.com

Inosym Reels Stand 612

Inosym, suppliers of steel and plastic reels, will have on display a range of reels showcasing design flexibility and quality. The company welcomes existing and new customers to visit the stand and discuss reel requirements for 2013.

Inosym Reels – New Zealand
Website: www.inosym.com

Maillefer Extrusion OY Stand 737

Maillefer provides complete extrusion solutions serving both wire and cable and pipe and tube manufacturers worldwide. The progress achieved together with customers comes not only from the supply of technology know-how and equipment solutions, but also from products with high added value.

Maillefer offers a wide range of services and maintenance packages, product cost and materials saving solutions, as well as insulation cleanliness and quality improvement solutions.



▲ Maillefer air-cooled triple extrusion group for CV lines

In Brazil the company will introduce two new manufacturing lines; a new building wire insulation line and a new medium voltage CCV line, which are both available by low start investment.

The lines are designed for cable manufacturers wanting less preventative maintenance together with high operational reliability. Both newcomers use the Maillefer extrusion standard, tested in more than 4,000 installations.

The product families available from Maillefer are energy cables including manufacturing solutions for producing automotive, building, LV, MV, HV and EHV cables; fibre optic cable manufacturing solutions for buffering and jacketing fibre optic cables; plastic pipe manufacturing technology; solutions for producing heating and plumbing, medical, automotive, irrigation, water and gas pipes; and telecom cable making

including solutions for producing telecom, LAN, coax and speciality signal cables.

Maillefer has sales and service support, production facilities, development and testing capabilities in Finland and Switzerland. Regional sales and service offices are established in China, Egypt, India, Russia and the USA, in addition to a worldwide agent network.

Maillefer Extrusion OY – Finland
Website: www.mailleferextrusion.com

Paramount Die Company Stand 1017

Paramount Die offers expertise in all areas of the wire industry with sales engineers averaging more than 20 years in the industry.

Several wire industry trends have dramatically shaped the company's development over the past ten years. Perhaps the most dramatic has been the ever-growing trend for wire drawers to outsource their finished die requirements.

As this has caused wire drawers to become somewhat more dependent on die suppliers, great pressure has been placed on Paramount to increase capacity for die finishing, to reduce finished die costs, and to improve lead times.

Paramount Die Company has been able to reduce die costs by standardising on cost-effective carbide inserts and by increasing quality and capacity through automation. The company is working to take the human factor out of the manufacturing process.

Many of its highly automated machines now run on "Lights Out Operation" meaning that they will continue to produce product as long as there is raw material being fed into the system.

This not only improves production output, but also the quality (eliminating the human aspect).

Paramount's highly automated production equipment combines high volume speed and efficiency with superior accuracy and repeatability.

Average lead times have been reduced from three weeks to just less than five days by investing heavily in finished inventory.

Paramount is leading the way on another industry trend, "Eco-Friendly Products". It is a leader in supplying eco-friendly products to the wire industry and its die

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design allows the carbide insert to be easily recycled. Many of its customers worldwide now participate in this programme.

Paramount Die Company – USA
Website: www.paradie.com

PWM Stand 401

British company PWM (Pressure Welding Machines) will exhibit its best-selling EP500 rod welder, plus a selection of high-performance manual and powered cold welders on stand 401.

The PWM range will be featured by Bonandi Comércio e Representações Ltda, exclusive distributor of PWM cold welding equipment and dies in South America.



▲ PWM's EP500 rod welder

PWM's powerful electro/pneumatic EP500 rod welder offers manufacturers a cost effective way to weld large non-ferrous rod sections without heat, flux or fillers.

The EP500, which has a capacity of 5mm to 12.5mm copper and 5mm to 15mm aluminium, is energy efficient and simple to operate and maintain, reducing downtime and the need for operator training.

No set up time is necessary, no heat, flux, fillers are required and the cold weld process does not generate any dangerous or unpleasant fumes. The weld cycle is completed in minutes, with automatic de-flashing on completion.

PWM will also exhibit its range of hand-held manual cold welders, and a selection of larger manual and powered models, which can be used either on a workbench or supplied with a trolley. All use PWM's proven welding technology to produce reliable permanent bonds on non-ferrous round wire or rod sections.

PWM's comprehensive range of cold welders, designed and precision engineered

in its own UK workshops, includes machines for wire sizes 0.1mm to up 30mm diameter.

PWM Ltd – UK
Website: www.pwmltd.co.uk

August Strecker GmbH & Co KG Stand 610

Founded 80 years ago, August Strecker manufactures butt-welding machines for the most varied needs of the wire and cable industry. Strecker welders are well represented in many renowned national and international wire and cable factories with the majority of the company's production being exported globally to more than 110 countries.

There are more than 40 representative offices worldwide assisting customers from the very first contact, eg to choose the right product, and adapt it to individual needs until final delivery, sometimes including commissioning of the machines.

A summary of the company's production programme includes:

- Butt-welding machines for all kinds of wires starting at 0.04mm diameter up to about 60mm diameter maximum for solid steel and about 48mm diameter maximum for solid non-ferrous wires, including welders with automatic deburring cycle. For steel there are various annealing devices available, suiting the needs of a variety of steel grades
- Butt welders for stranded conductors starting at 0.08mm² up to about 2,500mm². Welding by means of tubes or without any tubes at all (with automatic deburring)
- Coldpressure butt welders with automatic deburring cycle



▲ An electric strand butter welder type SE1 for stranded copper

The company offers a wide specialised range for the most varied applications, for example:

- butt-welding machines for steel cord
- battery-operated parting guns for steel cord or steel strands
- electric wire butt-welding guns
- high-output butt-welding machines for production of wire-made mass articles
- special purpose welding machines, tailored to customers' needs.

Machines exhibited will include:

- Electric wire butt welder Type 1 NV for mild steel wires diameters 0.8-7mm
- Electric strand butt welder Type SE 1, for stranded copper 0.2-6mm²
- Coldwelder Type KSC 400 for copper wires diameters 0.8-4mm
- Coldwelding gun type KSCZ 160 for copper wires diameters 0.3-1.70mm

August Strecker GmbH & Co KG
– Germany

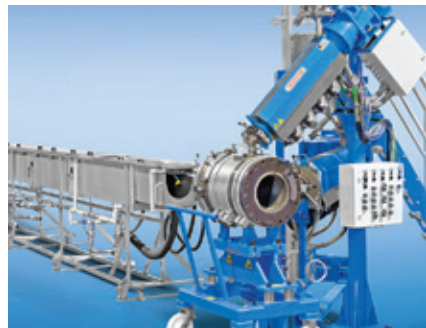
Website: www.strecker-limburg.de

Troester GmbH Stand 701

Troester GmbH & Co KG is a leading supplier of machines and complete lines for the cable manufacturing and rubber processing industry, comprising CV lines for XLPE and rubber cables, silane lines, sheathing and insulation lines.

At wire South America Troester will present information and new developments in the field of:

- High voltage CCV and VCV line concepts for XLPE power cables up to 500 kV
- Medium voltage CCV lines (35 kV)
- Sheathing lines for medium and high voltage cables



▲ Sheathing line for medium and high voltage cables

In addition X-Compound, the new company of the Troester Group, will join the stand and present its kneader technology for the continuous compounding of HFFR, PVC, XLPE, semi-conductive materials and EPR/EPDM.

Troester GmbH & Co KG – Germany
Website: www.troester.de

Upcast OY Stand 636

Upcast® technology allows for casting of top quality copper and copper alloy rod with low overall costs. It is a simple process with easy operation through an advanced control system.

Different rod sizes can be cast, even simultaneously, and output and product mix can be easily adjusted to meet demand.

Upcast lines are tailor-made to match the needs of each specific customer, while a wide range in both single double furnace configurations with unique upgradeability is available.

The majority of delivered Upcast® lines are for Cu-OF rod. The most common cast rod diameter is 8mm which is the standard size within the cable and wire industry.

Rods with bigger diameters are used for manufacturing a variety of products eg bus-bars, trolley wires, electroplating anodes etc.



▲ Upcast technology is a simple process

Upcast® Cu-OF rod it is well-suited for all electrical applications and has become the preferred feedstock especially for:

- fine and multi-wire drawing where ductility requirements are most demanding
- enamel wire production where surface finish is of utmost importance
- continuous rotary extrusion where tool wear rate is a crucial factor.

There is a wide range of alloyed coppers and copper alloys that can be cast with Upcast®.

These include, among others, silver bearing and phosphor-deoxidised coppers, brasses and bronzes.

As new applications for copper alloys are being developed and new types of copper alloys emerge, the utilisation of Upcast® technology within the copper alloys field is rapidly increasing.

Upcast OY – Finland
Website: www.upcast.com



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Automatic precision winding with RobCoil™

By Christensen Holm, Allan Nielsen and Jesper Joergensen – Roblon Industry, Roblon A/S

Winding products on flange reels may make heavy demands on the winding quality in terms of positioning the product accurately, layer by layer.

The precision winding technology has been available as an integral part of high-end take-ups, but as something new a stand-alone machine has now been developed which can be installed in front of the take-up and replace the manual guiding.

Advantages of perfect winding

High quality winding is demanded for a number of different reasons, most importantly to prevent damage of the product. Maximising the product length per reel may be another requirement, and a reel with product positioned perfectly side-by-side from start to finish will

▼ *Precision rewinding unit*



▲ *Precision take-up unit*

give you the best utilisation of the reel capacity. If the product is to be used in a subsequent manufacturing or installation process, the perfectly wound product is likely to increase productivity, as these processes can happen at higher speed and with improved safety.

An example could be fibre optic cables where it is crucial that the cable does not cross during winding, as this would squeeze cable and make it difficult to install later, eg by blowing it into tight ducts.

Attenuation of the signal is another risk of bad winding. When winding steel wires that are used in subsequent production processes, it is important that there is no loose wire on the reel, which could cross when being wound off and potentially cause the reel to lock and thereby break the wire.

Finally, perfectly wound reels also present themselves as nicer to the end-user, a fact which should not be neglected.

Products/materials

High quality winding will be beneficial to a range of products such as cables, plastic tubes, pipes, wires and thin steel tubes. It is possible to wind different shapes of products including round, square and figure-8. Some features ease the automatic guiding of a product, for example it is easier to wind a less flexible or stiff product with a smooth surface.

The product must be able to withstand the amount of tension needed to position it on the reel. However, when manually guiding a product it is also necessary to apply a certain tension. Using the precision guiding unit would most likely minimise the tension as the positioning of the product happens very close to the reel.

Reduced tension on the product means less pressure on the inner layers and thus the risk of damage to the product is eliminated.

Standard cables and similar products with a diameter of minimum 4mm can be wound with very high quality. Steel wires and steel tubes with even smaller diameters can also be wound using the precision winding unit.

A prerequisite of a perfectly wound reel is that the reel itself is of high quality. The better the quality of the reel, the easier it is to achieve a satisfactory winding of the product.

Safety

Today it is sometimes necessary to manually guide the cable onto the reel and this process can be both time-consuming and dangerous.

The person guiding the product will often have to focus exclusively on the winding process, and depending on the product he may have to stand immediately in front of the take-up.

Standing close to the take-up involves the risk of being jammed between the product and the reel, with serious personal injuries as a result.

As health and safety requirements become more stringent, it is increasingly difficult to carry out the manual guiding of cable in front of the take-up, because it is completely fenced in today.

Even when it is possible to manually guide the cable onto the reel, the distance from the operator to the take-up may prevent a perfect winding.

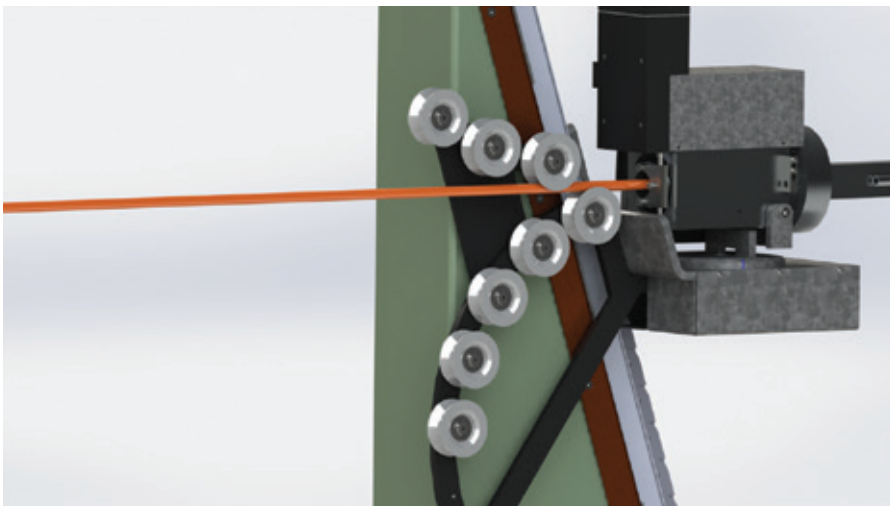
Pulleys

To achieve the best possible control over the product, it is important to guide the product as close to the reel as possible. It is a key parameter to have as little distance from the pulleys guiding the product to the reel as possible.

▼ Guide arm



▼ Inlet pulleys



The product is guided through a set of pulleys, which are dimensioned according to the diameter of the product. Because of the compact size of these pulleys, the distance to the reel can be minimised. Furthermore, the pulleys are shaped so that they are able to position the product very close to the flange.

The guide arm is fitted with sensors detecting and measuring the distance to the flange, and these sensors ensure automatic change of traversing direction when the cable is next to the flange.

The software controlling the precision winding unit is developed to optimise the quantity of product on the reel, eg by avoiding large gaps at the flanges when changing winding direction. During winding the guide arm turns 180 degrees so that the pulleys are always able to run very close to the flange.

The flange detection system makes it superfluous to key in new parameters when changing to another reel size. The precision winding unit automatically adapts the traversing to the mounted reel and it is not necessary to change end-settings.

When a layer is completed and the next one prepared, the guide arm moves up the ball rail by a distance equal to the product diameter in order to keep the product in its horizontal position.

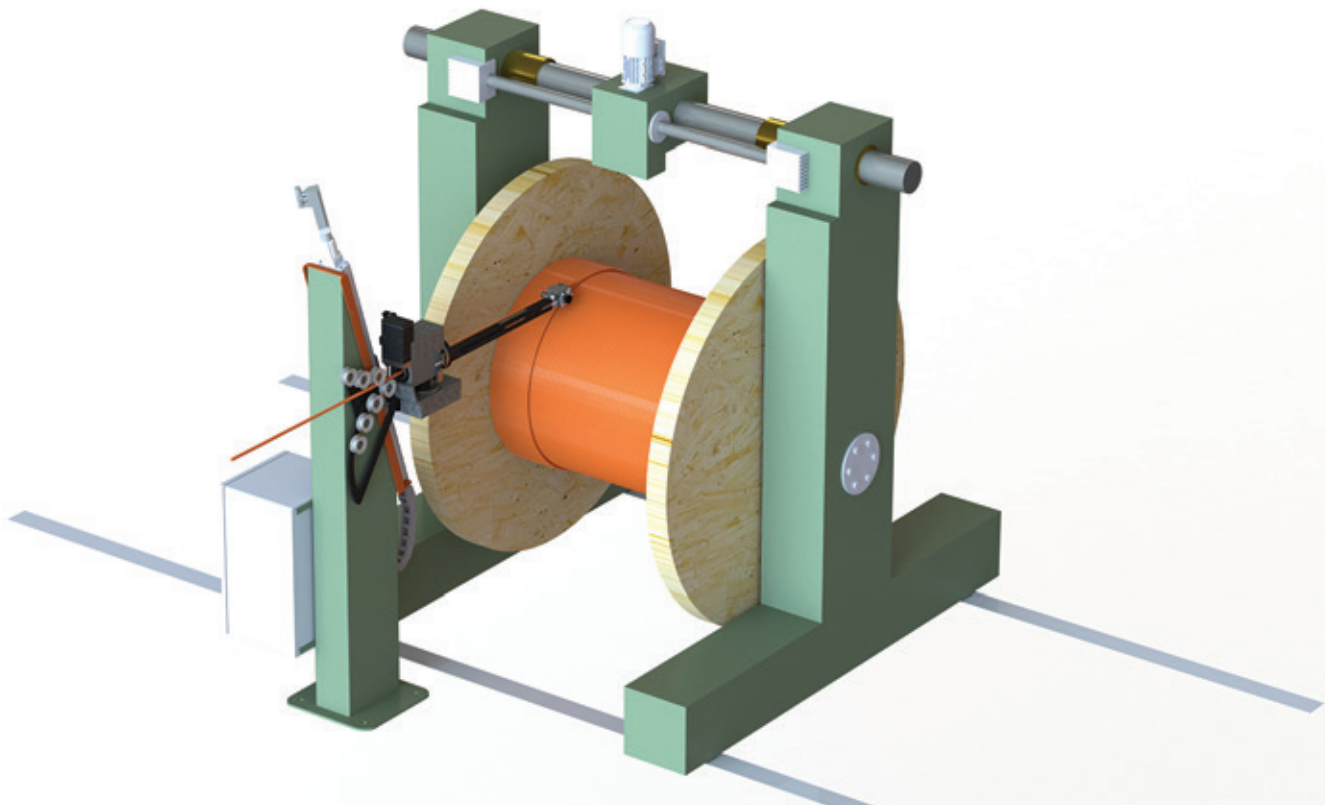
The inlet of the precision winding unit consists of a number of pulleys, which are mounted in a funnel position and thereby apply a minimum amount of pressure to the product, even though the line height changes as the reel becomes full. Using the precision winding unit makes it possible to fill the reel to the edge of the flanges.

Reels

It is important to position the product as close to the flanges as possible. Generally, it is recommended that flanges do not deviate more than half the product diameter.

If, for example, a product has a diameter of $\varnothing 12\text{mm}$, the flanges must not be more than 6mm off ($\pm 3\text{mm}$). This means that the smaller the product diameter, the higher the demand for perfect reels.

For a number of years Roblon has supplied take-ups with integrated precision winding units, capable of handling reels ranging from $\varnothing 380$ to $\varnothing 1,400\text{mm}$ with a max gross weight of 1,800kg, and winding products ranging from $\varnothing 3$ to $\varnothing 16\text{mm}$.



▲ Take-up/winding unit

Some of the take-ups have been in use for the last 15 years, winding steel wires with a minimum of maintenance, and this underlines the durability of the technology.

Integration

The new stand-alone precision winding unit can be integrated in existing traversing take-up units and control the traversing speed. The software is developed to be integrated with a minimum of impact on the existing take-up control.

The precision winding unit can exchange signals with the take-up or with the line control by use of either analogue or digital signals. The precision winding unit is based on the latest, low energy PLCs and inverters and as standard supplied with Siemens or Allen-Bradley solutions.

Furthermore, the stand-alone precision winding unit can form part of or exchange signals with the safety circuit of the existing take-up. It is supplied with a CE Declaration of Incorporation for partly completed machinery so that the unit can easily be part of an overall CE certification of the complete production line.

The precision winding unit is fastened to the floor in front of the take-up and covers reel sizes from Ø650 to Ø2,600mm.

It has a very compact footprint and, in most cases, it will be possible to position it inside an existing fencing around the take-up. The unit is easy to install as it is bolted to the floor by use of four bolts and requires a minimum amount of electrical connections to the take-up.

It is possible to enter a number of recipes that are programmed with the relevant parameters for the different products and dimensions. The recipes can be accessed either from a separate control panel, from the take-up control panel or from the line control.

Summary

When installing a RobCoil™ together with an existing traversing take-up, the need for manual guiding during winding is eliminated. Manual handling is required only when changing reels.

When an empty reel is inserted, the product must be threaded and fixed to the barrel. The reel is then aligned and the winding may commence. ■

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▲ ThermoTag 600 von IML

Das im UK ansässige Unternehmen IML Labels and Systems Ltd verfügt über umfangreiche Erfahrung und Kenntnis im Bereich Fertigung von Hochleistungs-Kennzeichnungen und selbstklebenden Etiketten, um unter ungünstigen Bedingungen, extremen Temperaturen und unsachgemäßen Handhabungen standzuhalten. ThermoTag 600 kann

Temperaturen bis zu +600°C widerstehen und ist ein einzigartiges Produkt für IML.

ThermoTag 600 wurde vom Unternehmen in Verbindung mit führenden Metallherstellern entwickelt, die in einer früheren Phase des Produktionsablaufs einsetzende Kennzeichen benötigten, um die Effizienz zu maximieren.

Als zusätzlicher Vorteil ist ThermoTag 600 auch gegen Zerdrücken und Zerknittern beständig, damit die Datenlesbarkeit bei unsachgemäßen

Handhabungen und mechanischer Steuerung erhalten bleibt. ThermoTag 600 kann blanko oder vorab gedruckt in bis zu sechs Farben in Rollen geliefert werden, die sich für den Wärmetransfer-Aufdruck eignen und eine alternative Lösung zu traditionellen Metallkennzeichnungen bieten.

Die reißichere Kennzeichen „Rip-proof“ von IML eignen sich ideal, wenn Bruchfestigkeit und Langlebigkeit Ihre wichtigsten Anforderungen darstellen. Anfang der 90er Jahre von IML bahnbrechend eingeführt, bleiben Rip-proof seit 20 Jahren einer der erfolgreichsten Produkte.

In neun gesonderten, unterschiedlichen Farben verfügbar, um eine einfache weitreichende Farbkodierung zu unterstützen, werden diese Kennzeichen Rip-proof blanko oder in bis zu drei Farben vorab gedruckt geliefert und können mit unterschiedlichen Informationen vom Kunden durch Einsatz eines Wärmetransferdrucker übergedruckt werden.

Rip-proof schnell auch nach der Faltenbildung und dem Quetschen zurück, eignet sich somit besonders für schwierige Produktionsumgebungen und widersteht Temperaturbereichen von -40°C bis +200°C.

IML Labels and Systems Ltd – UK
Website: www.iml-labels.co.uk

Kategorie-8-Datenkabel für Datacenter

Dätwyler hat „CU 8203 4P“ entwickelt, ein erstes S/FTP-AWG23-Kabel, das die voraussichtlichen Anforderungen der neuen Kategorie 8.2 gemäß ISO/IEC-Entwurf erfüllen soll.

Mit den Normentwürfen IEC 46C/976/NP und ISO/IEC TR 11801-99-1 sind zurzeit die neuen internationalen Standards für Kategorie-8-Kupferkabel sowie für symmetrische Verkabelungssysteme für 40 Gbit/s in der Entwicklung. Entgegen den noch vor einigen Jahren diskutierten Normvorschlägen für symmetrische Datenkabel der Kategorie 8 – damals für die strukturierte Gebäudeverkabelung und mit einer Grenzfrequenz von maximal 1,2 Gigahertz (GHz) – ist in den internationalen Standardisierungsgremien heute die ausschließliche Verwendung im Datacenter und eine Grenzfrequenz von maximal 2 GHz vorgesehen.



▲ Ein erstes kompaktes Kabel von Dätwyler

Der Standard ISO/IEC TR 11801-99-1 definiert eine Punkt-zu-Punkt-Verbindung zwischen aktiven Geräten mit einer maximalen Distanz von 30 Metern, die aus 26 Metern Installationskabel und jeweils 2 Meter Patchkabel auf beiden Seiten besteht. Eine solche Verbindung könnte im Datacenter die kostspieligeren Faseroptik- und Twinax-Verkabelungen ersetzen.

Obwohl die neuen Normen sich noch im Entwurfsstadium befinden, hat Dätwyler bereits ein erstes kompaktes S/FTP-AWG23-Kabel „CU 8203 4P“ entwickelt, das die voraussichtlichen Anforderungen der neuen Kategorie 8.2 gemäß ISO/IEC-Entwurf in vollem Umfang erfüllen soll.

Neuentwicklungen mit S/FTP und F/FTP sowie die entsprechenden Patchkabel (Flexkabel) sollen folgen. Bei den neuen Kabeln legt Dätwyler eigenen Angaben zufolge besonderes Augenmerk darauf, dass sie hinsichtlich der Dämpfung (NEXT, PS-NEXT) große Reserven zu den diskutierten bzw. definierten Grenzwerten bieten.

Dätwyler Cables GmbH – Deutschland
Website: www.cabling.datwyler.com

Neue Geschäftsführer

Dr Ralf Bergmann und Bernhard Nick sind zu gleichberechtigten Geschäftsführern der Highvolt Prüftechnik Dresden GmbH berufen worden.

Sie treten die Nachfolge von Dr. Bernd Kübler an, der nach elf erfolgreichen Jahren am 30. September 2013 in den Ruhestand wechselt.

Herr Bergmann studierte Elektrotechnik an der TU Dresden und promovierte auf dem Gebiet der Hochspannungs- und Hochstromtechnologie. Er ist seit 2003 als Vertriebsleiter bei Highvolt für den internationalen Geschäftsausbau verantwortlich. Zuvor war er unter anderem als Projektleiter in den Bereichen Technik, Sales/Marketing bei Siemens tätig.

Herr Nick studierte Elektrotechnik an der Universität der Bundeswehr München und absolvierte ein Aufbaustudium zum



▲ Dr Ralf Bergmann



▲ Bernhard Nick

Wirtschaftsingenieur an der FernUniversität Hagen.

Nick trat 1998 in die Maschinenfabrik Reinhausen GmbH ein und war dort im Kerngeschäft engagiert, zuletzt als Leiter Vertrieb OEM-Geschäft. Ab 2010 übernahm er die Leitung der Business Unit Power Quality (PQ) und verantwortet seit 2012 zusätzlich das Geschäftsfeld der Power Distribution (PD).

„Highvolt ist in den vergangenen Jahren enorm gewachsen. Wir sind

weltweit Innovationsführer auf dem Gebiet der Hochspannungs- und Hochstromprüftechnik. Der Umsatz stieg von etwa 8 Millionen Euro im Jahr 2002 auf zirka 50 Millionen Euro im letzten Jahr“, so Dr. Bergmann.

„Auch für die nächsten Jahre haben wir uns ehrgeizige Ziele gesetzt. Mit der Verstärkung der Unternehmensleitung ist Highvolt dafür gut gerüstet.“

„Wir haben Kunden überall auf der Welt und mehr als 90% des Umsatzes werden im Export realisiert. Mit einem Marktanteil von 35% ist Highvolt in seiner Branche die Nummer 1“, ergänzt Herr Nick. „Wir werden die erfolgreiche strategische Ausrichtung konsequent fortsetzen, um die Führungsposition von Highvolt auf dem Weltmarkt weiter auszubauen.“

Highvolt Prüftechnik Dresden GmbH – Deutschland

Website: www.highvolt.de

Sie sind Rekordbrecher!

ES war ein rekordbrechendes drittes Quartal für den führenden Hersteller von Draht- und Kabelschmiermitteln Metalube, das um 33 Prozent gegenüber seinem vorherigen Rekordquartal gestiegen ist, während sich die Gesamtverkäufe um 25 Prozent gegenüber dem Vorjahr erhöht haben. Somit wird der Wachstumstrend der letzten drei Jahre fortgeführt, der den Umsatz verdoppelte.

Übereinstimmend mit dieser guten Nachricht und als Teil der Exportwachstumswoche der UK-Regierung „Export Growth Week“, hieß kürzlich das Unternehmen Clive Drinkwater, Leiter des Nordwestgebiets, UK Trade & Investment (Wirtschaftsförderung der britischen Regierung), in seinem Werk in Manchester willkommen.

„Wir exportieren fast alle unsere Produkte und es ist sehr förderlich, dass die UKTI unsere Industrietätigkeit unterstützt. Clive Drinkwater hat mit uns eingehend die vielen Möglichkeiten und Herausforderungen besprochen, denen wir als erfolgreicher Exporteur gegenüberstehen“, so Douglas Hunt, kaufmännischer Leiter.

Das Unternehmen plant sein Geschäftsjahresende (August) mit der



▲ Bild von links, Clive Drinkwater, Leiter UKTI (Nordwest), Douglas Hunt, kaufmännischer Leiter von Metalube, Peter Thompson, UKTI, und Robert Brown, Vorsitzender von Metalube

Vorstellung seines wohlverdienten und sehr prestigeträchtigen Queen's Awards zu feiern. Der Lordleutnant von Greater Manchester wird die Auszeichnung Donnerstag, den 5. September 2013 mit seinen Mitarbeitern, Familien und lokalen Würdenträger vorstellen.

„Der Präsentationstag wird mit unserer jährlichen Verkaufsschulungswoche zusammenfallen, wenn viele unserer internationalen Teams aus Indien, China, Malaysia und Brasilien bei uns in

Manchester zusammenkommen werden“, fügte Hunt hinzu.

„Es wird uns die Gelegenheit geben, alle unseren Mitarbeitern für ihr großes Engagement zu danken. Ein Erfolg wie dieser, ergibt sich nicht von selbst und wir sind privilegiert mit einem derartig phantastischen Team zusammenzuarbeiten.“

Metalube Ltd – UK

Website: www.metalube.co.uk

Automatische Präzisionswicklung mit RobCoil™

Von Per Christensen Holm – pec@roblon.com, Allan Nielsen – an@roblon.com und Jesper Joergensen – jej@roblon.com

Das Wickeln der Produkte auf Scheibenspulen könnte hohe Anforderungen an die Wickelqualität stellen, was die präzise Anordnung des Produkts, Schicht für Schicht, betrifft. Die Technik des Präzisionswickelns ist bereits als Bestandteil des High-End-Aufwicklers verfügbar, doch wurde jetzt eine neue Stand-alone-Maschine entwickelt, die gegenüber dem Aufwickler installiert werden kann und die manuelle Führung ersetzt.

Vorteile perfekten Wickelns

Ein hochwertiges Wickeln wird aus mehreren unterschiedlichen Gründen gefordert, der wichtigste darunter ist zu vermeiden, dass das Produkt beschädigt wird. Eine Maximierung der Produktlänge je Spule könnte eine weitere Anforderung sein, und eine Spule nebeneinander mit perfekt positioniertem Produkt von Anfang bis zum Ende wird die beste Anwendung der Spulenkapazität bieten. Wenn das Produkt in einem

▼ Präzisionsaufwickler



▲ Präzisionsumspuleinheit



darauf folgenden Herstellungs- oder Installationsverfahren einzusetzen ist, so wird das perfekt gewickelte Produkt die Produktivität erhöhen, weil diese Verfahren bei gesteigerter Geschwindigkeit und höherer Sicherheit erfolgen können.

Als Beispiel könnte man Lichtwellenleiterkabel nennen, wo es entscheidend ist, dass das Kabel während des Wickelns nicht kreuzt, denn das könnte eine Quetschung des Kabels verursachen und eine spätere Installation erschweren, z. B. wenn es in enge Rohrleitungen geblasen wird.

Die Signaldämpfung ist ein weiteres Risiko unsachgemäßen Wickelns. Werden Stahldrähte gewickelt, die in darauf folgenden Produktionsverfahren einzusetzen sind, so ist es wichtig, dass sich keine losen Drähte auf der Spule befinden, die beim Abwickeln kreuzen könnten und potentiell die Spule blockieren und demzufolge den Bruch des Drahts verursachen könnten. Schließlich machen perfekt gewickelte Spulen einen besseren Eindruck auf den Endnutzer - eine Tatsache, die nicht vernachlässigt werden sollte.

Produkte/materialien

Ein hochwertiges Wickeln wird für eine Auswahl an Produkten vorteilhaft sein, wie z. B. Kabel, Kunststoffrohre, Schläuche, Drähte und dünne Stahlrohre. Es besteht die Möglichkeit verschiedene Produktformen zu wickeln, einschließlich runde, viereckige und 8-förmige. Einige Eigenschaften erleichtern die automatische Führung eines Produkts, es ist z. B. leichter damit ein weniger flexibles oder steifes Produkt mit einer glatten Oberfläche zu wickeln.

Das Produkt muss dem Anteil an Spannung widerstehen können, der gefordert wird, um das Produkt auf der Spule anzuordnen. Wenn allerdings ein Produkt manuell geführt wird, ist auch das Anlegen einer gewissen Spannung erforderlich. Der Gebrauch der Präzisionsführungseinheit würde höchstwahrscheinlich die Spannung minimieren, da die Position des Produkts der Spule gegenüber sehr nahe ist. Eine reduzierte Spannung des Produkts bedeutet weniger Druck auf die Innenschichten und demzufolge wird das Risiko der Produktbeschädigung beseitigt.

Standardkabel und ähnliche Produkte mit einem Durchmesser von mindestens 4mm können sehr hochwertig gewickelt werden. Auch Stahldrähte und -rohre mit einem noch geringeren Durchmesser können mit Einsatz der Präzisionswickelmaschine gewickelt werden. Als Voraussetzung einer perfekt gewickelten Spule gilt eine selbst hochwertige Spule. Je höher die Qualität der Spule, desto einfacher die Erzielung eines zufriedenstellenden Produktwickelns.

Sicherheit

Heute ist es manchmal erforderlich, das Kabel manuell auf die Spule zu führen. Dieses Verfahren kann sowohl zeitaufwendig wie gefährlich sein. Der Bediener, der das Produkt führt wird sich oft ausschließlich auf das Wickelverfahren konzentrieren und, je nach Produkt, unmittelbar gegenüber dem Aufwickler stehen müssen.

Wenn man sich in der Nähe des Aufwicklers befindet, geht man die Gefahr ein zwischen dem Produkt und der Spule eingeklemmt zu werden, was zu ernsthaften Verletzungen führen könnte. Da die Gesundheits- und Sicherheitsanforderungen immer strenger werden, wird die manuelle Führung des Kabels gegenüber dem Aufwickler immer schwieriger, denn Aufwickler sind heute völlig abgesperrt. Selbst wenn es möglich ist das Kabel manuell auf die Spule zu führen, könnte es sein, dass der Abstand vom Bediener zum Aufwickler ein perfektes Wickeln verhindert.

Riemenscheiben

Um die bestmögliche Steuerung über das Produkt zu erzielen, ist es wichtig das Produkt so nahe wie möglich zur Spule zu führen. Als Schlüsselparameter gilt den niedrigstmöglichen Abstand zwischen den Riemenscheiben, die das Produkt führen, und der Spule zu haben.

Das Produkt wird durch einen Satz Riemenscheiben geführt, die entsprechend dem Produktdurchmesser dimensioniert sind. Wegen der kompakten Größe dieser Riemenscheiben, kann der Abstand zur Spule minimiert werden. Darüber hinaus sind die Riemenscheiben geformt, damit sie das Produkt sehr nahe zum Flansch anordnen können. Der Führungsarm wird mit Sensoren ausgestattet, die den Abstand zum Flansch erfassen und messen. Diese Sensoren sichern einen automatischen Wechsel der Verlegerichtung, wenn das Kabel dem Flansch nahe ist.

Die Software zur Prüfung der Präzisionswickelmaschine ist für die Optimierung der Produktmenge auf der Spule entworfen worden, z. B. indem große Lücken bei den Flanschen verhindert werden, wenn sich die Wickelrichtung ändert. Während des Wickelns wird der Führungsarm um 180 Grad gedreht, damit es den Riemenscheiben immer ermöglicht wird, dem Flansch sehr nahe zu sein. Mit dem Flansch-Erfassungssystem ist es überflüssig, neue Parameter einzugeben, wenn man auf eine andere Spulengröße übergeht. Die Präzisionswickelmaschine passt die Verlegung automatisch der montierten Spule an und eine Änderung der Endeinstellung ist nicht erforderlich.

Wenn eine Schicht vervollständigt und die nächste vorbereitet wird, verlegt der Führungsarm die Kugelschiene um den Abstand vor, der dem Produktdurchmesser gleicht, damit das Produkt seine horizontale Anordnung einhält.

Der Einlass der Präzisionswickelmaschine besteht aus einer Anzahl an Riemenscheiben, die in einer Trichterposition montiert sind und daher dem Produkt eine geringe Druckmenge anlegen, auch wenn sich die Höhe der Linie ändert während die Spule voll wird. Dank des Einsatzes der Präzisionswickelmaschine, kann die Spule bis zum Rand der Flanschen gefüllt werden.

Spulen

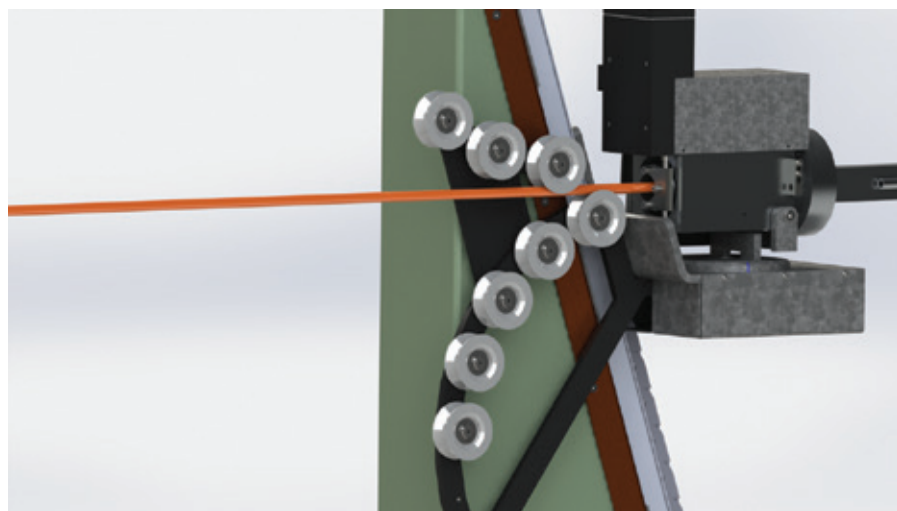
Es ist wichtig, das Produkt dem Flansch so nahe wie möglich anzuordnen. Im Allgemeinen wird empfohlen, dass die Flansche nicht mehr als die Hälfte vom Produktdurchmesser abweichen. Wenn z. B. ein Produkt einen Durchmesser von 12mm aufweist, dürfen die Flansche nicht über 6mm (± 3 mm) abweichen. Das bedeutet je kleiner der Produktdurchmesser, desto höher der Bedarf Spulen zu perfektionieren.

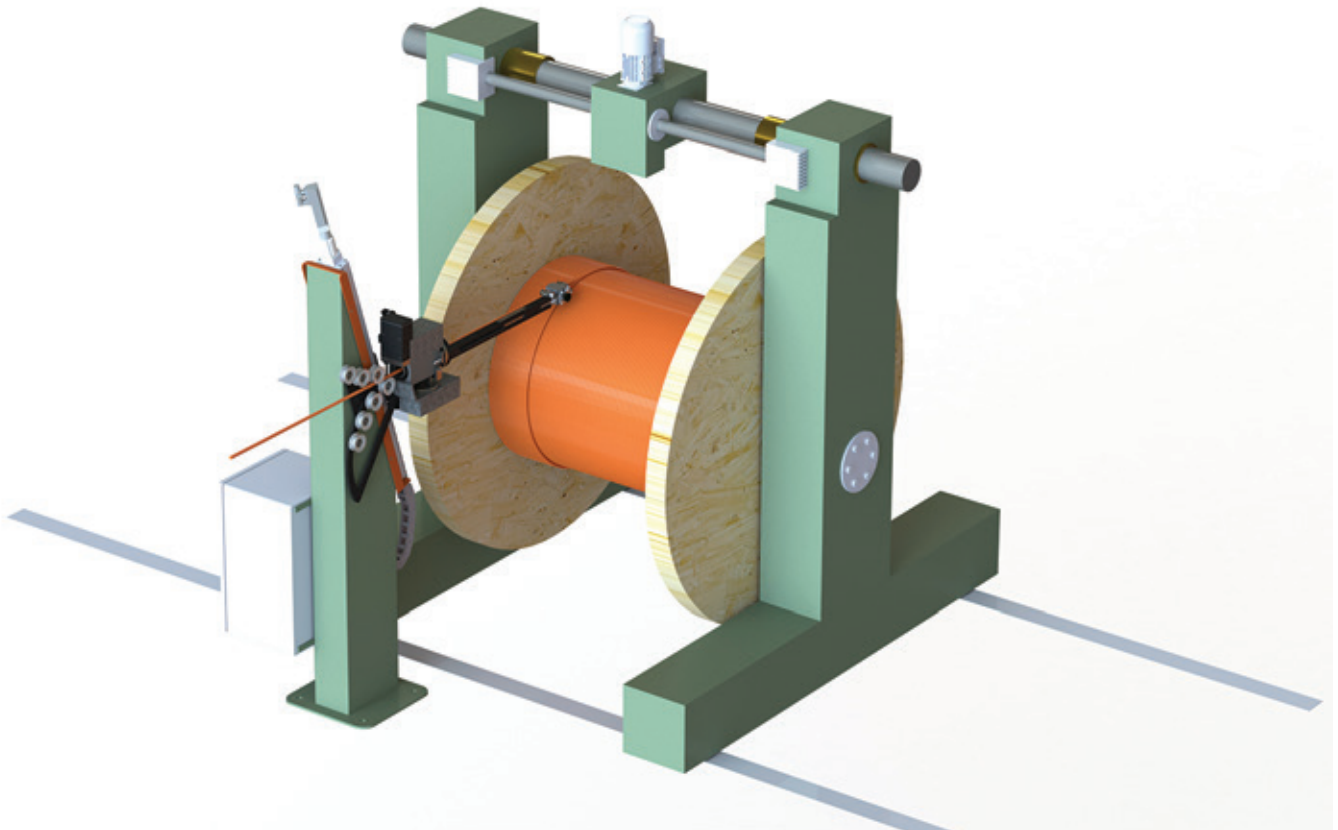
Mehrere Jahre lang hat die Firma Roblon Aufwickler mit integrierten Präzisionswickelmaschinen angeboten,

▼ Führungsarm



▼ Einlass-Riemenscheiben





▲ Aufwickler/Wickeleinheit

die fähig waren Spulen mit einem Durchmesser von 380 bis 1.400mm, einem Bruttogewicht von höchstens 1.800kg und Wickelprodukte mit einem Durchmesser von 3 bis 16mm zu handhaben. Einige dieser Aufwickler sind seit den letzten 15 Jahren in Betrieb und haben Stahldrähte mit geringer Wartung gewickelt. Das unterstreicht die Haltbarkeit der Technik.

Integrierung

Die neue Stand-alone-Präzisionswickleinheit kann in bestehenden traversierenden Aufwicklern integriert werden und die Verlegegeschwindigkeit steuern. Die Software ist entwickelt worden, um mit geringem Einfluss in die bestehende Aufwicklersteuerung integriert zu werden.

Durch Einsatz von Analog- und Digitalsignalen, kann die Präzisionswickleinheit die Signale mit der Aufwickler- oder mit der Liniensteuerung austauschen.

Die Präzisionswickleinheit basiert auf den neuesten, energiearmen SPSs und Inverter und auf die zum Standardangebot gehörende Siemens- oder Allen-Bradley-Lösungen.

Darüber hinaus kann die Stand-alone-Präzisionswickleinheit Teil des Sicherheitskreises des bestehenden Aufwicklers sein oder Signale damit austauschen. Die Einheit wird mit einer EG-Einbauerklärung für unvollständige Maschinen geliefert, um einfach ein Teil einer Gesamterklärung der EG für die komplette Produktionslinie sein zu können.

Die Präzisionswickleinheit wird am Boden befestigt, gegenüber dem Aufwickler und deckt Spulengrößen von Ø650 bis Ø2.600mm ab. Sie besitzt eine sehr geringe Stellfläche und kann in den meisten Fällen im Inneren einer Absperrung angeordnet werden, die rundum den Aufwickler vorhanden ist. Die Einheit ist leicht installierbar, da sie am Boden durch vier Bolzen verschraubt wird und eine geringe Anzahl an elektrischen Anschlüssen zum Aufwickler erforderlich sind.

Es besteht die Möglichkeit eine Anzahl an Rezepten einzugeben, die mit den entsprechenden Parametern für unterschiedliche Produkte und Abmessungen programmiert werden. Der Zugang zu den Rezepten wird von einem gesonderten Bedienerpult, vom Abwickler-Bedienerpult oder von der Liniensteuerung ermöglicht.

Zusammenfassung

Bei der Installation eines RobCoil™ gemeinsam mit einem bestehenden traversierenden Aufwickler, wird der Bedarf nach einer manuellen Führung während des Wickelns beseitigt. Die manuelle Handhabung ist nur erforderlich, wenn die Spulen ausgewechselt werden. Wenn eine leere Spule eingefügt wird, muss das Produkt eingefädelt und an der Trommel befestigt werden. Danach wird die Spule ausgerichtet und die Wickelung kann beginnen. ■

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Маркируйте и ведите записи

О п р е д е л е н и е местонахождения и списание потерь при хранении является глобальной тратой времени в любом бизнесе.

Если Ваша компания производит высококачественную продукцию, на это уходит много времени и средств. Хорошие новости заключаются в том, что проблему можно относительно легко решить при помощи эффективной системы идентификации продукции и отслеживания.

Компания «IML Labels and Systems Ltd» с офисом в Великобритании имеет богатый опыт и знания в производстве высокоэффективной маркировки и самоклеящейся этикетки, которая выдерживает неблагоприятные условия, экстремальные температуры и грубое обращение.

«Thermotag 600» выдерживает температуры до +600°C и является уникальной продукцией «IML».



▲ «Thermotag 600» компании «IML»

«Thermotag 600» был разработан компанией совместно с ведущими производителями металла, призывающими к использованию маркировки, которую можно использовать на ранней стадии производственного цикла для увеличения производительности.

В качестве дополнительного преимущества «Thermotag 600» также выдерживает смятие и сморщивание для сохранения четкости данных в средах с

грубым обращением и механическим управлением. «Thermotag 600» может поставляться без окраски или предварительно окрашенным вплоть до шести цветов в рулонах, подходящих для термопечати, предлагающий альтернативное решение для традиционной металлической маркировки.

Маркировка «IML» устойчивая к разрывам и идеально подходит, если предел прочности и выносливости являются Вашими основными потребностями. Впервые изобретенная

«IML» в начале 1990, устойчивая к разрывам, остается одной из самых популярных продукции 20 лет спустя. Имеющиеся в 9 различных цветах для обеспечения цветного кодирования широкого диапазона, они поставляются неокрашенными или предварительно раскрашенными в три цвета и в дальнейшем могут быть перекрашены для нанесения различной информации заказчиком при использовании термотрансферного принтера.

Устойчивая к разрывам маркировка также пружинит при смятии и сморщивании, что делает ее идеальной для жестких условий производства, она выдерживает диапазон температур от -40°C до +200°C.

«IML» также производит диапазон сверхпрочных самоклеящихся этикеток, которые клеятся на неровную, жесткую или маслянистую поверхности и выдерживают погодные воздействия на протяжении долгого времени. Специализированный экспортный департамент занимается международными запросами и заказами для обеспечения наличия и правильности документации.

«IML Labels and Systems Ltd» – Великобритания
Вебсайт: www.imal-labels.co.uk

Категория 8 кабеля для центра сбора данных

«Datwyler» разработала 'CU 8203 4P', первый компактный кабель S/FTP AWG23, который полностью отвечает требованиям категории 8.2, как указано в проекте ISO/IEC.

Новые международные стандарты для медного кабеля сбалансированной кабельной системы для 40 Гбит/с категории 8 в настоящее время разрабатываются в качестве проекта стандартов IEC 46C/976/NP и ISO/IEC TR 11801-99-1.

В отличие от кабелей передачи данных симметричная категория 8, обсуждаемая пару лет назад – в то время для кабельных систем зданий с максимальными ограничениями частоты в 2 гигагерц – единственное использование, предусмотренное сегодня международными органами стандартизации в центрах



▲ Первый компактный кабель «Datwyler»

сбора данных с максимальным ограничением частоты в 2 гигагерца.

Стандарт ISO/IEC TR 11801-99-1 определяет двухточечное соединение между активными устройствами при максимальном расстоянии в 30 метров, включая 26 метров монтажного кабеля и 2 метра соединительного кабеля с другой стороны. Такое

соединение может заменить дорогой оптоволоконный и двуаксиальный кабель в центрах сбора данных. Хотя новые стандарты еще на этапе проекта, «Datwyler» уже разработал 'CU 8203 4P', первый компактный S/FTP AWG23 кабель, который полностью отвечает требованиям категории 8.2, как указано в проекте ISO/IEC.

Далее последуют новые разработки с S/FTP и F/FTP, а также подходящие шнуры кабеля (гибкий кабель). «Datwyler» обращает особое внимание на тот факт, что с учетом затухания (NEXT, PS-NEXT) новые кабели обеспечат огромное количество резервных способностей при ограничении обсужденных и указанных показателей.

«Datwyler Cables GmbH» – Германия
Вебсайт: www.cabling.datwyler.com

Новые управляющие директора

Доктор наук Ральф Бергман и Бернхард Ник были назначены членами правления компании «Highvolt Prüftechnik Dresden GmbH» Они сменяют доктора наук Бернда Кюблера, который выйдет на пенсию после 11 лет успешной работы 30 сентября 2013. Господин Бергман изучал электротехнику в Дрезденском технологическом университете и защитил докторскую в сфере высоковольтных и силовых технологий. Он работал на посту директора по продажам, в чью ответственность входило международное бизнес развитие «Highvolt» с 2003 года. Его предыдущие позиции включают менеджера проекта в технологическом отделе и отделе по продажам/маркетингу в «Siemens».

Господин Ник получил специальность электротехника в университете ФРГ в Мюнхене и продолжил образование в сфере инжинирингового управления в Гаагском университете. В 1998 он



▲ Доктор наук Ральф Бергман



▲ Бернхард Ник

работал в «Maschinenfabrik Reinhausen GmbH» и был задействован в основной деятельности компании, последнее время в качестве директора отдела продаж комплексного оборудования.

Он продолжил карьеру и был назначен в 2010 менеджером подразделения качества электроэнергии и в дополнении принял обязанности подразделения распределения электроэнергии в 2012. «Highvolt» очень выросла за последние годы. Мы

являемся передовыми мировыми лидерами в сфере высоковольтных и силовых испытаний и наш оборот увеличился с приблизительно 8 млн. евро в 2002 до приблизительно 50 млн. евро в прошлом году», - сообщил доктор наук Бергман. «Мы также установили амбициозные цели на будущее. Благодаря укреплению команды управления, «Highvolt» хорошо оснащена для будущего».

«У нас есть заказчики по всему миру и более 90 процентов наших продаж составляет экспорт». С рыночной долей в 35 процентов «Highvolt» занимает лидирующую позицию в своей сфере промышленности», - добавил господин Ник. «Мы будем сохранять наши успешные стратегии, чтобы в будущем надежно укрепить позицию «Highvolt» на мировом рынке».

«Highvolt Prüftechnik Dresden GmbH» – Германия
Вебсайт: www.highvolt.de

Они – рекордсмены!

Для ведущего производителя смазки кабеля и проволоки «Metalube» третий квартал был рекордным, что побило рекорд предыдущего квартала на 33 процента, и общий объем продаж увеличился на 25 процентов по сравнению с прошлым годом. Это продолжает тенденцию поста за последние три года, когда продажи увеличились вдвое.

Приуроченным к данному событию, а так же как часть проводимой правительством Великобритании Недели роста экспорта, стал прием на заводе в Манчестере Клайва Дринквотера, директора по торговле и инвестициям в Великобритании (северо-запад).

«Мы экспортируем почти всю нашу продукцию, и нам приятно, что министерство торговли и инвестиций Великобритании поддерживает нашу промышленность. Клайв Дринквотер подробно обсудил с нами многие возможности и проблемы, с которыми мы можем столкнуться, будучи успешными экспортерами», - доложил Дуглас Хант, коммерческий директор.

Компания планирует отпраздновать конец финансового года (в августе)



▲ Слева Клайв Дринквотер, глава министерства торговли и инвестиций (северо-запад); Дуглас Хант, коммерческий директор «Metalube»; Питер Томпсон, министерство торговли и инвестиций и Роберт Браун, председатель «Metalube»

получением честно заслуженных и крайне престижных королевских наград. Генерал-губернатор графства Большой Манчестер представит к награде сотрудников в четверг, 5 сентября 2013 в присутствии семей и местных официальных лиц.

«День награждения совпадает с нашей ежегодной неделей обучения продаже, когда многие международные команды

из Индии, Китая, Малайзии и Бразилии приедут в Манчестер», - добавил господин Хант. «Это даст возможность поблагодарить наших сотрудников за их тяжкий труд. Подобный успех не приходит сам по себе, нам повезло, так как мы работаем с такой потрясающей командой.»

«Metalube Ltd» – Великобритания
Вебсайт: www.metalube.co.uk

Автоматическая точная намотка при помощи «RobCoil™»

Пер Кристенсен Хольм, Аллан Нильсен, Йеспер Йоргенсен – Roblon Industry, Roblon A/S

Продукция для намотки на кассеты может предъявлять строгие требования к качеству намотки относительно расположения продукции точно слой за слоем. Точность технологии намотки стала доступной, являясь неотъемлемой частью высокотехнологичных устройств, но в настоящее время появился разработанный отдельный станок и заменил ручное управление.

Преимущества идеальной намотки

Высококачественная намотка требуется по ряду различных причин, самой важной из которых является предотвращение повреждения продукции. Максимальное увеличение длины продукции каждой катушки может быть еще одним требованием, и катушка с продукцией, расположенной

▼ Устройство точности намотки



▲ Устройство натяжения

идеально на одной линии от начала до конца обеспечит вам наилучшее использование емкости катушки. Если продукция должна использоваться в последующем производстве или процессе установки, идеально намотанная продукция способна увеличить производительность, так как данные процессы могут происходить с увеличенной скоростью и улучшенной безопасностью.

Примером может служить кабельное оптоволокно, для которого отсутствие пересечения при намотке является принципиально важным, так как это может привести к сжатию кабеля и трудностям в дальнейшей установке, например, при прокладке кабеля в тесные проходы.

Затухание сигнала – это еще один риск при плохой намотке. При намотке стальной проволоки, которая используется в последующих

производственных процессах, важно не допустить ослабление проводки на катушке, которое может запутаться при размотке и, вероятно, привести к закреплению катушки и разрыву проволоки. В заключение, идеально намотанные катушки являются более предпочтительными для конечного пользователя - факт, которым нельзя пренебречь.

Продукция/ материалы

Высококачественная намотка будет преимуществом для ряда продукции, такого как: кабели, пластмассовые трубки, трубы, проволока и тонкие стальные трубки. Возможно наматывать различную форму продукции, включая круглую, квадратную и цифрой 8. Некоторые характеристики облегчают

автоматическое направление продукции, к примеру, легче наматывать менее гибкую или жесткую продукцию с гладкой поверхностью.

Продукция должна обладать способностью выдержать объем натяжения, необходимый для расположения на катушке. Однако, при ручном направлении продукции также необходимо применять определенное натяжение. Использование устройства для точности направления может уменьшить натяжение, так как продукция располагается близко к катушке. Уменьшенное натяжение продукции означает меньшее давление на внутренние слои и, таким образом, исключается риск порчи продукции.

Стандартные кабели и похожая продукция с диаметром минимум 4 мм могут наматываться с очень высоким качеством. Стальная проволока и стальные трубки еще меньшего диаметра могут быть также намотаны при использовании устройства для точности намотки. Необходимым условием для идеально намотанной катушки служит сама катушка высокого качества. Чем лучше качество катушки, тем легче получить удовлетворительную намотку продукции.

Безопасность

Сегодня иногда требуется направлять кабель на катушку вручную, и данный процесс может быть как требующим много времени, так и опасным. Человеку, направляющему продукцию, придется часто концентрировать свое внимание на процессе намотки и в зависимости от продукции, ему может потребоваться стоять прямо перед устройством намотки. Положение рядом с устройством намотки вызывает риск зажатия между продукцией и катушкой, что может в результате привести к серьезным телесным повреждениям.

Так как требования здоровья и безопасности становятся более строгими, чрезвычайно тяжело выполнять ручную подачу кабеля перед устройством намотки, так как сегодня оно полностью огорожено. Даже когда ручная подача кабеля на катушку возможна, расстояние между оператором и устройством намотки может помешать идеальной намотке.

Натяжные блоки

Для достижения наилучшего управления продукцией, важно подавать продукцию как можно ближе к катушке. Ключевым

параметром является минимально допустимое расстояние между катушкой и продукцией.

Продукция подается через ряд натяжных блоков, размер которых соответствует диаметру продукции. Из-за компактного размера данных блоков, расстояние до катушки может быть минимальным. Кроме того, блоки натяжения имеют такую форму, при которой они могут располагать продукцию очень близко к кромке.

Направляющий рычаг приводится в действие сенсорами, показывающими и измеряющими расстояние до кромки, и данные сенсоры обеспечивают автоматическую смену горизонтального направления, когда кабель находится рядом с кромкой.

Программное обеспечение, контролирующее точность устройства

обмотки разработано для оптимизации количества продукции на катушке, например, при устранении больших промежутков у кромки при смене направления намотки. При намотке направляющие рычаги поворачиваются на 180 градусов так, что натяжные блоки всегда способны функционировать очень близко к кромке.

Система обнаружения кромки устраняет данную необходимость в новых параметрах при переходе на другой размер катушки.

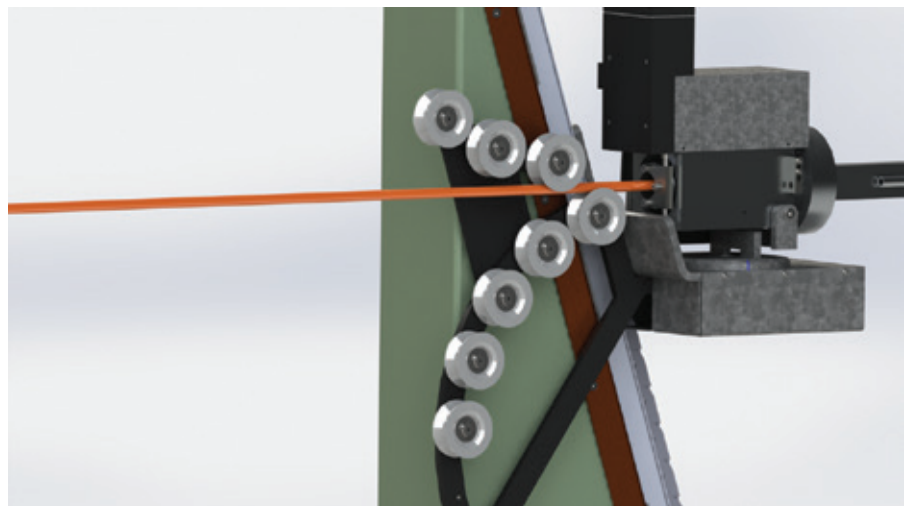
Устройство точности намотки автоматически настраивает направление устанавливаемой катушки, и не нужно менять установки на сопротивление.

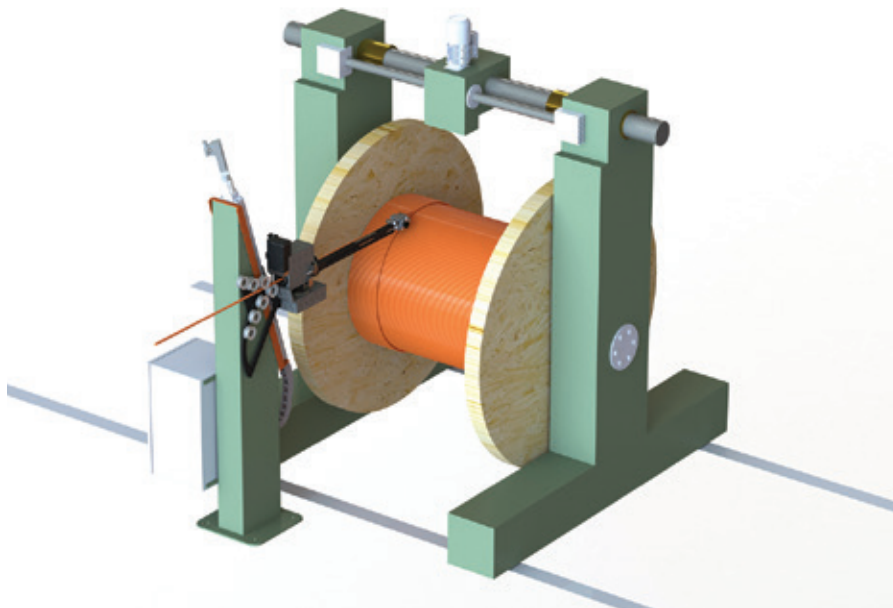
Когда один слой закончен, а другой готовится, направляющий рычаг движется вверх по шариковой линейной направляющей на расстоянии, равном

▼ Рычаг управления



▼ Натяжные блоки на входе





▲ Устройство намотки/натяжения

диаметру продукции для поддержания продукции в горизонтальном положении.

Ввод устройства точности намотки состоит из нескольких блоков намотки, которые устанавливаются в положении раструба и таким образом оказывают минимальное давление на продукцию, даже если высота линии меняется, и катушка полностью наматывается.

Использование устройства точности намотки делает возможным заполнить катушку до краев кромки.

Катушки

Важно поместить продукцию как можно ближе к кромкам. В основном, рекомендуется, чтобы кромки не имели отклонение больше, чем на половину от диаметра продукции. Если, к примеру, диаметр продукции составляет $\varnothing 12$ мм, кромки должны быть не более 6 мм (+3 мм). Это означает, что чем меньше диаметр продукции, тем выше требование в идеальных катушках.

Несколько лет «Roblon» поставлял наматыватели со встроенными устройствами точности намотки, способными работать с катушками диаметром от $\varnothing 380$ до $\varnothing 1,400$ мм, с максимальной общей массой 1800 кг и наматываемой продукцией диаметром от $\varnothing 3$ до $\varnothing 16$ мм. Некоторые наматыватели использовались в течение последних 15 лет, наматывая стальную проволоку с минимальной

защитой, а это подчеркивает прочность технологии.

Интеграция

Новое отдельно функционирующее устройство намотки может быть встроено в существующие перемещающиеся устройства намотки и контролировать скорость перемещения. Программное обеспечение разработано для встраивания с минимальным влиянием на существующее управление намоткой. Устройство точности намотки может обмениваться сигналами с наматывателем или с линией управления при помощи использования аналоговых или цифровых сигналов. Устройство точности намотки основано на новейших системах автоматического управления с низким потреблением энергии и инверторами, как стандарт, обеспеченный решениями «Siemens» или «Allen-Bradley».

Кроме того, самостоятельное устройство точной намотки может создавать часть или обмениваться сигналами со схемой защиты существующего наматывателя. Оно поставляется с декларацией соответствия нормам ЕС для частично укомплектованного оборудования, чтобы установка легко могла быть частью полной производственной линии по сертификации ЕС.

Устройство точности намотки крепится на полу перед наматывателем и работает с размерами катушек от $\varnothing 650$ до $\varnothing 2,600$ мм. Он имеет очень компактный размер

и, в большинстве случаев, возможно поместить существующую ограду вокруг наматывателя. Устройство является легким в установке, так как оно привинчивается к полу при помощи четырех болтов и требует минимального количества электрических соединений с наматывателем.

Возможно ввести большое число параметров, которые программируются вместе с относительными параметрами для различной продукции и размеров. Можно зайти в параметры либо с отдельной панели управления, либо с панели управления наматывателя на линии управления.

Выводы

При установке RobCoil™ вместе с существующей системой перемещения наматывателя, отсутствует необходимость ручного управления при наматывании. Ручное управление необходимо только при смене катушек. Когда устанавливается пустая катушка, продукция должна быть нанизана и укреплена на цилиндре. Затем катушка выравнивается и можно начать намотку. ■

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Étiquetez et gardez vos données

LOCALISER et éliminer les stocks de matériaux perdus entraîne un drainage considérable pour toute entreprise. Si votre entreprise réalise des produits de haute valeur, cela entraîne une perte de temps, d'argent et des problèmes. La bonne nouvelle est que ce problème peut être limité de façon relativement simple en localisant et en suivant les produits en question de façon efficace.

La société anglaise IML Labels and Systems Ltd possède une vaste expérience et la connaissance de la fabrication d'étiquettes

haute performance et des étiquettes autoadhésives conçues pour supporter des conditions difficiles, des températures extrêmes et une manipulation brusque. Les étiquettes Thermotag 600 peuvent supporter une température allant jusqu'à +600°C et elles représentent un produit unique pour IML.

Thermotag 600 a été développée par la société en collaboration



▲ Étiquette Thermotag 600 de IML

avec d'importants producteurs de métaux qui avaient besoin d'étiquettes pouvant être appliquées avant le cycle de production pour maximiser le rendement.

Thermotag 600 offre un avantage supplémentaire, en effet elle peut être froissée et pliée sans pour autant altérer la lisibilité des données dans des installations caractérisées par un contrôle mécanique et une manutention brusque. Thermotag 600 peut être fournie simple ou préimprimée dans des versions offrant jusqu'à 6 couleurs, sous forme de

rouleaux conçus pour la surimpression pour le transfert thermique, en offrant ainsi une alternative aux étiquettes métalliques traditionnelles.

Les étiquettes anti-déchirure "Rip-proof" de IML sont idéales si l'on souhaite obtenir une résistance et une durabilité maximales. Présentées pour la première fois par IML au début des années 90, les étiquettes Rip-proof ont été l'un des

produits les plus en vogue pendant plus de 20 ans. Disponibles en neuf couleurs différentes pour coder avec facilité une ample gamme de couleurs, les étiquettes Rip-proof sont fournies simples ou préimprimées dans des versions offrant jusqu'à trois couleurs et elles peuvent être surimprimées par le client avec des informations supplémentaires en utilisant une imprimante à transfert thermique.

En outre, les étiquettes Rip-proof reprennent leur forme après avoir été pliées et écrasées, ce qui en fait des produits parfaits pour des applications dans des milieux présentant des conditions de production difficiles et des températures allant de -40°C à +200°C.

IML réalise également une série d'étiquettes autoadhésives hautement résistantes conçues pour adhérer à des surfaces irrégulières, rugueuses et huileuses et résistantes aux effets des agents atmosphériques pour des périodes prolongées. Un service exportation dédié s'occupe des demandes de renseignements et des commandes internationales pour garantir que la documentation correspondante est complète et correcte.

IML Labels and Systems Ltd – Royaume Uni

Website: www.imal-labels.co.uk

Câbles de Cat. 8 pour centres de données

Dätwyler a développé le câble CU 8203 4P, un premier câble S/FTP compact AWG23 qui est conforme aux exigences anticipées par la nouvelle Cat. 8.2, spécifiées dans le projet de la norme ISO/IEC.

Les nouvelles normes internationales pour le câble de cuivre de la catégorie 8 et les systèmes de câblage symétriques de 40 Gbit/s sont actuellement en phase de développement dans les projets de norme IEC 46C/976/NP et ISO/IEC TR 11801-99-1.

Contrairement aux normes proposées pour les câbles de données symétriques de la catégorie 8 traités il y a quelques années seulement (à l'époque pour le câblage structuré dans les bâtiments et avec une fréquence limite maximale

de 1,2 GHz), la seule utilisation prévue aujourd'hui par les organismes de normalisation internationaux est dans les centres de données avec une fréquence limite maximale de 2 GHz.

La norme ISO/IEC TR 11801-99-1 établit une liaison point à point entre les dispositifs actifs à une distance maximale de 30 mètres, qui comprend 26 mètres de câbles d'installation et 2 mètres de câble de connexion sur chaque côté. Une telle connexion peut remplacer la fibre optique qui est chère et le câblage twinax dans les centres de données.

Bien que les nouvelles normes soient encore en phase de brouillon, Dätwyler a déjà développé le CU 8203 4P, un

premier câble S/FTP compact AWG23 qui répond aux exigences anticipées par la nouvelle Cat. 8.2, spécifiées dans le projet de la norme ISO/IEC.

D'autres développements supplémentaires vont suivre d'autres produits avec S/FTP et F/FTP, ainsi que les câbles de connexion correspondants (câbles flexibles).

Dätwyler prête une attention particulière au fait que, en ce qui concerne l'atténuation, (NEXT, PS-NEXT), les nouveaux câbles offrent une capacité supérieure aux valeurs limites traitées et établies.

Dätwyler Cables GmbH – Allemagne
Website: www.cabling.datwyler.com

Nouvelle direction générale

Highvolt Prüftechnik Dresden GmbH a récemment nommé directeurs généraux adjoints M. Ralf Bergmann et M. Bernhard Nick, qui succéderont le 30 septembre 2013 à M. Bernd Kübler qui démissionne après 11 ans couronnés de succès.

Bergmann a étudié ingénierie électrique à l'université de technologie de Dresde où il a obtenu un doctorat en Technologie, spécialité haute tension et courant élevé. Il a été chef des ventes chargé du développement des activités internationales de Highvolt depuis 2003. Précédemment il a occupé des positions de responsable de projet et des ventes/marketing chez Siemens.

Nick s'est spécialisé en ingénierie électrique à l'Université Bundeswehr

de Munich et a complété des études de perfectionnement en gestion d'ingénierie à l'université de Hagen. En 1998 il a rejoint Maschinenfabrik Reinhausen GmbH, où il a participé aux principales opérations de la société, et plus récemment en tant que chef des ventes OEM.

Ensuite, il a été nommé chef de la division Power Quality (PQ) en 2010 et, successivement, il a été désigné directeur de la division Power Distribution (PD) en 2012.

"Highvolt s'est énormément développée au cours de ces dernières années. Nous sommes des leaders mondiaux innovateurs dans le secteur des essais de haute tension et de courant élevé et nos chiffres d'affaires sont passés d'environ 8 millions d'euros en 2002 à environ 50

millions d'euros l'an dernier" a déclaré Bergmann.

"Même pour les prochaines années nous avons fixé des objectifs ambitieux. Avec une équipe de direction renforcée Highvolt est bien équipée pour le futur."

"Nous avons des clients dans le monde entier et plus de 90% de nos ventes dérive des exportations. Avec un segment de marché de 35%, Highvolt est le numéro un dans son secteur," a encore déclaré Nick. "Nous allons maintenir nos stratégies efficaces pour consolider ultérieurement la position de Highvolt en tant que leader du marché mondial".

Highvolt Prüftechnik Dresden GmbH – Allemagne
Website: www.highvolt.de

Metalube a battu tous les records!

METALUBE, principal producteur de lubrifiant pour fils et pour câbles, au cours du troisième trimestre, a dépassé de 33% son record précédent et a enregistré un volume de ventes total égal à 25% en plus par rapport à l'année précédente, en poursuivant la tendance haussière qui a vu doubler ses ventes pendant ces trois dernières années.

Simultanément avec cette bonne nouvelle et comme partie de la Semaine de Croissance des Exportations du gouvernement britannique (Export Growth Week), la société a récemment souhaité la bienvenue à Clive Drinkwater, directeur pour la zone nord occidentale de l'Angleterre de UK Trade & Investment (UKTI) (agence officielle pour la promotion du commerce), dans son établissement de Manchester.

"Nous exportons pratiquement la totalité et le fait que UKTI soutienne notre activité industrielle est très encourageant. Clive Drinkwater a discuté en profondeur avec nous des nombreuses opportunités et défis que nous devons gérer en tant qu'exportateur de succès", a déclaré Douglas Hunt, directeur commercial.

La société a programmé de célébrer



▲ De gauche à droite, Clive Drinkwater, directeur de UKTI (Nord-Ouest), Douglas Hunt, directeur commercial de Metalube, Peter Thompson, UKTI, et Robert Brown, Président de Metalube

la clôture de l'année fiscale en août en présentant le bien mérité et très prestigieux prix Queen's Award. Le représentant de la couronne Lord Lieutenant of Greater Manchester présentera le prix jeudi 5 septembre 2013 en présence des employés, des familles et des personnalités locales.

"Le jour de la présentation coïncidera avec notre semaine annuelle de formation pour les ventes, occasion au cours de laquelle de nombreux membres de notre groupe

international provenant de l'Inde, de la Chine, de la Malaisie et du Brésil nous rejoindront à Manchester," a déclaré Hunt.

"L'événement nous offrira l'occasion de remercier nos employés pour l'effort et l'engagement démontré dans leur travail. Un tel succès n'arrive pas comme ça. Nous avons le privilège de travailler avec une équipe extraordinaire."

Metalube Ltd – Royaume-Uni
Website: www.metalube.co.uk

Enroulement automatique de précision avec RobCoil™

Par Per Christensen Holm – pec@roblon.com, Allan Nielsen – an@roblon.com et Jesper Joergensen – jej@roblon.com

L'enroulement de produits sur les dévidoirs bridés peut exiger des critères de qualité d'enroulement sévères en termes de positionnement précis du produit, couche par couche. La technologie de précision a toujours fait partie intégrante des enrouleurs haut de gamme, mais à ce jour une nouvelle machine indépendante pouvant être installée devant l'enrouleur a été développée et celle-ci remplace la commande manuelle.

Avantages d'un enroulement parfait

Un enroulement haute qualité est requis pour différentes raisons, essentiellement pour éviter d'endommager le produit. L'augmentation maximale de la longueur du produit par dévidoir peut être une autre exigence, et un dévidoir avec le produit parfaitement positionné côte à côte, du début à la fin, permettra d'utiliser au mieux la capacité du dévidoir.

Si l'on doit utiliser le produit dans un processus de fabrication ou d'installation successif, un enroulement parfait augmentera la productivité attendu qu'il sera possible de réaliser ces processus à une vitesse supérieure et avec une sécurité majeure.

▼ Unité d'enroulement de précision



▲ Unité de reenroulement de précision

Examinons le cas de câbles à fibres optiques, dans lesquels il est décisif d'éviter tout chevauchement du câble durant l'enroulement qui pourrait causer une compression de ce dernier et rendre donc difficile son installation, par exemple en l'insufflant dans des conduits étroits.

L'atténuation du signal représente un autre risque de mauvais enroulement. Lorsque l'on enroule des fils d'acier devant être utilisés dans les processus de production successifs, il est important d'éviter tout fil libre sur le dévidoir qui pourrait se chevaucher durant le déroulement et bloquer le dévidoir en entraînant la rupture du fil. Enfin, des dévidoirs parfaitement enroulés donnent une meilleure impression à l'utilisateur final, une constatation à ne pas négliger.

Produits/matériaux

L'enroulement de haute qualité est avantageux pour une gamme de produits tels que les câbles, les tuyaux en plastique, les tubes flexibles, les fils et les tubes d'acier minces. Il est possible d'enrouler des produits de formes différentes comme des ronds, des carrés et des formes en 8.

Certaines caractéristiques facilitent le guide automatique d'un produit, il est par

exemple plus facile d'enrouler des produits moins flexibles ou rigides avec une surface lisse.

Le produit doit être en mesure de supporter la tension requise pour son positionnement sur le dévidoir.

Toutefois, lorsqu'un produit est guidé manuellement, il est également nécessaire d'appliquer une certaine tension. En utilisant une unité de guide de précision, il est très probable que l'on puisse réduire au minimum la tension puisque le positionnement du produit a lieu à proximité du dévidoir.

Une tension inférieure dans le produit entraîne une précision inférieure dans les couches intérieures en évitant ainsi le risque d'endommager le produit.

Les câbles standard et les produits similaires avec un diamètre minimum de 4mm peuvent être enroulés avec une qualité meilleure.

En outre, l'unité d'enroulement de précision permet également d'enrouler des fils et des tubes d'acier de diamètres inférieurs.

Pour obtenir un dévidoir avec un enroulement parfait, il doit être de haute qualité.

Plus la qualité sera élevée plus l'enroulement du produit sera satisfaisant.

Sécurité

Aujourd'hui il est parfois nécessaire de guider manuellement le câble sur le dévidoir, il s'agit d'un processus pouvant causer des pertes de temps et être dangereux. L'opérateur qui guide le produit doit souvent se concentrer exclusivement sur le processus d'enroulement et, en fonction du produit, il peut être nécessaire qu'il doive se positionner exactement devant l'enrouleur.

Le fait d'être tout près de l'enrouleur entraîne le risque d'être encastré entre le produit et le dévidoir, avec comme conséquence de graves lésions personnelles.

Avec des exigences plus strictes en matière de santé et de sécurité, il est de plus en plus difficile d'effectuer le

guide manuel du câble tout en restant devant l'enrouleur puisque aujourd'hui les enrouleurs sont entièrement clôturés. Même lorsqu'il est possible de guider manuellement le câble sur le dévidoir, la distance entre l'opérateur et l'enrouleur peut empêcher un enroulement parfait.

Poulies

Pour obtenir le meilleur contrôle du produit, il est important de le guider le plus près possible du dévidoir. Avoir une distance minimale entre les poulies qui guident le produit et le dévidoir est un paramètre clé.

Le produit est guidé à travers une série de poulies qui sont dimensionnées en fonction du diamètre du produit. En raison des dimensions compactes de ces poulies, la distance jusqu'au dévidoir peut être réduite au minimum. En outre, les poulies sont formées de façon à positionner le produit très près de la bride.

Le bras de guidage est équipé de capteurs qui relèvent et mesurent la distance jusqu'à la bride en assurant le changement automatique de la direction du dispositif de trancanage du câble lorsque ce dernier se trouve à proximité de la bride.

Le logiciel qui contrôle l'unité d'enroulement de précision a été développé pour optimiser la quantité de produit sur le dévidoir, par exemple en évitant de grands espaces vides près des brides lorsque l'on change la direction d'enroulement. Durant l'enroulement, le bras tourne de 180 degrés de manière à ce que les poulies soient toujours en mesure de se positionner à proximité de la bride.

Le système de détection de la bride élimine la nécessité d'introduire de nouveaux paramètres lors du changement de la dimension du dévidoir. L'unité d'enroulement de précision adapte automatiquement la distance parcourue par le dispositif de trancanage aux dimensions du dévidoir installé et il n'est pas nécessaire de modifier les configurations finales.

Une fois la couche complétée et la couche successive préparée, le bras de guidage se déplace jusqu'au guidage à billes sur rails sur une distance égale au diamètre du produit pour maintenir le produit dans une position horizontale.

L'entrée de l'unité d'enroulement de précision est constituée d'un jeu de poulies montées dans une position conique en appliquant ainsi une pression minimale sur le produit, même lorsque la hauteur de la ligne change lorsque le dévidoir est plein. L'utilisation d'unités d'enroulement de précision permet d'effectuer l'enroulement du dévidoir jusqu'au bord des brides.

Dévidoirs

Il est important de positionner le produit le plus près possible des brides. Généralement, il est recommandé que l'écart des brides ne dépasse pas la moitié du diamètre du produit.

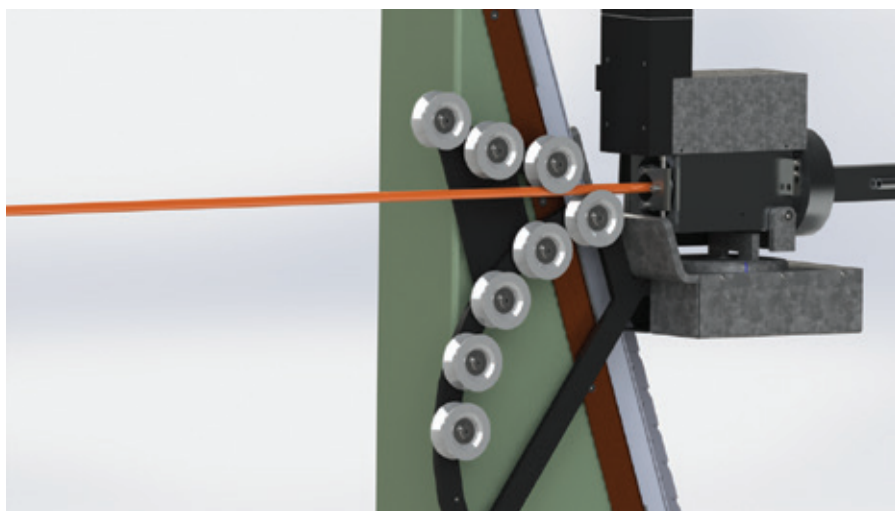
Si par exemple un produit présente un diamètre de 12mm, les brides ne doivent pas s'écarter de plus de 6mm (± 3 mm). Soit plus le diamètre est petit, plus la demande de perfection des dévidoirs est supérieure.

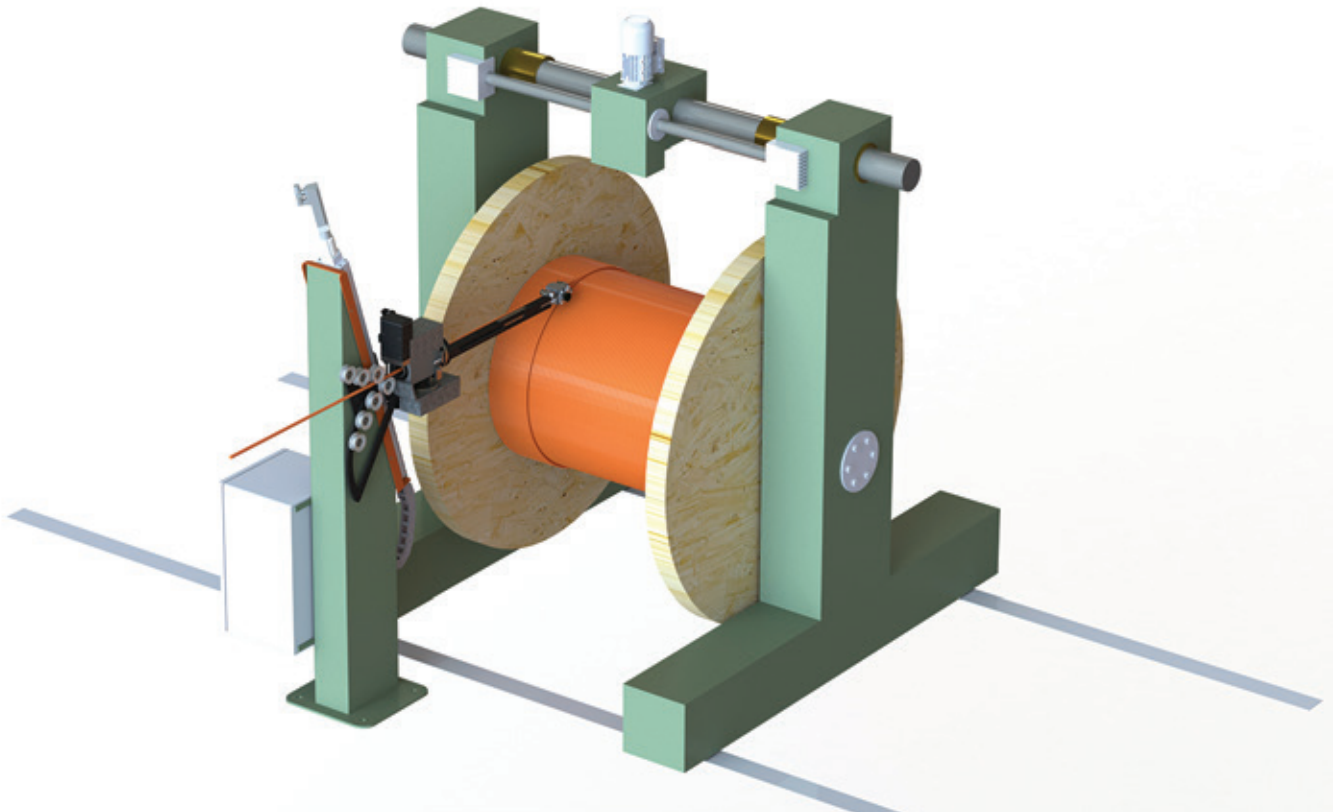
Pendant de nombreuses années Roblon a fourni des enrouleurs équipés d'unités d'enroulement de précision incorporées et conçus pour manipuler les dévidoirs d'un diamètre de 380 à 1 400mm et d'un poids brut maximal de 1 800kg, ainsi que des produits d'enroulement d'un diamètre de 3 à 16mm.

▼ Bras de guidage



▼ Poulies d'entrée





▲ Enrouleur/Unité d'enroulement

Certains enrouleurs ont été utilisés au cours de ces 15 dernières années pour enrouler des fils d'acier et en n'exigeant qu'un entretien minimal, ce qui met bien en évidence la longévité de cette technologie.

Intégration

La nouvelle unité d'enroulement de précision indépendante peut être intégrée dans des enrouleurs avec dispositif de trancanage existant déjà pour contrôler la vitesse de ce dernier.

Le logiciel a été développé pour être intégré avec un impact minimum dans le contrôle de l'enrouleur existant déjà. L'unité d'enroulement de précision peut échanger des signaux avec l'enrouleur ou avec le contrôle de ligne en utilisant des signaux analogiques ou numériques.

L'unité d'enroulement de précision est basée sur les API et sur des inverseurs de dernière génération à consommation réduite d'énergie et elle est normalement fournie avec des solutions Siemens ou Allen-Bradley.

En outre, l'unité d'enroulement de précision indépendante peut faire partie

du circuit de sécurité de l'enrouleur existant déjà ou échanger des signaux avec ce dernier.

L'unité est fournie avec une Déclaration d'incorporation CE pour quasi-machines de manière à ce que l'unité puisse être aisément intégrée dans une certification CE globale de la ligne de production complète.

L'unité d'enroulement de précision est fixée au sol devant l'enrouleur et peut être utilisée avec des dévidoirs d'un diamètre de 650 à 2.600mm. Elle présente des dimensions très compactes et dans la majorité des cas il sera possible de la positionner à l'intérieur d'une clôture existant déjà autour de l'enrouleur. L'unité est facile à installer car elle est fixée au sol au moyen de quatre boulons et elle exige une quantité minimale de connexions électriques jusqu'à l'enrouleur.

Il est possible d'introduire un certain nombre de recettes pouvant être programmées avec les paramètres correspondant aux différents produits et dimensions.

Il est possible d'accéder aux recettes d'un panneau de contrôle séparé, du panneau de contrôle de l'enrouleur ou du contrôle de la ligne.

Résumé

L'installation d'une unité RobCoil™ avec un enrouleur équipé d'un dispositif de trancanage existant déjà, n'exige pas le guidage manuel durant l'enroulement.

La manutention manuelle n'est requise qu'au moment du changement des dévidoirs.

Lorsque l'on installe un dévidoir vide, le produit doit être introduit et fixé au cylindre. Ensuite le dévidoir est aligné et l'enroulement peut donc commencer. ■

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Etichettate e conservate i vostri dati

LOCALIZZARE e cancellare scorte di magazzino perse rappresenta una delle attività maggiormente dispendiose per qualunque impresa. Se la vostra impresa fabbrica prodotti di alto valore, questo comporta una perdita di tempo, di denaro e dei problemi. La buona notizia è che questo problema può essere limitato in modo relativamente facile identificando e seguendo i prodotti in questione in modo efficiente.



La società inglese IML Labels and Systems Ltd possiede una vasta esperienza e conoscenza della fabbricazione di etichette di alto rendimento ed etichette autoadesive ideate per sopportare condizioni ostili, temperature estreme e manipolazione brusca. Le etichette Thermotag 600 possono sopportare temperature fino a +600°C e rappresentano un prodotto unico per IML.

Thermotag 600 è stata sviluppata dalla

società in collaborazione con importanti produttori di metalli che necessitavano etichette che potevano essere applicate prima del ciclo produttivo per aumentare l'efficacia.

Un altro vantaggio di Thermotag 600 è che può essere sgualcita e piegata senza alterare la leggibilità dei dati in impianti caratterizzati da controllo meccanico e manipolazione brusca. Thermotag 600 può essere fornita semplice o prestampata in versioni fino a 6 colori, in rulli adatti alla sovrapposizione per trasferimento termico, offrendo un'alternativa alle tradizionali etichette metalliche.

Le etichette a prova di strappo "Rip-proof" di IML sono ideali se si desidera ottenere la massima resistenza e durezza. Presentati per la prima volta da IML agli inizi degli anni '90, le etichette Rip-proof sono state uno dei prodotti di maggiore successo per oltre 20

anni. Disponibili in nove diversi colori per codificare con facilità un'ampia gamma di colori, le etichette Rip-proof vengono fornite semplici o prestampate in versioni fino a tre colori e possono essere sovrastampate dal cliente con informazioni complementari utilizzando una stampante a trasferimento termico.

Inoltre, le etichette Rip-proof riprendono la loro forma dopo essere state piegate e schiacciate, rendendole ideali per applicazioni in ambienti con condizioni di produzione difficili e temperature comprese fra -40°C e +200°C.

IML inoltre realizza una serie di etichette autoadesive altamente resistenti adatte ad aderire a superfici irregolari, ruvide e oleose e resistenti agli effetti dell'azione degli agenti atmosferici per periodi prolungati. Un reparto di esportazione dedicato gestisce le richieste d'informazioni e gli ordini internazionali per garantire che tutta la relativa documentazione sia completa e corretta.

IML Labels and Systems Ltd – Regno Unito

Website: www.iml-labels.co.uk

Cavi di Cat. 8 per centri dati

Dätwyler ha sviluppato il cavo CU 8203 4P, un primo cavo S/FTP compatto AWG23 che soddisfa tutti i requisiti anticipati dalla nuova Cat. 8.2, specificati nella bozza ISO/IEC.

Le nuove norme internazionali per il cavo di rame della categoria 8 e sistemi di cablaggio simmetrici da 40 Gbit/s sono attualmente in fase di sviluppo nei progetti di norma IEC 46C/976/NP e ISO/IEC TR 11801-99-1. A differenza delle norme proposte per i cavi di dati simmetrici della categoria 8 trattati solo alcuni anni orsono (a quel tempo per il cablaggio strutturato in edifici e con una frequenza limite massima di 1,2 GHz), l'unico utilizzo previsto oggi da parte degli organismi di normalizzazione internazionali è nei centri dati con una frequenza limite massima di 2 GHz.

La norma ISO/IEC TR 11801-99-1



▲ Primo cavo compatto di Dätwyler

stabilisce una connessione da punto a punto fra i dispositivi attivi ad una distanza massima di 30 metri, che comprende 26 metri di cavo da installazione e 2 metri di cavo di connessione su ciascun lato. Detta connessione può sostituire la costosa

fibra ottica e il cablaggio twinax nei centri dati.

Sebbene le nuove norme siano ancora allo stadio di bozza, Dätwyler ha già sviluppato il CU 8203 4P, un primo cavo S/FTP compatto AWG23 che soddisfa tutti i requisiti anticipati dalla nuova Cat. 8.2, specificati nella bozza ISO/IEC.

Altri nuovi sviluppi seguiranno altri nuovi prodotti con S/FTP e F/FTP, nonché i cavi di connessione corrispondenti (cavi flessibili). Dätwyler pone particolare enfasi sul fatto che, per quanto riguarda l'attenuazione (NEXT, PS-NEXT), i nuovi cavi offrono una capacità superiore ai valori limite trattati e stabiliti.

Dätwyler Cables GmbH – Germania
Website: www.cabling.datwyler.com

Cambio al vertice della direzione aziendale

Highvolt Prüftechnik Dresden GmbH ha recentemente nominato amministratori delegati aggiunti Ralf Bergmann, e Bernhard Nick, i quali il 30 settembre 2013 prenderanno il posto del sessantacinquenne Bernd Kübler che andrà in pensione dopo 11 anni di grandi successi.

Bergmann ha studiato ingegneria elettrica presso l'università di tecnologia di Dresda e ha conseguito un dottorato nel settore delle tecnologie dell'alta tensione e dell'alta corrente. È capo delle vendite incaricato dello sviluppo delle attività internazionali di Highvolt dal 2003.

Precedentemente, ha occupato tra gli altri incarichi, il ruolo di responsabile

di progetto nel settore tecnologico e vendite/marketing in Siemens.

Nick si è specializzato in ingegneria elettrica presso l'Università Bundeswehr di Monaco e ha effettuato degli studi di perfezionamento in Ingegneria gestionale presso l'università di Hagen. Nel 1998 entrò a far parte di Maschinenfabrik Reinhausen GmbH, ove partecipò alle operazioni principali della società, e più recentemente come capo delle vendite OEM. Quindi, fu nominato capo della divisione Power Quality (PQ) nel 2010 e assunse inoltre il ruolo di direttore della divisione di Power Distribution (PD) nel 2012.

"Highvolt è cresciuta notevolmente negli ultimi anni. Siamo leader mondiali

innovatori nel settore delle prove di alta tensione e alta corrente e il nostro volume di vendite è passato da circa 8 milioni di euro nel 2002 a circa 50 milioni di euro dello scorso anno" ha dichiarato Bergmann.

"Abbiamo clienti in tutto il mondo e più del 90% delle nostre vendite proviene dalle esportazioni. Con una quota di mercato del 35%, Highvolt è il numero uno nel suo settore," ha ancora dichiarato Nick. "Manterremo le nostre strategie efficaci per consolidare ulteriormente la posizione di Highvolt quale leader nel mercato mondiale".

Highvolt Prüftechnik Dresden GmbH – Germania
Website: www.highvolt.de

Metalube ha battuto ogni record!

METALUBE, principale produttore di lubrificante per fili e cavi, nel corso del terzo trimestre ha superato del 33% il suo record precedente e ha registrato un volume di vendite complessivo pari al 25% in più rispetto all'anno precedente, proseguendo la tendenza in crescita che ha visto duplicare le vendite della società negli ultimi tre anni.

In coincidenza con questa buona notizia e come parte della Settimana di crescita delle Esportazioni del governo britannico (Export Growth Week), la società ha recentemente dato il benvenuto a Clive Drinkwater, direttore per l'area nordoccidentale dell'Inghilterra di UK Trade & Investment (UKTI) (agenzia del governo britannico che promuove il commercio estero), nella propria fabbrica di Manchester.

"Esportiamo praticamente tutti i nostri prodotti ed è molto incoraggiante che UKTI sostenga la nostra attività industriale. Clive Drinkwater ha discusso estesamente con noi delle numerose opportunità e sfide che ci troviamo a fronteggiare come esportatori di successo", ha dichiarato Douglas Hunt, direttore commerciale.

La società ha programmato di celebrare



▲ Da sinistra a destra, Clive Drinkwater, direttore di UKTI (nordovest), Douglas Hunt, direttore commerciale di Metalube, Peter Thompson, UKTI, e Robert Brown, presidente di Metalube

la chiusura dell'anno fiscale in agosto presentando il ben meritato e altamente prestigioso premio Queen's Award. Il rappresentante della corona Lord Lieutenant of Greater Manchester presenterà il riconoscimento giovedì 5 settembre 2013 in presenza dei dipendenti, delle famiglie e dei dignitari locali.

"Il giorno della presentazione coinciderà con la nostra settimana annuale di formazione per le vendite, occasione in cui numerosi membri del nostro gruppo

internazionale provenienti dall'India, dalla Cina, dalla Malesia e dal Brasile si uniranno a noi a Manchester," ha aggiunto Hunt.

"L'evento ci offrirà l'opportunità di ringraziare tutti i nostri dipendenti per lo sforzo e l'impegno profusi nel proprio lavoro. Un successo come questo non capita così. Abbiamo il privilegio di lavorare con un gruppo straordinario."

Metalube Ltd – Regno Unito
Website: www.metalube.co.uk

Avvolgimento di precisione automatico con RobCoil™

A cura di Per Christensen Holm – pec@roblon.com, Allan Nielsen – an@roblon.com e Jesper Joergensen – jej@roblon.com

L'avvolgimento di prodotti su bobine flangiate può richiedere requisiti di qualità di avvolgimento molto rigorosi in termini di posizionamento preciso del prodotto, strato per strato.

La tecnologia di avvolgimento di precisione è disponibile come parte integrante degli avvolgitori di alta gamma, ma è stata ora sviluppata una nuova macchina indipendente che può essere installata di fronte all'avvolgitore e sostituisce la guida manuale.

I vantaggi di un avvolgimento perfetto

L'avvolgimento di alta qualità è richiesto per varie ragioni, soprattutto per evitare danni al prodotto. Aumentare il più possibile la lunghezza del prodotto per bobina può essere un altro requisito, e una bobina con il prodotto posizionato perfettamente lato a lato, dal principio alla fine, consentirà di utilizzare al meglio la capacità della bobina.

Se si deve utilizzare il prodotto in un processo di fabbricazione o installazione successivo, un avvolgimento perfetto

▼ Unità di avvolgimento di precisione



▲ Unità di riavvolgimento di precisione

augurerà la produttività, poiché questi processi si potranno realizzare ad una velocità più elevata e con maggiore sicurezza.

Poniamo il caso di cavi in fibra ottica, nei quali è fondamentale evitare l'accavallamento del cavo durante l'avvolgimento poiché ciò potrebbe provocare una compressione dello stesso e rendere difficile la successiva installazione, ad esempio insufflandolo in condotti stretti.

L'attenuazione del segnale costituisce un altro rischio di avvolgimento improprio. Quando si avvolgono fili di acciaio che si devono utilizzare nei processi di produzione successivi, è importante che non vi sia alcun filo sciolto sulla bobina, che potrebbe accavallarsi durante lo svolgimento e bloccare la bobina con conseguente rottura del filo. Infine, bobine perfettamente avvolte danno un'impressione migliore all'utilizzatore finale, fatto che non dovrebbe essere trascurato.

Prodotti/materiali

L'avvolgimento di alta qualità è vantaggioso per una gamma di prodotti come cavi, tubi di plastica, tubi flessibili,

fili e tubi di acciaio sottili. È possibile avvolgere prodotti di forme distinte che includono tondi, quadri e forme a 8. Alcune caratteristiche facilitano la guida automatica di un prodotto, ad esempio è più facile avvolgere prodotti meno flessibili o rigidi con superficie liscia.

Il prodotto deve essere in grado di sopportare la tensione necessaria per posizionarlo sulla bobina. Tuttavia, quando un prodotto viene guidato manualmente, è anche necessario applicare una certa tensione. Utilizzando un'unità di guida di precisione, è molto probabile che si possa ridurre al minimo la tensione poiché il posizionamento del prodotto avviene molto vicino alla bobina. Una minore tensione nel prodotto comporta una minore pressione negli strati interni e conseguentemente viene meno il rischio di danneggiare il prodotto.

I cavi standard e prodotti simili con un diametro minimo di 4mm possono essere avvolti con una qualità più elevata. L'unità di avvolgimento di precisione consente inoltre di avvolgere fili e tubi di acciaio con diametri persino inferiori. Per ottenere una bobina con un avvolgimento perfetto, è necessario che la bobina stessa sia di alta qualità. Maggiore è la qualità della bobina, più facile è ottenere un avvolgimento soddisfacente del prodotto.

Sicurezza

Al giorno d'oggi a volte è necessario guidare manualmente il cavo sulla bobina, processo che può causare perdite di tempo ed essere pericoloso. Spesso, l'operatore che guida il prodotto deve concentrarsi esclusivamente sul processo di avvolgimento e, a seconda del prodotto, può essere necessario che stia immediatamente davanti all'avvolgitore. Il fatto di restare vicino all'avvolgitore comporta il rischio di venire incastrati fra il prodotto e la bobina, con gravi lesioni personali.

Con l'irrigidimento dei requisiti di salute e sicurezza, è sempre più difficile effettuare la guida manuale del cavo davanti all'avvolgitore poiché oggi gli avvolgitori sono completamente recintati. Persino quando è possibile guidare manualmente il cavo sulla bobina, la distanza dall'operatore all'avvolgitore può impedire un avvolgimento perfetto.

Pulegge

Per ottenere il miglior controllo possibile del prodotto, è importante guidarlo il più vicino possibile alla bobina. Avere la minore distanza possibile fra le pulegge che guidano il prodotto alla bobina è un parametro fondamentale.

Il prodotto è guidato attraverso una serie di pulegge che sono dimensionate in base al diametro del prodotto. A causa delle dimensioni compatte di queste pulegge, la distanza fino alla bobina può essere ridotta al minimo. Inoltre, le pulegge sono conformate in modo tale da poter posizionare il prodotto molto vicino alla flangia. Il braccio di guida è dotato di sensori che rilevano e misurano la distanza fino alla flangia assicurando il cambio automatico della direzione del guidafile del cavo quando il cavo si trova vicino alla flangia.

Il software che controlla l'unità di avvolgimento di precisione è stato

sviluppato per ottimizzare la quantità del prodotto sulla bobina, ad esempio evitando grandi spazi vuoti vicino alle flange quando si cambia la direzione di avvolgimento. Durante l'avvolgimento, il braccio ruota di 180 gradi in modo tale che le pulegge possano sempre essere in grado di posizionarsi in prossimità della flangia. Il sistema di rilevamento della flangia rende superflua l'introduzione di nuovi parametri al cambio della dimensione della bobina. L'unità di avvolgimento di precisione adatta automaticamente la distanza percorsa dal guidafile alle dimensioni della bobina installata e non è necessario modificare le configurazioni finali.

Una volta completato uno strato e preparato quello successivo, il braccio di guida si muove fino alla guida a sfere su rotaia su una distanza uguale al diametro del prodotto per mantenere il prodotto in posizione orizzontale.

L'ingresso dell'unità di avvolgimento di precisione è costituito da una serie di pulegge montate in una posizione conica applicando conseguentemente una pressione minima sul prodotto anche quando l'altezza della linea cambia nel momento in cui la bobina si riempie. L'utilizzo delle unità di avvolgimento di precisione consente di effettuare l'avvolgimento della bobina fino al bordo delle flange.

Bobine

È importante posizionare il prodotto il più vicino possibile alle flange. Generalmente, si raccomanda che le flange non si scostino oltre la metà del diametro del prodotto. Se ad esempio un prodotto presenta un diametro di 12mm, le flange non devono scostarsi di oltre 6mm (± 3 mm). Ciò significa che più piccolo è il diametro del prodotto, maggiore è la richiesta di perfezione delle bobine.

Per numerosi anni Roblon ha fornito avvolgitori con unità di avvolgimento di precisione integrati progettati per manipolare bobine del diametro da 380 a 1.400mm con un peso lordo massimo di 1.800kg, e prodotti di avvolgimento del diametro da 3 a 16mm. Alcuni avvolgitori sono stati utilizzati durante gli ultimi 15 anni avvolgendo fili di acciaio e richiedendo una minima manutenzione, il che sottolinea la durezza di questa tecnologia.

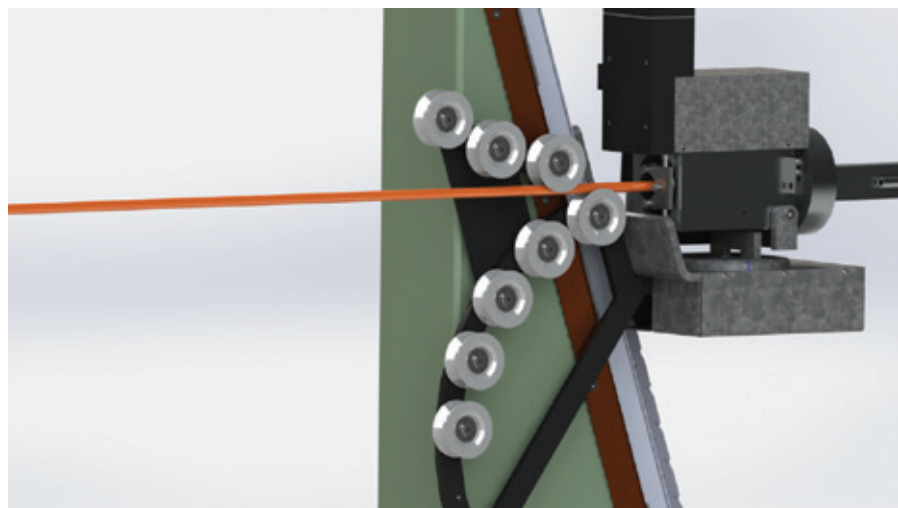
Integrazione

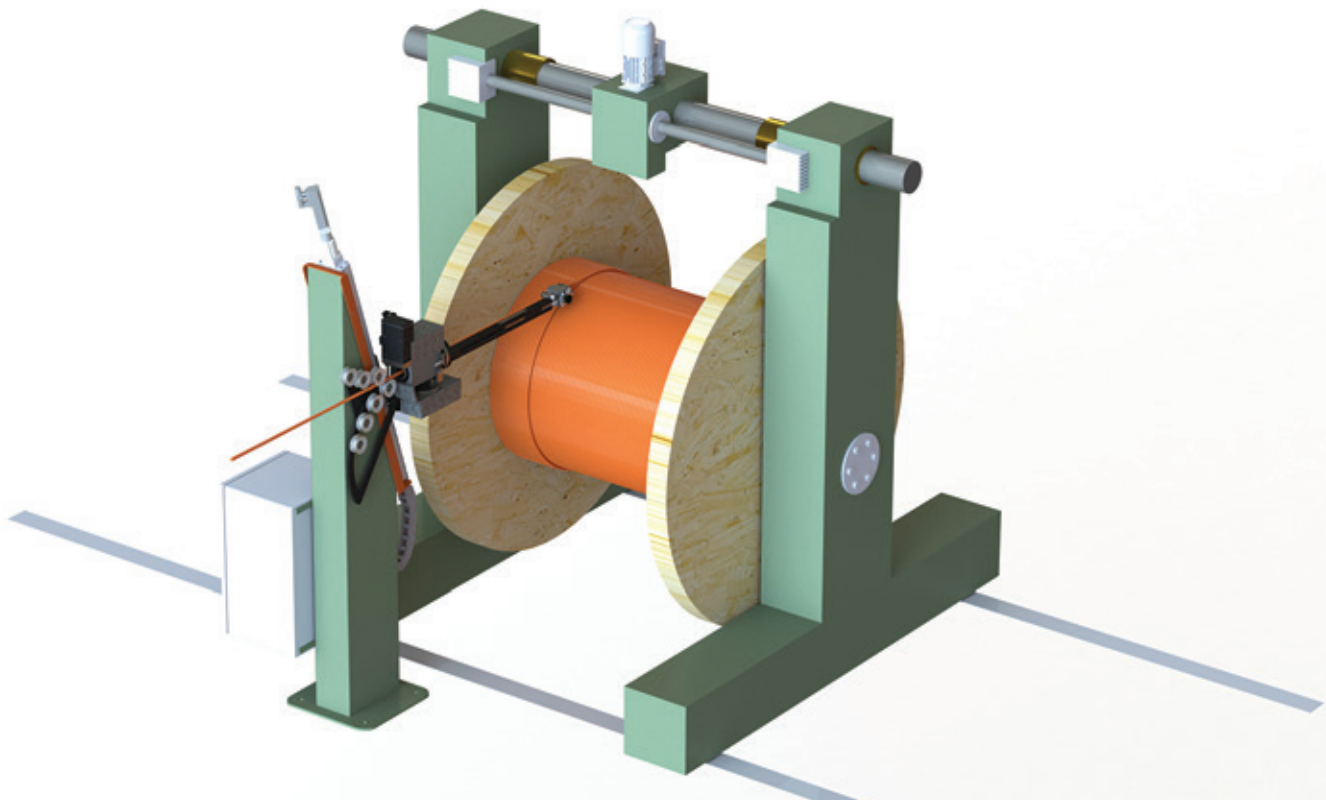
La nuova unità di avvolgimento di precisione indipendente può essere

▼ Braccio di guida



▼ Pulegge in entrata





▲ Avvolgitore/Unità di avvolgimento

integrata in avvolgitori con guidafile esistenti per controllare la velocità di quest'ultimo. Il software è stato sviluppato per integrarsi con un minimo impatto nel controllo esistente dell'avvolgitore. L'unità di avvolgimento di precisione può scambiare segnali con l'avvolgitore o con il controllo di linea utilizzando segnali analogici o digitali. L'unità di avvolgimento di precisione si basa sui PLC e sugli invertitori di ultima generazione a basso consumo di energia ed è normalmente fornita con soluzioni Siemens o Allen-Bradley.

Inoltre, l'unità di avvolgimento di precisione indipendente può fare parte del circuito di sicurezza dell'avvolgitore esistente o scambiare segnali con essa. L'unità viene fornita unitamente ad una Dichiarazione CE di incorporazione di macchine parzialmente completate, in modo che l'unità possa essere facilmente integrata in una certificazione CE globale della linea di produzione completa.

L'unità di avvolgimento di precisione è fissata al pavimento di fronte all'avvolgitore e può essere utilizzata con bobine del diametro da 650 a 2.600mm. Essa presenta dimensioni molto compatte e nella maggioranza dei casi sarà possibile posizionarla all'interno di un recinto esistente attorno all'avvolgitore.

L'unità è di facile installazione poiché è fissata al suolo mediante quattro bulloni e richiede una minima quantità di collegamenti elettrici fino all'avvolgitore.

È possibile inserire varie ricette che possono essere programmate con i parametri corrispondenti ai diversi prodotti e dimensioni. È possibile accedere alle ricette da un pannello di controllo separato, dal pannello di controllo dell'avvolgitore o dal controllo della linea.

Riassunto

Quando si installa un'unità RobCoil™ assieme ad un avvolgitore con guidafile esistente, non è più necessaria la guida manuale durante l'avvolgimento. La movimentazione manuale è richiesta solo quando si cambiano le bobine. Quando si installa una bobina vuota, il prodotto deve essere infilato e fissato al tamburo. Quindi, la bobina viene allineata ed è possibile iniziare l'avvolgimento. ■

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Etiquete y conserve sus datos

SITUAR y extraviar luego las existencias supone un completo derroche para cualquier empresa. Si su empresa fabrica productos de alto valor, esto representa una pérdida de tiempo, dinero y problemas. La buena noticia es que este problema puede limitarse de manera relativamente fácil identificando y siguiendo los productos en cuestión.



▲ Etiqueta ThermoTag 600 de IML

La inglesa IML Labels and Systems Ltd tiene amplia experiencia en la fabricación de etiquetas de alto rendimiento y etiquetas auto adhesivas capaces de soportar duras condiciones, temperaturas extremas y manejo brusco. Las etiquetas ThermoTag 600 pueden soportar temperaturas de hasta +600°C y constituyen un producto único para IML.

ThermoTag 600 fue desarrollada por la empresa, en colaboración con importantes productores de metales que

metálicas.

Las etiquetas irrompibles "Rip-proof" de IML son ideales si lo que busca es la máxima resistencia y durabilidad. Presentadas por primera vez por IML a principios de los '90, las etiquetas Rip-proof siguen siendo uno de los productos de mayor éxito desde hace más de 20

necesitaban etiquetas que pudieran ser aplicadas antes durante el ciclo productivo para aumentar la eficacia.

Otra ventaja de ThermoTag 600 es que puede ser arrugada y doblada sin alterar la legibilidad de los datos en instalaciones con control mecánico y manejo brusco. ThermoTag 600 es vendida lisa o preimpresa en hasta seis colores, en rollos ideales para la sobreimpresión por transferencia térmica, lo que supone una alternativa a las tradicionales etiquetas

años. Disponibles en nueve colores distintos para poder codificar fácilmente con una amplia gama de colores, las etiquetas Rip-proof son vendidas lisas o preimpresas en hasta tres colores y pueden ser sobreimpresas por el cliente con información complementaria usando una impresora de transferencia térmica.

Además, las etiquetas Rip-proof retoman su forma después de ser dobladas y aplastadas, lo que las convierte en las etiquetas ideales para aplicaciones en lugares con duras condiciones de producción y temperaturas comprendidas entre -40°C y +200°C.

IML también fabrica una serie de etiquetas auto adhesivas altamente resistentes capaces de adherirse a superficies irregulares, bastas y oleosas y resistentes al desgaste con el tiempo durante tiempos prolongados. Un departamento de exportación dedicado se ocupa de atender las peticiones de información y los pedidos internacionales para garantizar que toda la documentación relacionada esté completa y correcta.

IML Labels and Systems Ltd – Reino Unido
Website: www.iml-labels.co.uk

Cables Cat. 8 para centros de datos

Dätwyler ha desarrollado el cable CU 8203 4P, un primer cable S/FTP compacto AWG23 que cumple todos los requisitos anticipados para la nueva Cat. 8.2, especificados en el borrador ISO/IEC.



▲ Primer cable compacto de Dätwyler

Las nuevas normas internacionales para el cable de cobre de categoría 8 y sistemas de cableado balanceado de 40 Gbit/s están en fase de desarrollo en los proyectos de norma IEC 46C/976/NP e ISO/IEC TR 11801-99-1. A diferencia de las normas propuestas para los cables de datos simétricos de categoría 8 tratados hace tan sólo unos años (por aquel entonces para el cableado estructurado de instalaciones y con una frecuencia límite máxima de 1,2 GHz), el único uso previsto por los organismos de normalización internacionales actuales es en los centros de datos con una frecuencia límite máxima de 2 GHz.

La norma ISO/IEC TR 11801-99-1 establece una conexión de punto a punto entre los dispositivos activos a una distancia máxima de 30 metros, que comprende 26 metros de cable de instalación y 2 metros de cable conexión en cada lado. Dicha conexión puede sustituir a la costosa fibra óptica

y al cableado twinax en los centros de datos.

A pesar de que las normas nuevas todavía no son más que un borrador, Dätwyler ya ha desarrollado el CU 8203 4P, un primer cable S/FTP compacto AWG23 que cumple todos los requisitos anticipados para la nueva Cat. 8.2, especificados en el borrador ISO/IEC.

A éste seguirán otros productos nuevos con S/FTP y F/FTP, además de los cables de conexión correspondientes (cables flexibles). Dätwyler hace especial hincapié en el hecho de que, en cuanto a atenuación (NEXT, PS-NEXT), los nuevos cables ofrecen capacidad de sobra a los valores límites tratados y establecidos.

Dätwyler Cables GmbH – Alemania
Website: www.cabling.datwyler.com

Nueva dirección general

La alemana Highvolt Prüftechnik Dresden GmbH ha nombrado recientemente directores generales adjuntos a Ralf Bergmann, y a Bernhard Nick, quienes relevarán de su cargo a Bernd Kübler, el 30 de septiembre de 2013, cuando se jubila tras 11 prósperos años.

El Sr. Bergmann estudió ingeniería eléctrica en la Universidad de Tecnología de Dresden y dedicó su doctorado a las tecnologías de alta tensión y alta intensidad de corriente.

Lleva trabajando como jefe de ventas encargado del desarrollo de las actividades internacionales de Highvolt desde 2003. Anteriormente, ocupó cargos de gerente de proyecto en tecnología y ventas/marketing en Siemens.

El Sr. Nick se especializó en ingeniería eléctrica en la Universidad Bundeswehr de Munich y realizó



▲ Ralf Bergmann



▲ Bernhard Nick

estudios de postgrado de ingeniería en organización industrial en la Universidad de Hagen. En 1998 fue contratado por Maschinenfabrik Reinhausen GmbH, donde tomó parte en las operaciones principales de la empresa, y más recientemente como jefe de ventas OEM.

Seguidamente, fue nombrado jefe de la división Power Quality (PQ) en 2010 y, posteriormente, pasó también a ser director de la división de Power

Distribution (PD) en 2012.

“Highvolt ha crecido muchísimo en los últimos años. Somos líderes mundiales innovadores en el campo de los ensayos de alta tensión y alta intensidad de corriente, y nuestro volumen de ventas ha pasado de unos 8 millones de Euros en 2002 a aproximadamente 50 millones de Euros el año pasado”, declaró Bergmann.

“Tenemos clientes en todo el mundo, y más del 90% de nuestras ventas provienen de las exportaciones. Con una cuota de mercado del 35%, Highvolt es el número uno en su sector”, añadió Nick. “Mantendremos nuestras eficaces estrategias para consolidar aún más la posición de Highvolt como líder en el mercado mundial.”

Highvolt Prüftechnik Dresden GmbH – Alemania
Website: www.highvolt.de

Batiendo récords

METALUBE, fabricante líder de lubricantes para cable y alambre, ha vivido su tercer trimestre récord, superando en un 33% su anterior trimestre récord, y registra ventas totales que superan en un 25% las del año anterior. Sigue la tendencia de crecimiento que ha visto duplicar las ventas de la empresa en los últimos tres años.

Paralelamente a esta buena noticia y como parte de la Semana de Crecimiento de las Exportaciones del gobierno británico (Export Growth Week), la empresa ha dado la bienvenida recientemente a Clive Drinkwater, director para la región noroeste de Inglaterra de UK Trade & Investment (UKTI) (organismo del Gobierno británico de promoción del comercio exterior), en su fábrica de Manchester.

“Exportamos prácticamente todos nuestros productos y resulta muy alentador que UKTI sostenga nuestra actividad industrial. Clive Drinkwater habló extensamente con nosotros de las numerosas oportunidades y desafíos que tenemos que afrontar como exportador de éxito”, dijo Douglas Hunt, director comercial.

La empresa tiene planeado celebrar



▲ De izquierda a derecha, Clive Drinkwater, director de UKTI (noroeste), Douglas Hunt, director comercial de Metalube, Peter Thompson, UKTI, y Robert Brown, presidente de Metalube

el cierre de su año fiscal, en agosto, presentando sus prestigiosos y bien merecidos premios Queen's Award. El Lord Lieutenant of Greater Manchester presentará el premio el jueves 5 de septiembre de 2013 en presencia de los empleados, familias y dignatarios locales.

“El día de la presentación coincidirá con nuestra semana anual de formación para las ventanas, ocasión en que muchos miembros de nuestro equipo internacional de la India, China, Malasia y

Brasil se unirán a nosotros en Manchester”, añadió el Sr. Hunt.

“El evento nos brindará la oportunidad de agradecer a todos nuestros empleados el esfuerzo y empeño puestos en su trabajo. Un éxito como éste no llega así como así. Tenemos el privilegio de trabajar con un equipo extraordinario.”

Metalube Ltd – Reino Unido
Website: www.metalube.co.uk

Enrollado de precisión automático con RobCoil™

Por Per Christensen Holm – pec@roblon.com, Allan Nielsen – an@roblon.com y Jesper Joergensen – jej@roblon.com

El enrollado de productos en carretes bridados puede exigir requisitos de calidad de enrollado muy estrictos en términos de posicionamiento preciso del producto, estrato por estrato.

La tecnología de enrollado de precisión ya forma parte integrante de enrolladores de gama alta, pero ahora se ha desarrollado una nueva máquina independiente que puede ser instalada delante del enrollador y reemplaza el guiado manual.

Ventajas de un enrollado perfecto

El enrollado de alta calidad se requiere para varias razones, principalmente para evitar daños al producto. Aumentar lo máximo posible la longitud del producto por carrete puede ser otro requisito, y un carrete con el producto posicionado perfectamente de lado a lado, de principio a fin, permitirá aprovechar al máximo la capacidad del carrete.

Si se debe usar el producto en un proceso de fabricación o instalación sucesivo, un enrollado perfecto aumentará la productividad, porque se podrán realizar estos procesos a una velocidad más alta y con mayor seguridad.

▼ Unidad de rebobinado de precisión



▲ Unidad de enrollado de precisión

Por ejemplo, en el caso de los cables de fibra óptica, es fundamental evitar que el cable se cruce durante el enrollado porque se aplastaría y sería difícil instalarlo luego, por ejemplo sería difícil inyectarlo en conductos estrechos.

Otro riesgo de un mal enrollado es la atenuación de la señal. Cuando se enrollan alambres de acero que se deben usar luego en procesos de producción, es importante que el alambre no quede holgado en el carrete, ya que podría cruzarse durante el desenrollado, bloqueando el carrete y rompiendo el alambre. Por último, los carretes enrollados perfectamente tienen mejor presencia para el usuario final, hecho que no se debería pasar por alto.

Productos/materiales

El enrollado de alta calidad representa una ventaja para una variedad de productos como cables, tubos de plástico, tubos flexibles, alambres y tubos finos de acero.

Es posible enrollar productos de formas distintas como redondos, cuadrados y con forma de 8. Algunas características facilitan el guiado automático del producto, por ejemplo es más fácil enrollar productos poco flexibles o rígidos si tienen una superficie lisa.

El producto debe poder soportar la tensión necesaria para posicionarlo en el carrete. Sin embargo, cuando se guía manualmente un producto es necesario aplicar también una cierta tensión.

Usando una unidad de guía de precisión es posible reducir al mínimo la tensión porque el posicionamiento del producto se realiza muy cerca del carrete. Una tensión reducida en el producto significa menor presión en los estratos internos y, por consiguiente, se elimina el riesgo de dañar el producto.

Con los cables estándares y productos similares con un diámetro mínimo de 4mm se puede realizar un enrollado de calidad muy alta. La unidad de enrollado de precisión también permite enrollar alambres y tubos de acero de diámetros incluso menores. Para tener un carrete enrollado perfectamente es necesario que el carrete mismo sea de alta calidad. Cuanto mayor es la calidad del carrete, más fácil es obtener un enrollado satisfactorio del producto.

Seguridad

Actualmente, a veces es necesario guiar manualmente el cable en el carrete y este proceso puede causar pérdidas de tiempo y ser peligroso.

A menudo, el operador que guía el producto debe dedicarse exclusivamente al proceso de enrollado y, según el producto, puede tener que quedarse de pie justo delante del enrollador. Quedarse cerca del enrollador implica el riesgo de quedarse atrapado entre el producto y el carrete, con consiguientes lesiones personales graves. A medida que los requisitos de salud y seguridad se vuelven más estrictos, aumenta la dificultad para realizar el guiado manual del cable delante del enrollador, porque en el día de hoy los enrolladores son instalados en una zona totalmente protegida. Incluso cuando es posible guiar manualmente el cable en el carrete, la distancia entre el operador y el enrollador puede impedir un enrollado perfecto.

Poleas

Para controlar bien el producto, es importante guiarlo lo más cerca posible del carrete.

Un parámetro clave es que la distancia entre las poleas que guían el producto y el carrete sea lo más pequeña posible.

El producto es guiado a través de una serie de poleas dimensionadas de acuerdo con el diámetro del producto. Gracias a las dimensiones compactas de estas poleas, la distancia hasta el carrete puede ser reducida al mínimo.

Además, la forma de las poleas permite posicionar el producto muy cerca de la brida. El brazo de guía está dotado de sensores que detectan y miden la distancia hasta la brida y aseguran el cambio de dirección automático del guía-hilo cuando el cable está cerca de la brida.

El software que controla la unidad de enrollado de precisión ha sido desarrollado para optimizar la cantidad de producto en el carrete, por ejemplo evitando dejar amplios espacios vacíos cerca de las bridas cuando se cambia de dirección de enrollado. Durante el enrollado, el brazo de guía gira 180 grados

de manera que las poleas pueden llegar siempre muy cerca de la brida. El sistema de detección de la brida es tan eficiente que es innecesario introducir nuevos parámetros cuando se cambia de tamaño de carrete.

La unidad de enrollado de precisión adapta automáticamente la distancia que debe cubrir el guía-hilo a las dimensiones del carrete montado y, por tanto, no es necesario cambiar las configuraciones finales.

Cuando se ha completado un estrato y preparado el sucesivo, el brazo de guía se mueve hacia la guía de patín de bolas recorriendo una distancia igual al diámetro del producto para mantener el producto en posición horizontal.

La entrada de la unidad de enrollado de precisión consiste en una serie de poleas dispuestas cónicamente que, de este modo, aplican una presión mínima sobre el producto, incluso cuando la altura de la línea cambia a medida que se llena el carrete. El uso de la unidad de enrollado de precisión permite llenar el carrete hasta el borde de las bridas.

Carretes

Es importante posicionar el producto lo más cerca posible de las bridas. Generalmente, se recomienda que las bridas no se desvíen más de la mitad del diámetro del producto.

Si por ejemplo un producto presenta un diámetro de $\varnothing 12\text{mm}$, las bridas no deben desviarse más de 6mm ($\pm 3\text{mm}$). Esto significa que cuanto más pequeño es el diámetro del producto, más importante es que los carretes sean perfectos.

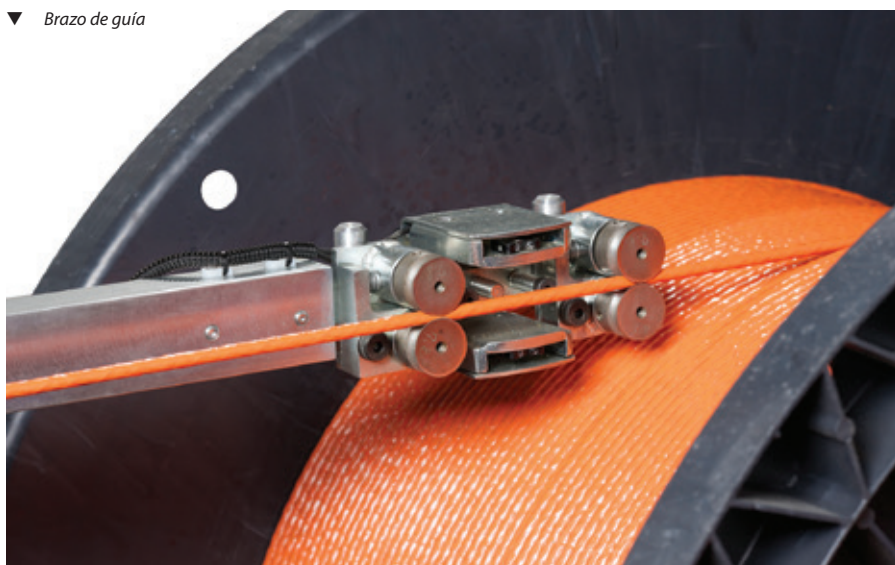
Durante muchos años Roblon ha suministrado enrolladores con unidades de enrollado de precisión integradas, capaces de manejar carretes de $\varnothing 380$ a $\varnothing 1,400\text{mm}$ con peso bruto máximo de 1.800Kg , y de enrollar productos de $\varnothing 3$ a $\varnothing 16\text{mm}$.

Algunos de estos enrolladores han sido usados en los últimos 15 años para enrollar alambres de acero con necesidad de mantenimiento mínimo, lo que prueba la durabilidad de esta tecnología.

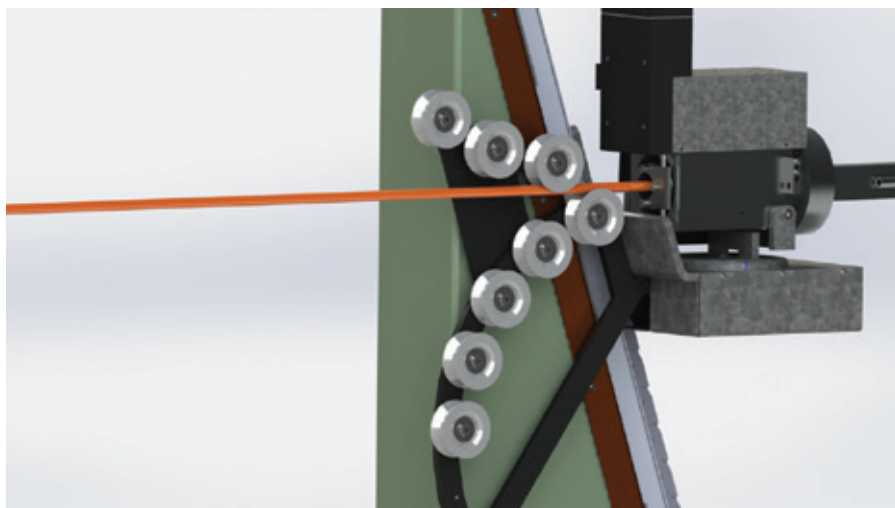
Integración

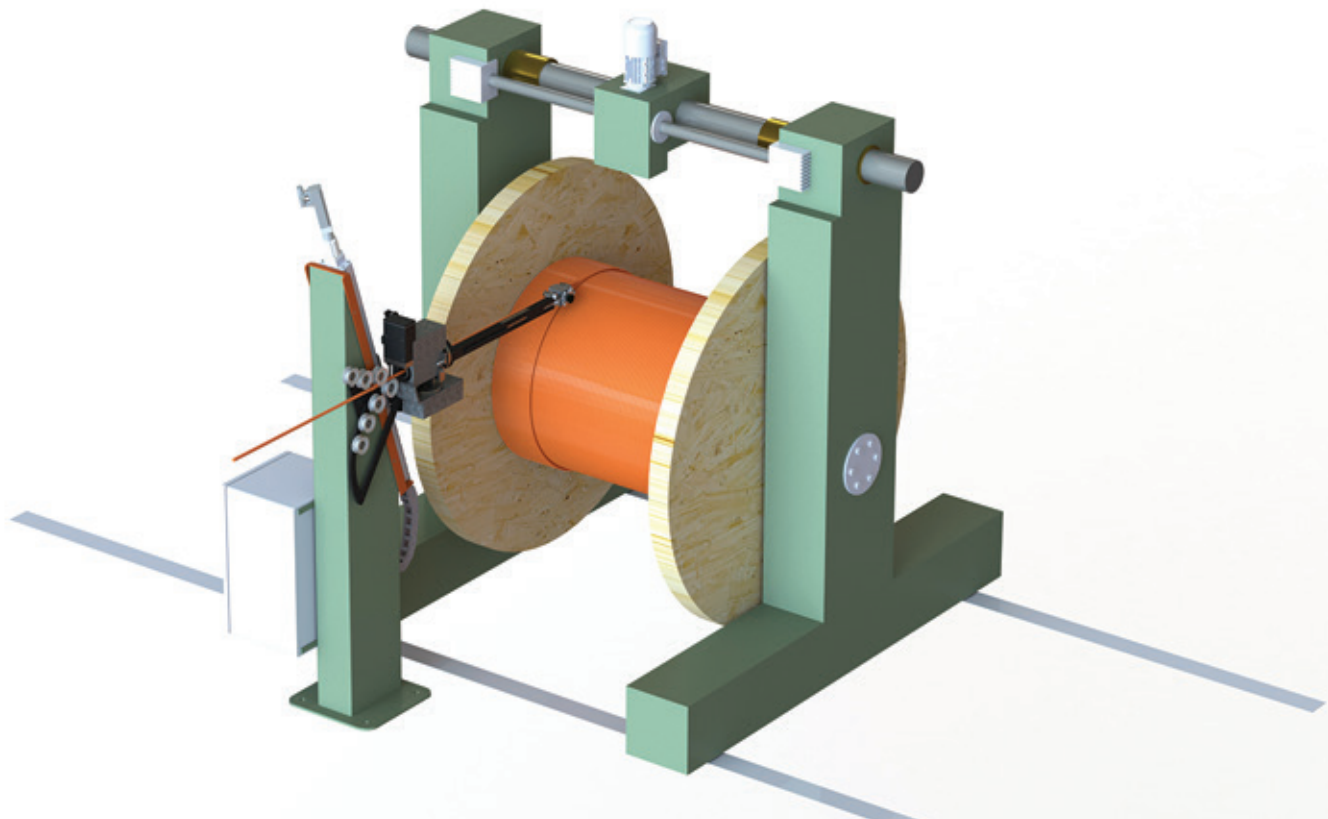
La nueva unidad de enrollado de precisión independiente puede ser integrada en enrolladores con guía-hilo existentes para controlar la velocidad del guía-hilo. El software ha sido desarrollado para

▼ Brazo de guía



▼ Poleas de entrada





▲ Enrollador/Unidad de enrollado

integrarse con impacto mínimo en el control existente del enrollador. La unidad de enrollado de precisión puede intercambiar señales con el enrollador o con el control de línea usando señales analógicas o digitales.

La unidad de enrollado de precisión se basa en los PLCs e inversores más modernos de bajo consumo energético y es suministrada normalmente con soluciones Siemens o Allen-Bradley.

Además, la unidad de enrollado de precisión independiente puede formar parte o intercambiar señales con el circuito de seguridad del enrollador existente.

Con la máquina se entrega la Declaración CE de Incorporación de una cuasi máquina de manera que la unidad puede ser integrada fácilmente en una certificación CE global de la línea de producción completa.

La unidad de enrollado de precisión está fijada en el suelo delante del enrollador y puede ser usada con carretes de Ø650 a Ø2.600mm.

La unidad presenta dimensiones muy compactas y en la mayoría de los casos

será posible instalarla dentro de una zona protegida alrededor del enrollador. La unidad es fácil de instalar porque se fija en el suelo por medio de cuatro bulones y requiere una cantidad de conexiones eléctricas mínima con el enrollador.

Es posible introducir una serie de recetas que se pueden programar con los parámetros correspondientes a los diferentes productos y dimensiones.

Se puede acceder a las recetas desde un panel de control separado, desde el panel de control del enrollador o desde el control de línea.

Resumen

Cuando se instala una unidad RobCoil™ junto con un enrollador con guía-hilo existente, el guiado manual se vuelve innecesario durante el enrollado. Se requiere el manejo manual sólo cuando se cambian los carretes.

Cuando se instala un carrete vacío, se debe enhebrar el producto y fijarlo al barril. Luego, se alinea el carrete y se puede iniciar el enrollado. ■

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* Front cover courtesy of AlphaGary showing the complete engineering balance for demanding cable designs.

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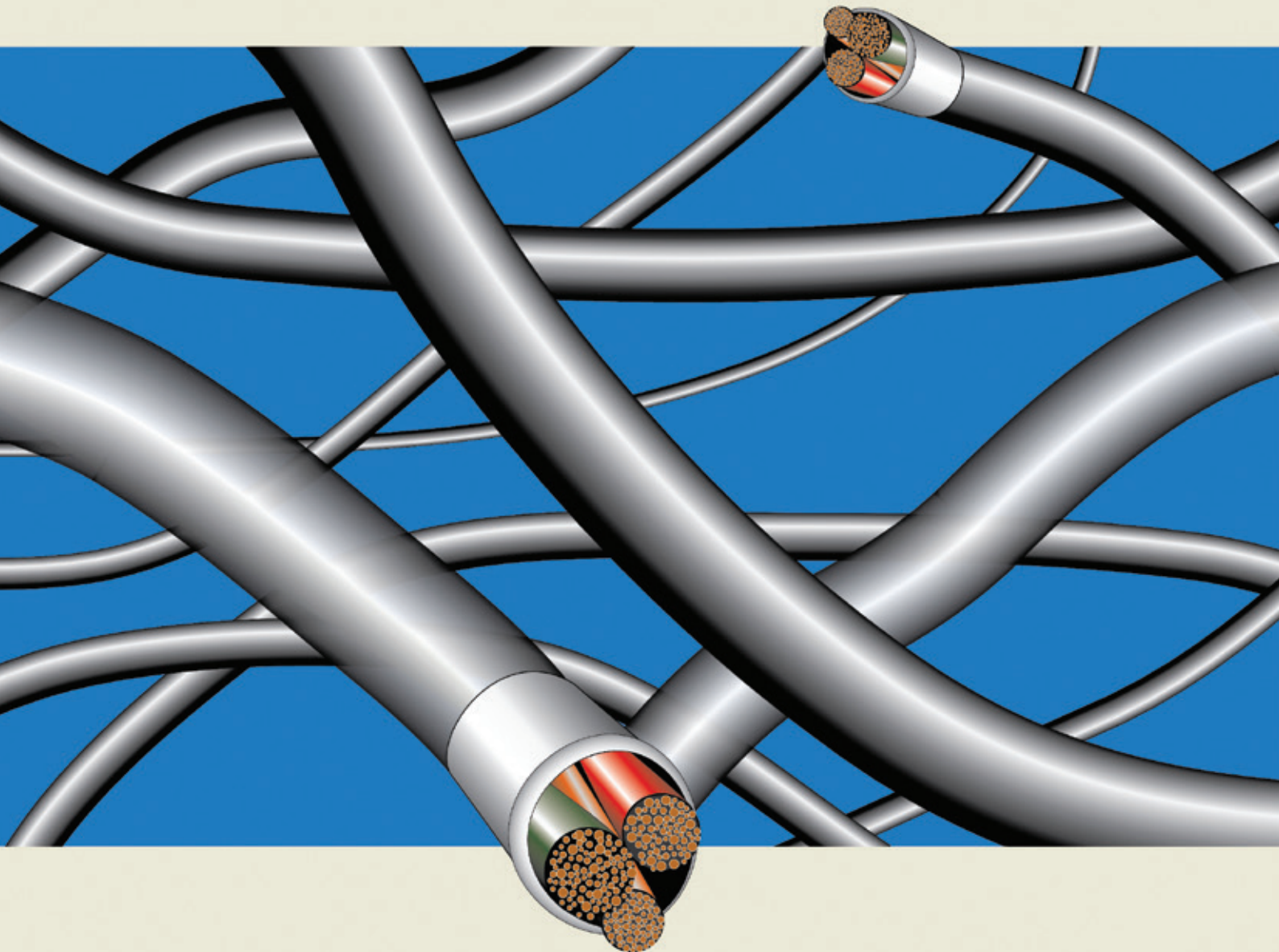
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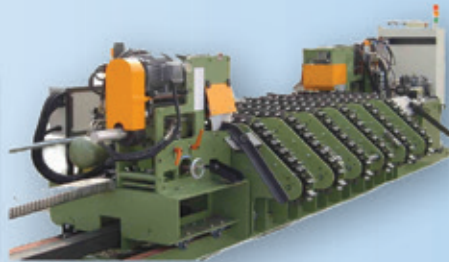
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Combined Drawing Machine



Chain Draw bench



Chamfering Machine



Two Roller Straightening Machine



Cold Draw Bar Equipment (Ferrous and Non Ferrous)



Peeling Machine



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