



WORLD WIDE WEAVE

Successful trade fair appearance

Strong interest in new fabric belts for nonwoven production

As the leading trade fair in the nonwovens sector, INDEX impressively reflected the dynamics of the increasingly demanding nonwovens market. Indeed, more visitors and exhibitors than ever before were keen to engage in intensive exchanges over four days at this international specialist forum in Geneva. Visitors from the sector showed particular interest in the newly developed woven belts from GKD – GEBR. KUFFERATH AG for forming, binding and drying nonwovens. The CONDUCTIVE® 7690 forming belt, as well as coated glass hybrid fabric for use in single-belt and double-belt dryers were at the heart of the mesh and fabric specialist's trade fair appearance. Since these products have already proven themselves in real-world applications at well-known reference customers, numerous trade fair visitors took the opportunity to engage in detailed discussions. Filter media made of metallic mesh for polymer filtration, as well as the new in-house spiral fabric manufacturing segment, also serve to underline the bandwidth of GKD's comprehensive expertise in the field of nonwovens. The global market leader for technical fabrics further underlined its appeal with a new stand design that brought together the various areas of application.

"The feedback we received from visitors to our stand was much stronger than at the INDEX event three years ago, both quantitatively and qualitatively." This was the unanimous summary of the GKD engineers present at the trade fair.



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Minimized cleaning costs in nonwoven forming operations

Many of the visitors had already read media reports on successful applications of the innovative CONDUCTIVE® 7690 forming belt at Mondi Ascania and also Multitexx, the Dörken subsidiary that specializes in nonwoven production. As such, they arrived at the GKD stand with concrete questions and issues. Its rough structure allows this belt type to reach production speed in a very short time without the need for prior, time-consuming roughening. Alongside this high traction, homogeneous web formation and optimum nonwoven removal serve to support process efficiency. Visitors were particularly interested in the cleaning performance of the CONDUCTIVE® 7690, which had received praise from the well-known reference customers. Thanks to the revolutionary new belt design, soiling can be removed significantly more easily and quickly than with conventional belts. With its special monofilaments, the belt also reliably discharges process-based electrostatic charges.

Adhesion-free nonwoven bonding and drying

The coated glass hybrid fabric for use in single-belt and double-belt dryers, first presented by GKD in Geneva, also attracted many specific questions. Glass strands woven into the material in the warp direction lend this fabric lightness, while also ensuring a high degree of lateral stability. A high-grade PFA coating ensures that even products that are difficult to remove will not stick. This low soiling tendency contributes to significantly longer cleaning cycles and thereby also to greater productivity. Depending on the intended application, GKD designs this belt type as magnetic or non-magnetic.

Optimization potential for hygiene nonwovens

Not one, but two belt types for high-speed processes in the rapidly growing market of hygiene nonwovens rounded off the full range of belts on show. Thanks to their specific construction from metal with special plastic cords



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integrated in the direction of rotation, the self-regulating V-crimp type belts from GKD are highly flexible. This also qualifies them for very tight bending radii and high forces for uninterrupted production. With their reliable discharge of electrostatic charges, belts in the CONDUCTO® range also facilitate safe and efficient processes.

Filter media made of metallic mesh

In the field of polymer filtration, metal mesh filter media meet the strictest standards for central filters, spinning beams and blower filters. Multi-ply structures produced from optimized plain dutch weave for process-specific filter discs or cartridges guarantee reliable particle retention and a long service life of the screen changers. In the spinning beam, tailor-made fabric plies optimize filtration of the fusion flow. Blower screens made of large-format honeycomb supporting plates, which employ a specially pretreated mesh design on both sides, improve fiber flow by creating a homogeneous flow.

Sought-after expertise

Numerous experts from the converter industry and system engineering backgrounds were keen to chat with the specialists from GKD about all three fields of application. This high level of visitor interest, together with the depth of the discussions held, once again underlined the fact that the fabric and mesh experts remain a sought-after solution partner for development, engineering and also optimization of existing processes in the exacting nonwoven production sector.

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GKD – GEBR. KUFFERATH AG

The owner-run technical weaver GKD – GEBR. KUFFERATH AG is the global market leader for metal and plastic woven solutions as well as transparent media facades. Under the umbrella of GKD the company combines four independent business units: Industrial meshes, Process belt meshes, Architectural meshes and Transparent media façades. With its six plants – including the headquarters in Germany and other facilities in the US, South Africa, China, India and Chile – as well as its branches in France, Great Britain, Spain, Dubai, Qatar and worldwide representatives, GKD is never far from its customers.

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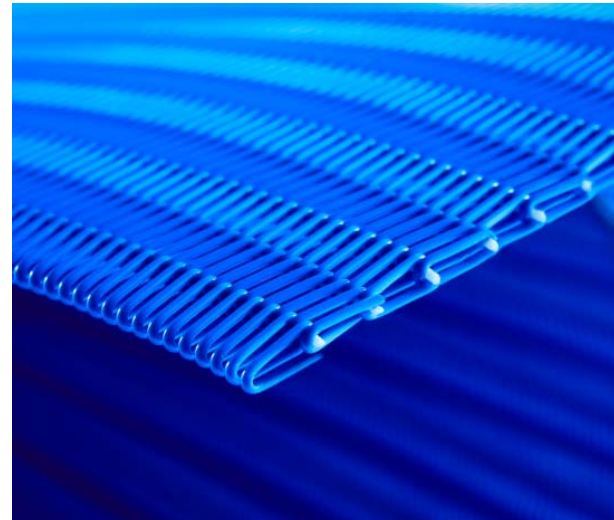
Picture 1: Visitors from the sector showed particular interest in the newly developed woven belts from GKD for forming, binding and drying nonwovens.



Picture 2: The CONDUCTIVE® 7690 forming belt by GKD, was at the heart of the mesh and fabric specialist's trade fair appearance.



Picture 3: In the field of polymer filtration, metallic mesh filter media by GKD meet the strictest standards for central filters, spinning beams and blower filters.



Picture 4: In-house manufactured spiral fabric belts underline the bandwidth of GKD's comprehensive expertise in the field of nonwovens.

Picture 1-4 © GKD

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