



WORLD WIDE WEAVE

GKD: a successful demonstration of process belt expertise

Huge interest in VACUBELT[®] filter belts for key industries

The WEAVE IN MOTION business unit of GKD – GEBR. KUFFERATH AG looks back with great satisfaction on the FILTECH 2016 in Cologne. Besides countless talks with long-standing customers, interesting new contacts were established at the world's leading event and conference for filtration. Together with the filtration experts from the SOLIDWEAVE business unit, the GKD process belt specialists demonstrated the all-round expertise of the technical mill for metal and plastic woven mesh to a fascinated professional audience. In the process belt sector, VACUBELT[®] filter belts for phosphogypsum filtration attracted intense interest – as predicted. But long-established belt solutions for FGD gypsum dewatering were also in strong demand. In addition, the still relatively unknown deployment potential of VACUBELT[®] filter belts in cooling lubricant filtration also contributed to the positive resonance among visitors to the GKD stand.

Strong demand for phosphogypsum filtration

To cover the worldwide increase in demand for fertiliser, global capacities for phosphorus production are currently being massively expanded. Particularly in the main supplier countries on the African continent, great efforts are underway to improve production efficiency and reliability through the construction of new plants or the modernisation of existing equipment. At the FILTECH, a range of plant manufacturers and operators seized the opportunity at the GKD stand to inspect first-hand the high-performance dewatering belts of the VACUBELT[®] product family and to discuss the specific advantages of their construction in talks with the process belt



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experts. With their consistently high dewatering performance, robust lateral stability and excellent cleaning properties, these belts guarantee outstanding efficiency in phosphogypsum dewatering. This efficiency is also due to GKD's patented PAD seams with their significantly reduced product penetration in the seam zone and their greater durability.

Fresh momentum for FGD gypsum dewatering

A second main focus of visitor interest was FGD gypsum dewatering. This was the topic of numerous talks with plant manufacturers. In Germany, the operation of flue gas desulphurisation plants (FGD) in power stations has been in decline for years now as a result of the impact of the turnaround in energy policy. On the other hand, environmentally friendly cleaning of the flue gas produced through coal-fired power stations is currently gaining importance in Asian industrialised nations. Here, VACUBELT® filter belts for FGD gypsum in new plants or for retrofits in existing power plants is in strong demand. With its belt type 2015 made of pure polyester monofilaments, GKD offers a tried and tested filter belt that meets the highest requirements. The specific mesh construction has a smaller mesh aperture in spite of more pores per square meter. Its higher air permeability, faster dewatering, lower tendency to clog and excellent cleaning properties are the reasons why this belt type is superior to conventional belts for FGD gypsum dewatering.

Interesting alternative in cooling lubricant filtration

For years now, stainless steel mesh belts by GKD have been popular choices for a range of applications in the cooling lubricant filtration sector. At the FILTECH, GKD showcased the plastic woven mesh belt VACUBELT® 3354 and its attractive deployment potential. This belt dispenses with any need for filter aids and excels in continuously operating central installations through its extraordinary stability. The mesh, made of robust monofilaments with small pore openings, not only guarantees consistent fulfilment of the



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specified separation rate but also offers the added advantage of considerably longer life cycles. In a trial application on the premises of an internationally leading automotive supplier, this belt – deployed in a central installation – significantly surpassed the performances of conventional filter belts made of polypropylene.

Visitors to the GKD stand at the FILTECH used the opportunity to avail themselves of the professional advice of the seasoned process belt specialists. They were also inspired by the wide-ranging performance spectrum of the VACUBELT® product family to engage in discussions about new ways to better equip themselves to meet the future challenges of a highly competitive business environment.

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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 – WORLD WIDE WEAVE the company combines three independent business units: SOLID WEAVE (industrial meshes), WEAVE IN MOTION (process belt meshes) and CREATIVE WEAVE (architectural meshes). 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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