



PRESS RELEASE

IKV research into the injection moulding of elastomers

A new LWB Steinl elastomer injection moulding machine in the IKV development plant

Aachen, February 2017 – The IKV Institute of Plastics Processing at RWTH Aachen University has received a new vertical elastomer injection moulding machine of type VSEFE 3000/2000/330 b Performance from LWB Steinl GmbH & Co. KG, Altdorf. Peter Radosai, Head of Sales Europe, handed over the new machine in a ceremony at the IKV development plant.

The EF-E injection unit (LWB Steinl's designation) represents the state-of-the-art in the field of injection technology. It combines the positive properties of the first-in, first-out (FIFO) principle of an EF injection unit with a fully-emptying E system. A clear reduction in heating time can also be achieved through the multi-stage control of the dissipative injection energy performed by the rapid cure element fitted between the EF and the E systems. The machine has a clamping force of 2825 kN and can deliver a maximum injection volume of 2000 ccm.

The IKV's research programme includes innovative approaches to optimum process control aimed at offsetting material-conditioned batch fluctuations. In the field of special injection moulding processes, this new machine is being used to conduct investigations into the projectile injection technique using black rubber. The general aim of research work at IKV is to investigate and overcome the challenges associated with machinery, processes and tools in the production of elastomer parts.

The Head of the Institute, Professor Christian Hopmann, expressed his thanks to LWB Steinl for making the state-of-the-art elastomer injection moulding machine available: "We are delighted that, with this machine, we will be able to further expand our activities in the field of elastomer injection moulding and take forward our work on new research issues. The new machine technology opens up completely new possibilities for boosting efficiency and optimising the processes employed for the processing of elastomers. LWB Steinl has supported this work for a long time already and, with the new elastomer injection moulding machine, will allow us to conduct research with state-of-the-art technology. And that is also of direct benefit for our students' education too."

www.ikv-aachen.de

www.lwb-steinl.com

About IKV

The IKV Institute of Plastics Processing at RWTH Aachen University, is Europe's leading research and education institute engaged in the field of plastics technology. More than 300 staff are employed in finding solutions to problems connected with processing, materials technology and part design for plastics and rubber. IKV's close contacts with industry and science, together with its outstanding facilities, ensure that students benefit from a comprehensive, practically oriented course of study. Plastics engineering graduates from IKV are thus sought-after experts in industry. Around 50 percent of German plastics engineers with a university degree have received their education at the IKV. In organisational terms, IKV is divided up into the four specialist departments of Extrusion and Rubber Technology, Composites and Polyurethane Technology, Part Design and Materials



Technology, and Injection Moulding. The Institute also takes in the Centre for Analysis and Testing of Plastics, and the Training and Further Education department. IKV is run by a non-profit Association of Sponsors, which currently has a membership of around 290 plastics companies from all over the world. Univ.-Prof. Dr.-Ing. Christian Hopmann is Head of the Institute and Managing Director of the Association of Sponsors. He also holds the Chair of Plastics Processing at the Faculty of Mechanical Engineering at RWTH Aachen University.

Contact for this topic:

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Peter Radosai, Head of Sales Europe (3rd from left) and Markus Zabel, Process Engineer (far right) at LWB Steinl meet up with IKV staff for the official handing-over of the new injection unit: Nafi Yesildag, Head of Extrusion Dept., Florian Lemke, research assistant, Prof. Christian Hopmann, Institute Director, and Michael Drach, research assistant (from left to right) (Photo: IKV/Fröls)