

HENNECKE PRESS RELEASE

When visions become reality – Hennecke at JEC

Double-digit growth rates in the number of visitors and exhibitors attending this year's JEC Composites Show underline the ever increasing demand for composite materials. Hennecke GmbH, based in Sankt Augustin near Bonn, enthused trade visitors at the exhibition with the broad range of possibilities offered by the PUR-CSM polyurethane spray technology.

"We did not expect such a success, especially as this was our first time at the JEC Show", admits Detlef Höhn. Looking back at Hennecke's presence at the trade fair, the project manager in the area of new technologies assesses the outcome as positive in every respect: "Many visitors had a visible 'aha!' effect, which was a great feedback for us and demonstrates the multi-functional use of PUR-CSM technology."

Hennecke GmbH made the processing method that allows fibre-reinforced components or compound mouldings to be made from unfilled or filled PU systems in a PU spraying process the central focus of its trade fair appearance. By its own account, the machinery and plant manufacturer counted on the inventiveness and imagination of the professionals during its first participation in the composites performance show.



Although PUR-CSM can already be considered as a mature technology, the use of the multi-component spraying method opens up a whole range of new applications of this process and can provide ideal solutions to yet unsolved questions of the processors - even where a polyurethane solution had not been thought of before.

The feasibility of this multi-functional plant technology in practice is largely owing to the new four-component MN 10-4 spray mixhead. On the one hand, this multi-component technology allows the use of various PU formulations from the same raw material family, e.g. to handle

different-sized moulds on one plant. On the other hand, absolutely different PU systems and thus different manufacturing processes can be run on the same plant.

But even in the past, there was no question that the application possibilities of this young technology could be limited in any way. At its present stage of evolution, PUR-CSM can already be used in six different applications.

This variety of possibilities can also be attributed to the fact that all process variants are essentially based on one spraying concept. The plant technology therefore offers a high degree of flexibility. The modular setup of Hennecke's spraying equipment enables the technology to be matched with customer requirements. Different CSM spray techniques can thus be run on one production line, or varied PU systems can be combined in one component and process. This means that users have a highly flexible production means at hand with only one investment. Above all, producers focusing on small volumes can benefit from the possibility of employing two or even more manufacturing techniques with only one plant because they are not limited to a single production technology when acquiring new projects.

The great interest shown by the visitors is but one reason for the overall satisfaction of the polyurethane specialists. Many of the expert talks actually resulted in specific projects and, according to the machinery manufacturer, underlined once more the many unique advantages of the PUR-CSM technology. Detlef Höhn puts it in a nutshell: "The formula for success in the market consists to a large extent of visions: Those that have already turned into reality and those that suddenly appear to be realisable - PUR-CSM is an ideal example for that."

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