



WORLD WIDE WEAVE

Quality for sewage sludge treatment

GKD process belts are a success at the IFAT in Munich

This year's IFAT in Munich, the world's leading trade fair for water, sewage, waste and raw materials management has come to an end, after clocking up record numbers of visitors and exhibitors. The business unit WEAVE IN MOTION of the company GKD – GEBR. KUFFERATH AG from Dueren certainly experienced its presence at the trade fair as an outstanding success. Numerous promising contacts were made and concrete project enquiries received at process belt specialists' stand. Professional visitors flocked to the GKD stand, drawn by innovative solutions to one of the key future issues facing municipal waste water treatment plants: sustainable and cost-efficient disposal of sewage sludge from the treatment of waste water. Plant operators and equipment manufacturers were equally interested in belt types for pre-dewatering and in belt presses and belt dryers that combine exceptional stability with high flexibility. And there was particularly great interest in cutting-edge mesh innovations like process belts with a wear indicator.

The worldwide demand for innovative solutions in the field of environmental technology is greater than ever. With over 135,000 visitors from 170 countries and over 3,000 exhibitors from 59 nations, the IFAT 2014 gave impressive proof of its claim to be the world's leading trade fair for this area. The positive resonance was also evident at the GKD stand. Environmentally sound and cost-effective disposal of sewage sludge from waste water treatment is in international demand, and, at the trade fair, the GKD business unit WEAVE IN MOTION responded by showcasing industry-specific belt



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solutions developed in collaboration with leading plant and equipment manufacturers. GKD process belts owe their special quality feature, their exceptional stability, in no small part to the fact that they are produced on heavy-duty special looms for woven metal meshes with subsequent precision thermal treatment.

Innovative dewatering

With individually optimised custom belt types, GKD facilitates a good sludge retention rate and at the same time an open mesh structure for the pre-dewatering stage. Extreme mechanical resilience, as provided by the polyester mesh belt 1003, for example, is also required in the belt presses that further dewater the sludge under great pressure in the next treatment stage. Specialist visitors were also particularly interested in the optimisation potential offered by an innovative further development: a novel belt type designed to meet the requirements of both pre-dewatering and belt press stages and to facilitate faster and more efficient processes. Exactly what the spirit of the times in this branch is crying out for!

Energy-efficient drying

More and more sewage works are moving over to low temperature belt dryers (LTD) for environmentally sound drying of dewatered sewage sludge. With dryer belts made of a variety of materials and in sizes of up to eight metres wide and 200 metres long, GKD offers the perfect solution for each and every LTD application. Polyester mesh belts are constructed for low temperature belt dryers operating at a temperature range of up to 100°C, while the belt type 5099 made of heavy-duty PPS has no problem withstanding higher temperature ranges. Dust explosions during drying are prevented by CONDUCTO type belts with woven-in bronze wires in compliance with the ATEX standard.



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Reliable processes

Furthermore, innovative mesh constructions with integrated wear indicators offer measurable added value. These meshes provide additional process reliability and were met with great interest at the GKD stand. As belt wear progresses, the contrasting colour of the core of the woven-in special wire becomes visible and ensures, as a reliable wear indicator, that the belt is replaced in good time and that any drop in filtration efficiency or even downtime is completely avoided.

"We came back from Munich with a huge number of concrete projects in prospect and were able to consolidate and expand our international partnerships. The positive experience of the IFAT 2014 makes us want to get started straight away with the planning for 2016!" says Volker Meuser, Senior Sales & Application Manager at GKD – WEAVE IN MOTION.

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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. Under the umbrella of GKD – WORLD WIDE WEAVE the company combines four independent business units: SOLID WEAVE (industrial meshes), WEAVE IN MOTION (process belt meshes), CREATIVE WEAVE (architectural meshes) and COMPACT FILTRATION (compact filter systems). With its seven plants – including the headquarters in Germany and other facilities in the US, Great Britain, South Africa, China, India and Chile – as well as its branches in



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France, Spain, Dubai, Qatar and worldwide representatives, GKD is never far from its customers.

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