

KraussMaffei at K 2022: Two innovations for the circular economy live at the booth

- Sustainable production with fully automatic color correction during compounding
- From insulin pen caps to automotive door modules: Follow the Circular Economy at first hand
- At K 2022, in Hall 15, Stands C 24 to D 24, visitors can experience the latest innovations from KraussMaffei for themselves

(Hannover, July 27,.2022) The color of an end product is now an important aspect of modern branding. With ColorAdjust from KraussMaffei, color variations with input goods of different colors are a thing of the past. The innovative system combines a color measuring device with photospectrometer technology and machine control to ensure precise, reproducible colors. Visitors can observe the fully automatic color correction process at the K trade show booth C 24 to D 24 in Hall 15. In the CircularEconomy process on the booth, a twin-screw extruder compounds shredded medical caps into a fiber-reinforced, color-precise recyclate.

The ColorAdjust solution developed by KraussMaffei is the first of its kind on the market. It is designed not only for contactless monitoring of color variations, but to compensate even for minor deviations by directly adjusting the precise color setpoint. This gives compound processors high reproducibility even when processing input materials of varying color spectrum. The color setpoint is rapidly achieved when starting the compounding process after a stop as well as in the event of color changes. In view of the fact that start-up scraps and reject material to be subsequently disposed of are thus minimized, ColorAdjust ensures sustainable and highly efficient production of reclaim material. This will save not only time and money, but above all valuable raw materials.

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Sustainable production with fully automatic color correction during compounding

KraussMaffei's ColorAdjust system comprises two units: A spectral photometer determines the color of the cooled reclaimed pellets in the vibration chute and transmits the corresponding results to the machine control system. These values are used to control the color metering unit that is equipped with at least four colors and four metering devices. Upon request, the system can be expanded to six colors to flexibly cover the entire color spectrum that the human eye can distinguish. The color can generally be added in masterbatch or liquid form. The ColorAdjust system adjusts the colors fully automatically without any operator intervention. Thanks to its integration into the twin-screw extruder control system, it can be operated easily from the central control panel.

From insulin pen caps to automotive door modules: Follow the Circular Economy at first hand

At the KraussMaffei booth in Duesseldorf, interested visitors can get a live experience of the entire material cycle: from polypropylene virgin material used in the production process via re-compounding right through to the finished reclaimed material. The PX 200-1400 injection molding machine equipped with a 96-fold tool produces insulin pen caps from PP. On the downstream mill, these caps are subsequently shredded to regrind. The resulting reclaimed material is transferred by appropriate conveying systems into the ZE 28 BluePower twin-screw extruder in UltraGlide version with a processing section length of 44 D. Thanks to the UltraGlide feature, the screws can be removed automatically from the processing section for cleaning purposes, while the extruder with its ideal ratio between screw volume and torque ensures optimum melt homogenization and color dispersion. Glass fibers and additives as required for applications in the automotive industry, for instance, can be incorporated via additional gravimetric loss-in-weight feeders.

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Hall 15, booth C15/C24-D24

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Photo1_20220727_PM_EXT_ColorAdjust: The innovative ColorAdjust system combining a color-measuring instrument based on photo-spectrometer technology with the machine control system ensures precise and reproducible colors

Photo2_20220727_PM_EXT_ColorAdjust: KraussMaffei's ColorAdjust system automatically monitors and corrects even minor color variations during compounding

Photos: KraussMaffei

For further information and printing-quality photos, please visit:

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KraussMaffei – Pioneering Plastics

The KraussMaffei Group is among the world's leading suppliers of machinery and systems for producing and processing plastics and rubber. Our brand has been synonymous with cutting-edge technology for over 180 years. Our range of services covers all areas of injection molding machinery, extrusion technology and reaction process machinery. This gives KraussMaffei a unique selling point in the industry. With the high innovative power of our standardized and individual products, processes, digital and service solutions, we can guarantee customers sustained added value over the entire value-adding chain. Our range of products and services allow us to serve customers in many sectors including the automotive, packaging, and medical and construction industries, as well as manufacturers of electrical and electronic products and household appliances. KraussMaffei employs around 4700

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people all over the world. With more than 30 subsidiaries and over 10 production plants, as well as about 570 commercial and service partners, we are represented internationally close to our customers. KraussMaffei has been headquartered in Munich since 1838.

In April 2016, the Chinese state-owned company China National Chemical Corp. Ltd. ("ChemChina"), one of the leading chemical companies in China, became majority shareholder of KraussMaffei Group. At the end of 2018, ChemChina listed the KraussMaffei Group as KraussMaffei Company Ltd. in Shanghai. This listing opened up access to the Chinese capital market and local investors.

For further information, please visit: www.kraussmaffei.com

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