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Press Release

High purity requirements: Treffert meets exacting demands with special compounds produced on Coperion's new ZSK 32 Mc¹⁸ smart

Stuttgart, September 2014 – The Treffert Group, an acknowledged expert in the production of masterbatches and special-purpose compounds, has once again extended its fleet of machines with a twin screw extruder from Coperion, Stuttgart, Germany. This time it is a ZSK 32 Mc¹⁸ smart, which was first presented at K 2013 in Düsseldorf, Germany. Equipped with 32 mm diameter screws, this extruder has been put into service at Treffert SAS, the group's facility at Ste-Marie-aux-Chênes in the Lorraine region of France. Heinrich Treffert, CEO of Treffert SAS and managing shareholder of Treffert GmbH & Co. KG, says, “With the new extruder we shall be producing mainly masterbatches and concentrates for laser and other sensitive applications. The focus is on the medical, pharmaceutical and automotive industry.”

The design of the ZSK 32 Mc¹⁸ smart is extremely ergonomic. The axes of the screw shafts are positioned at a height of only 800 mm from the floor, thus making the extruder readily accessible for maintenance and – thanks to the smooth surfaces of the machine enclosures – for easy cleaning. The extruder ideally meets the demands that Treffert makes on its machines for the production of materials destined for the manufacture of medical products. Besides the extruder itself, Coperion also supplied the complete pelletizing system: the waterbath, the strand suction device, the strand pelletizer and the pellet screener all come from Coperion Pelletizing Technology.

Operating under the slogan “Colour follows function”, the Treffert Group has during the past several years been concentrating on the production of masterbatches and compounds for the manufacture of medical products and optical materials destined for highly demanding applications. Compared with the classical methods of masterbatch manufacture, these elevated

September 2014

demands have also generated more demanding requirements on the production systems themselves. High product purity and the avoidance of every possible kind of contamination during production now take absolute priority. It was these requirements in particular that were the guiding principle for the development of the new ZSK 32 Mc¹⁸ smart from Coperion. Both Coperion's expertise and the practical experience of Treffert as a long-standing user of ZSK technology went into the development of the ZSK 32 Mc¹⁸ smart. Treffert was involved in this development project from start to finish.

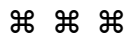
“One of the important features of Coperion's new twin screw extruder”, says Heinrich Treffert, “is the ease and reliability with which it can be cleaned. It meets the essential demands we make on all machines used for the manufacture of materials for sensitive applications. The new twin screw extruder also permits rapid changeover from one batch to another and enables us to respond to customer's wishes within the entire Treffert Group more quickly and flexibly than before.”

Another obviously advantageous feature of the new ZSK 32 Mc¹⁸ smart is the completely enclosed base frame. It contains all connections, water supply system and manifold, thus making for smooth, readily accessible surfaces that are easy to clean. Auxiliary equipment, such as the ZS-B side feeder or the ZS-EG side devolatilization unit, can be mounted with the aid of a swivel arm on any barrel of the extruder process section. They do not come into contact with the floor and do not therefore run the risk of contamination. All units can be operated from a standing position without any need for a ladder, crane or platform, a feature that makes for much greater safety and easier handling.

September 2014

Coperion (www.coperion.com) is the international market and technology leader in compounding systems, feeding technology, bulk materials handling systems and services. Coperion designs, develops, manufactures and maintains systems, machines and components for the plastics, chemicals, pharmaceutical, food and minerals industries. Within its four divisions – Compounding & Extrusion, Equipment & Systems, Materials Handling and Service – Coperion has 2,500 employees and nearly 40 sales and service companies worldwide.

The Treffert Group (www.treffert.eu), with its production facilities in Bingen am Rhein, Germany, and Sainte-Marie-aux-Chênes in the Lorraine region of France, specializes in the production of high-grade masterbatches and compounds for the plastics processing industry. Backed by 80 years of tradition, Treffert produces batches of any desired size, from the smallest sample batch to bulk orders of 100 tonnes per year.



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Successful commissioning of the ZSK 32 Mc¹⁸ smart at the Treffert plant in Ste-Marie-aux-Chênes (from left): Heinrich Treffert, CEO of Treffert SAS and managing shareholder of Treffert GmbH & Co. KG, and Matthias Weinmann, Business Segment Manager Masterbatch and STS at Coperion.

September 2014



In order to meet the extremely exacting requirements of product purity, Treffert has installed the new extrusion line with the ZSK 32 Mc¹⁸ smart in a closed room with restricted access.

Photos: Coperion, Stuttgart