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Press Release

IKO decides in favour of a Coperion Kombiplast for the compounding of shear-sensitive soft PVC

Stuttgart, November 2014 – IKO PLC, whose headquarters are in Wigan/UK, has for the first time decided in favour of a compounding system from Coperion: a Kombiplast KP 62 Mv PLUS/200. At IKO Polymeric's production facility in Chesterfield/UK, the new extrusion system is being used for the plasticizing and compounding of soft PVC destined for the production of multilayer roofing membranes for the waterproofing of flat roofs. IKO PLC is a member company of the international IKO Group, which specializes in high-quality roofing systems for both private and commercial buildings.

The Coperion Kombiplast has been developed specially for the gentle compounding of temperature and shear sensitive polymers such as PVC, cable and other special-purpose compounds. Operating in two stages, the Kombiplast from Coperion consists of a ZSK twin screw extruder, into which the starting materials are metered via a ZS-B side feeder and then plasticized, mixed and homogenized. The downstream ES-A single screw discharge unit gently builds up enough melt pressure for the subsequent pelletizing in the EGR eccentric pelletizer. IKO's Kombiplast KP 62 Mv PLUS/200 features a screw diameter of 200 mm. Andrew Salmon, General Manager at IKO's site in Chesterfield, says: "Whilst Coperion guaranteed us a throughput as high as 2,400 kg/hour, we can in fact operate the machine at up to 2,700 kg/hour with no loss of process stability while maintaining exactly the same high quality of compound."

What is particularly special about IKO's new compounding line is that it is being operated without the cold mixer that is frequently required upstream when compounding soft PVC, as the preheated pre-blend must normally be cooled down again prior to plastification. With Coperion's

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Kombiplast, IKO can meter the hot pre-blend straight into the extruder, thus maintaining high energy efficiency and, by the same token, keeping down the production costs.

After only a few months' practical experience with the new compounding system, Andrew Salmon can already say: "As our products must not show any fluctuations in colour whatsoever, the extrusion system we were looking for obviously had to produce a particularly high quality of product. Many users advised us to invest in a Kombiplast from Coperion, especially as it is also distinguished by its gentle product handling. Today we are pleased to say that we made absolutely the right decision."

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.

IKO (www.iko.com) is a world-wide leader in the roofing, waterproofing and insulation industry for residential and commercial markets. A vertically integrated company, IKO operates more than 25 manufacturing plants throughout North America and Europe. IKO is a family owned business established in 1951.

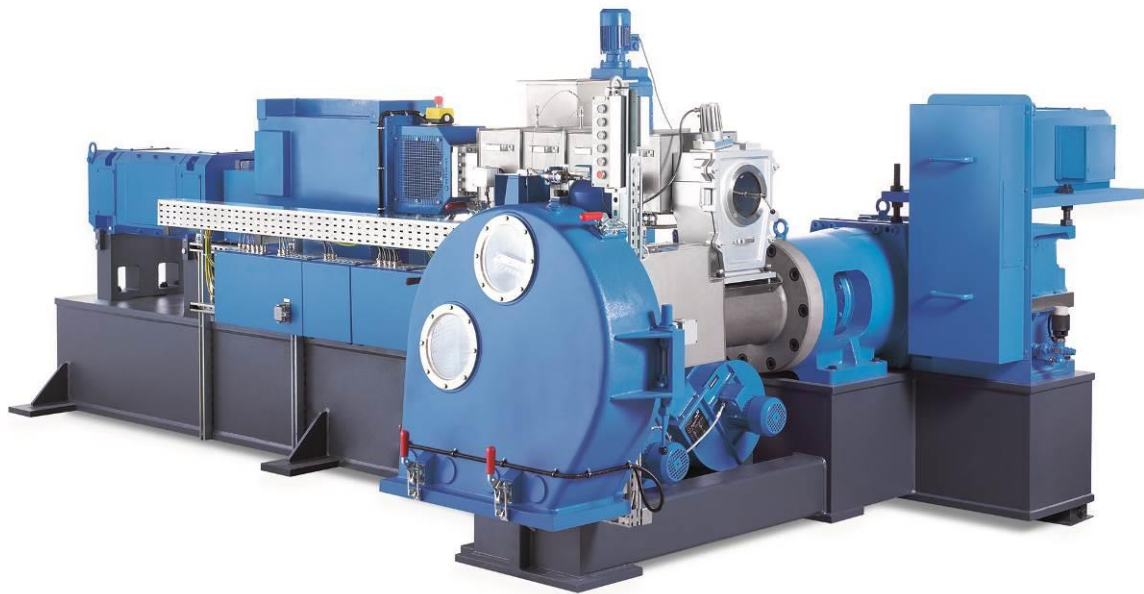


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<http://www.coperion.com/en/news/newsroom/>

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IKO Polymeric in Chesterfield/UK produces the necessary soft PVC compound for the manufacture of its high-quality, multilayer roofing membranes on a two-stage Kombiplast extruder – Model KP 62 Mv PLUS/200 – from Coperion.

Photo: Coperion, Stuttgart