

ACHEMA

Hall 5.0, Booth D34

Press release

Coperion at Achema

FLUIDLIFT ecoblue[®] minimizes dust formation and increases energy efficiency of pneumatic conveying of pellets

Stuttgart, May 2018 – Coperion's newly developed FLUIDLIFT ecoblue[®] is a quality and efficiency-enhancing pneumatic conveying process for plastic pellets. Compared to conventional designs, the process generates much less dust and streamers, which improves the quality of the product and reduces waste. Its lower power consumption also allows plastics manufacturers and compounders to reduce their costs or correspondingly increase their throughput. Under industrial conditions it has been possible to reduce the formation of dust and streamers by between 50% and 98%, at the same time lowering the pressure loss in the conveyor system and hence the necessary energy consumption by from 17% to 35%. Coperion will present its new process, which is suitable for both, new installations and retrofitting existing systems, for the first time in Germany on booth D34, Hall 5.0 at Achema 2018, which will be held June 11 to 15 in Frankfurt/Main, Germany.

The key to significantly reducing both, attrition and pressure loss – the pressure difference between product feed and product delivery – is a controlled increase in the relative humidity of the conveying gas. The primary concern of the extensive investigations which were carried out while developing FLUIDLIFT ecoblue[®] was to prevent any impairment of the end product by minimizing the amount of moisture introduced and subsequently reliably removing it. The result of this is that the granulate can be conveyed at a very low velocity, so friction between the grains and at the wall of the pipe is substantially lower than in previous designs. Ultimately, this new process ensures a dry, almost dust-free end product without any need for complex additional measures.

In general, FLUIDLIFT ecoblue[®] offers a advantageous alternative wherever attrition-sensitive products are conveyed and the generation of dust is undesirable or might even interfere with

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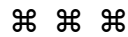
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subsequent processing of the manufactured pellets. This extends the range of applications from bulk plastics to application-specific high-performance compounds. Our new process proves to be particularly advantageous when handling products for upmarket technological applications such as films, high-purity granulates and optical components.

Christian Soretz, Head of Product Management for Materials Handling at Coperion, explains: “FLUIDLIFT ecoblue[®] effectively combats the problem of conventional pneumatic conveying systems that generate varying but usually considerable amounts of attrition in the form of dust or streamers. These may form layers on the inside of the pipes and accumulations of dust in reception bins and silos, which can spontaneously become released and lead to blockages or other deleterious effects. It is therefore necessary to remove all forms of attrition, which often costs a considerable amount of manpower and time and also reduces the production volume. In cases where material also has to be elutriated prior to processing, the production costs rise even further. FLUIDLIFT ecoblue[®] minimizes attrition and thus prevents as far as possible the formation of dust accumulation. This helps plastics manufacturers to achieve consistently high quality and attractive margins. The potential cost reductions and the increased throughput that can be achieved guarantee a rapid return on investment.”

Coperion is the international market and technology leader in compounding and extrusion systems, feeding and weighing 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 30 sales and service companies worldwide. Coperion K-Tron is part of the Equipment & Systems division of Coperion. For more information visit www.coperion.com or email info@coperion.com.

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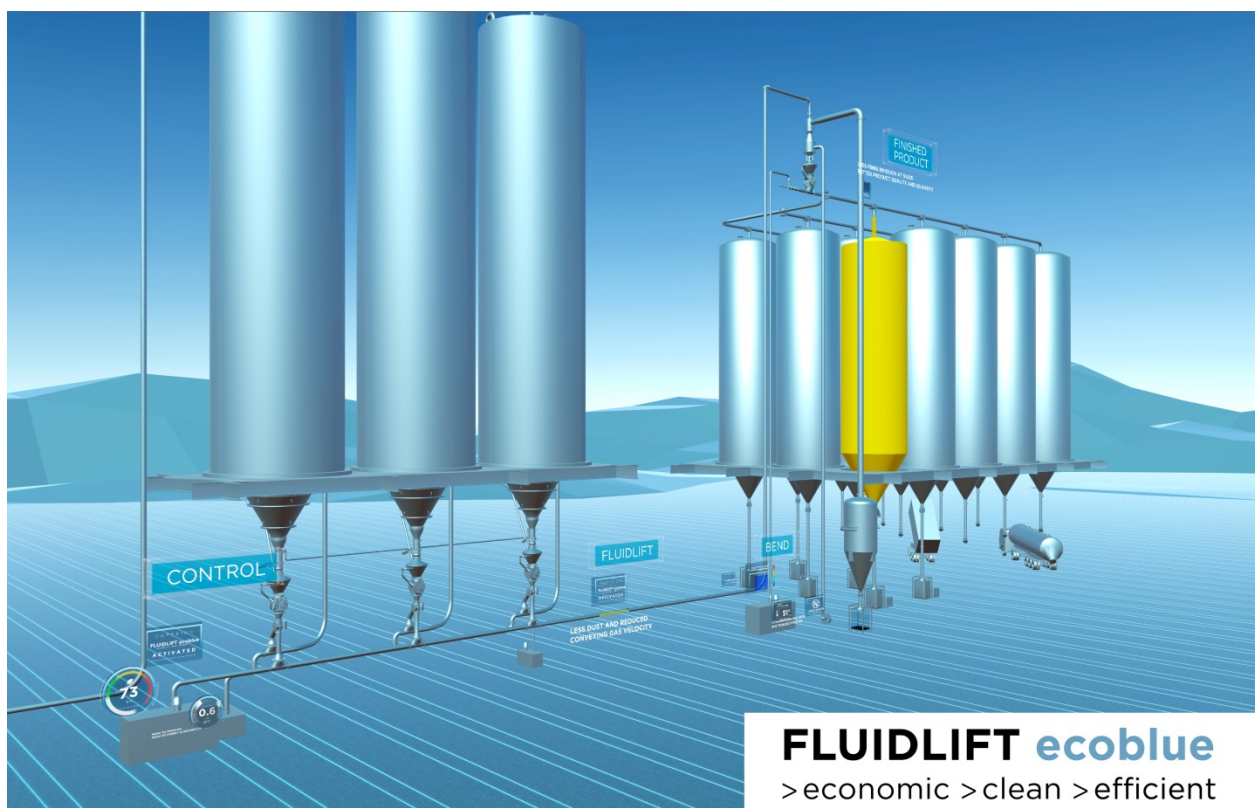
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Overview of the conveyor system showing all the equipment needed for FLUIDLIFT ecoblue®
Image: Coperion, Weingarten/Germany

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dry / conventional



FLUIDLIFT ecoblue[®]

The conveying process FLUIDLIFT ecoblue[®] helps to prevent the formation of abrasion and deposits of dust within the installation, thereby significantly increasing product quality.

Image: Coperion, Weingarten/Germany