

Rajoo champions appropriate extrusion technologies

AS part of its evolving Excellence in Extrusion initiative, Rajoo Engineers has ushered in a new era of offering appropriate technologies. The company is moving beyond specifications for a competitive advantage to identifying the right mix of necessary technologies that add value and help customers grow their businesses, reports executive director Khushboo Chandrakant Doshi.

Khushboo maintains that the Pentafoil five-layer co-extruded blown film line for polyolefin-dedicated (POD) applications is a prime example of such a technology, running successfully in over 15 countries.

Rajoo commissioned the latest five-layer line at Constantia Flexible's facility in Kolkata, India, to meet the converter's strict POD application performance criteria for output, energy consumption and profile tolerances. 'The total line start-up wastage was 700kg, many times lower than the converter normally witnesses. Additionally, energy consumption is 20% less than comparative European machines,' she reports.

Khushboo describes the line's other beneficial features as the Indian flexible packaging industry's first 'flatness enhancer' for improved film flatness during converting processes and an elaborate automation

package, including a material conveying system, material dosing system, automatic thickness profile control and more. 'This line has a rated output of 750kg/hour, five grooved feed barrier screw extruders, hydraulically actuated screen changers, a cylindrical spiral die for 2 500mm wide film, and a fully automatic dual station load cell-controlled surface winder.'

Srikanta Khatua, Constantia Flexibles' head of operation for the Creative Sub-Cluster, explains that Rajoo emerged as the preferred blown film line supplier following a total evaluation of a range suppliers. 'Our Puducherry plant team has been satisfied with Rajoo's machines, service and support track record over the past few years,' he adds.

Srikanta agrees that converters need to understand whether high-end specifications are essential plus their impact on the quality and consistency of the end product. 'We've benchmarked sample films from best-in-class local and global flexible packaging laminates against the films produced on this Pentafoil line and confirmed that our films are clearly superior.'

He notes that blown film line investors also need to consider after-sales support, response to emergencies, costs of spares and services as part of their decision-making process.

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