

The Extrusion Process





Process Variables





BH '96



Applications of Melt Pressure Measurement

Use of melt pressure measurement in an extrusion process will improve quallity of the extrudate, extrusion efficiency and machine and personnel safety

Typical Applications:

- at the die
- at the screen
- at the gear pump inlet
- along the extruder barrel
- rheological nozzles



Pressure Measurement, Pressure Control at the Extrusion Die

- Die pressure measurement is the most important pressure measurement in the process
- Dimensional stability of the extrudates is directly related to the pressure entering the die
- Variations in the raw materials, screw/barrel wear, marginal temperature control and drive motor variations will affect extruder output and therefore, die pressure



Pressure Measurement, Pressure Control at the Extrusion Die

- Die Pressure measurement (series PT460) coupled with a dynisco pressure controller µPC660, provides a closed-loop pressure control system
- Steady die pressure is achieved by continually adjusting the extruder screw speed, resulting in a dimensional stable product

At the Die





Closed Loop Pressure Control







Pressure measurement at the screen

- Contamination con clog the screen and cause a pressure drop at the die, dimensional – unstable products result
- In closed loop control the upstream pressure is increased to compensate the pressure drop – dangerous high pressure result
- differential pressure measurement (sensor upstream and sensor downstream) can indicate clogged filter for manual filters or switch automatic filters
- PT 460 series is recommended







Differential Pressure



differential pressure





Pressure measurement at the pump inlet

- a polymer gear pump needs constant flow of polymer for lubrication therefore minimum inlet pressure (20..70 bar) must be monitored
- closed loop inlet pressure control
 - eliminates long term inlet pressure drift
 - reduces short term inlet pressure fluctuations
 - reduces the average inlet pressure
 - increases safety of operation
- PT 460 series is recommended





•min. 20 ... 70 Bar for lubrication

Differential Pressure <250 bar
Suction Pressure < Output Pressure



Pressure Control







Pressure measurement along the barrel

- research and development of screw designs
- evaluation of plastic materials
- screw selection for specific processes
- the transducers for this application needs to combine high accuracy and durability in a single unit
- the diaphragm may get in contact with semi-molten polymer
- PT460XL series is recommended

Along the Barrel







THANK YOU...