Successful start

Recently, Rotex Europe delivered two Rotex Plastic Pellet Screeners to a producer of colour and additive concentrates for the plastics industry in Asia. The Plastic Pellet Screeners will handle 600 kg/h of engineering plastic pellets each, which are 3mm in diameter and 3mm in length.

The new range of machines is specifically designed to screen smaller volumes up to 2,500 kg/h with the same high level of accuracy of larger Rotex Gyrotyc Screeners and quick and easy setup and cleaning between batches. The Plastic Pellet Screener overcomes the problem of unloading pellets (longs) passing through the screen which is a problem with many vibratory screeners. It does not have a vertical component, therefore pellets remain flat on the screen deck instead of passing straight through.

Utilizing a unique long stroke, gyratory motion and exclusive "Dual Velocity" drive, the Plastic Pellet Screener spreads the pellets evenly across the full width of the screen area and stratifies the material for exceptionally efficient fines removal.

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Centrifugal screener ups production

Output of 35-75 lb bags of polymer concrete at Castek, Inc jumped 75% after replacing a rectangular vibrating screen with a centrifugal sifter to remove clumps arising when sand-silica powder was sprayed with liquid plasticizer.

Previously, a 1' x 2' rectangular vibrating screen sifted at a rate of 4000 lb per hour. Frequent screen blinding required the operator to continually scrape off and push the soft lumps of semi-sticky powder through the screen. Screens failed often.

The Kason Centri-Sifter® centrifugal screener sifts 4000 lb in 12 minutes, and is fully enclosed to prevent dusting. The operator no longer needs to tend the screener, instead assisting a second operator in loading, unloading and verifying bag weights at the pneumatic bagger capable of bagging a 4000-lb batch in 15 minutes.

The sifter sits on a narrow 20-ft high mezzanine below a 20-ft high, 7000-lb capacity pneumatic blower and above a large tank of same dimensions that feeds the Chambland bagger at ground level.

Lumps of powder as large as 2-in form in the pneumatic blower as liquid plasticizer is sprayed into the mixture of fine and abrasive silica sand.

The free-flowing, friable granules are abrasive, with uneven shaped particles ranging from fine to 1/16-inch. Bulk density is 100-lb/cu ft, angle of repose 60%.

The powder flows from the bottom of the blower through a boot and 8-in slide gate valve into the centrifugal sifter. The operator controls flow by adjusting the slide gate valve, then leave the sifter unattended.

In the Centri-Sifter screener, rotating helical paddles impart centrifugal force to the particles, propelling them continuously against and through a perforated plate cylindrical screen. The delumped powder falls through the center of the separator into the sarge tank. A 3-mesh size stainless steel screen breaks even the smallest lumps, with no waste exiting.

During Castek's evaluation of the sifter, Chris Dugan, of Separator Technology, Brown Mills, N.J., sent powder samples to Kason's laboratory which successfully screened them at the desired production rate.

The centrifugal screener operates intermittently according to customer orders. Kiasanda estimates if production were steady, the unit would pay for itself in less than three months.

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