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- ▼ The LabEX-Lamina five-layer barrier sheet line enables laboratory-scale simulation of commercial-scale sheet extrusion.



Rajoo's forward-looking, customer-centric approach

RAJOO ENGINEERS has taken a further step forward in customer support by launching Asia's first blown film and sheet extrusion Innovation Centre in Gujarat, India.

Beaming with pride, executive director, Khushboo Chandrakant Doshi, reports that Indian and foreign customers are already benefitting from the facility's state-of-the-art services, unveiled earlier this year.

Says Khushboo: 'The Rajoo Innovation Centre (RIC) was conceived to help provide access to newer technologies and to assist with skills development; to offer customers an opportunity for conducting trials of new products; and to provide resources to those who've exhausted existing capacities or are unable to meet challenging delivery timelines, or don't yet have the necessary equipment.'

The RIC, she adds, can also benefit raw material manufacturers by offering them a close to real-life operational environment for testing polymers or developing new film structures.

Benefits of in-house R&D

Rajoo also stands to profit from the RIC in terms of its own developmental initiatives by getting to know its customers' customers and their evolving plastics extrusion needs, and, through in-house R&D, further enhancing the quality of its machinery, and validating design concepts for the implementation of global technology advances.

One such innovation showcased in the Centre and fulfilling many of the industry's packaging development needs is the seven-layer Heptafoil blown film line, a 3m-wide line that's fully configurable to produce seven-, five- or three-layer barrier and non-barrier films at a maximum output of 700kg/hour.

The Heptafoil line incorporates a host of advanced features, including a cylindrical spiral die, multicomponent automatic material conveying, gravimetric dosing and blending, internal bubble cooling with width control, circumferential profile control with elevated air ring and triple lip, fully-automatic winder, and a touchscreen-based control panel.

Another key technology available in the RIC is the LabEX-Lamina, said to be the world's smallest five-layer barrier sheet line for laboratory-scale simulation of commercial-scale sheet extrusion.

Both lines are complemented by an array of laboratory and quality control equipment to verify any number of product parameters.

Acknowledging the need for skills development to address the current shortage of trained operators of high-output, high-width, fully-automated blown film lines, the Centre doubles as a training hub for the plastics extrusion industry. It also assists customers' technicians in gaining on-machine experience.

Rajoo Engineers is represented in South Africa by Technimac.

