

NSC nonwoven

Global new nonwovens machinery orders

The nonwovens machinery producer NSC nonwoven, Tourcoing/France, informed about several new projects for the production of nonwovens of leading nonwoven manufacturers.

Fibertex lines

In 2010, Fibertex A/S, Aalborg/Denmark established Fibertex South Africa (Pty) Ltd. together with Safyr (South African Fibre Yarn Rugs Pty Ltd.), a local South African partner to manufacture and market needlefelt products for geotextiles and automotive textiles. Furthermore, the new nonwoven facility will also target applications in many industrial applications such as furniture, bedding and filtration.

For its South African operation, Fibertex has purchased a new needling line from NSC nonwoven. The wide production line includes the weight ProDyn control system with card, crosslapper, drafter and needlelooms.

During the IDEA 2010 show in Miami/USA,

Fibertex finalized the purchase of another ProDyn line from NSC nonwoven together with needlelooms for its plant in the Czech Republic. This is the 5th ProDyn line for the Fibertex group. The investment also features the IsoProDyn system for ideal tensile strength uniformity across the fabric width.

Mattex line

In 2010, Mattex Group established a new business unit for marketing, sales and manufacturing of thermobonded needlepunched geotextile products. The manufacturing plant will be located in Jubail near Dammam in Saudi Arabia.

For its operation, Mattex Group has purchased a new needling line from NSC nonwoven on a turnkey basis. The wide production line for 6.0 m finished product includes the ProDyn weight control system with Excellence carding, Dynamic crosslapper, batt and felt drafters, A.50 R needlelooms, heat setting and thermobonding systems all under the control of SCADA system.

Freudenberg Politex

Freudenberg Politex, Colmar/France, is specialized in roofing sector and technical products using short fibers and spunbond process. This plant integrated in the Freudenberg Politex Group in 1997 has contracted NSC Nonwovens to provide their equipment for a A.50 RS Asselin needleloom replacing a previous generation of A.25 Asselin needleloom for spunbond application.

Freudenberg Politex operates 7 production sites: 3 in Italy, 1 in Russia, 1 in the USA, 1 in Poland and 1 in France, where NSC nonwoven partnership is well installed.

Konus Konex lines

The new contract with Konus Konex d.o.o. in Slovenia consists of the replacement of a current card by an Excellence card of latest generation, as well as of the addition of a new crosslapper using ProDyn system for the production of nonwovens for filtration, wipes, synthetic leather, power transmission and conveyor belts markets. ■

Edana

Lower nonwovens production in Europe

In 2009, the production of nonwovens in Greater Europe (Western and Eastern Europe, Turkey and CIS) has contracted in weight by 6.3% to 1.609 million tons. This compares with the growth in the nonwovens industry for 2008 of 1.2%.

After several years of double digit growth, the weight of nonwovens sold to the personal care wipes market declined in 2009, but sales remained stable in terms of m² with minimal growth recorded. While total production figures, by weight, have fallen, the level of production in m² did continue to grow (nearly 51 billion m² in 2009). According to a comparison of a select group of companies in 2008 and 2009, the average price of nonwovens remains nearly unchanged 2008 to 2009. The total turnover of the industry is estimated at around € 4.79 billion. While trade flows for both nonwovens exports and imports slowed in 2009, the EU 27 trade balance was still highly positive in both volume and in value. Moreover, for each subcategory of nonwovens, EU 27 is still a net exporter.

The most significant decrease in tonnage has

been recorded in polymer-based (spunmelt) nonwovens, in addition, despite a small decrease of nearly 2% of nonwovens deliveries (in tons) to the hygiene business, this segment remains by far the largest outlet of the industry and increased its market share in both weight and surface area in 2009. After several years of double digit growth, the amount of nonwovens sold to the personal care wipes market declined in 2009, but sales remained stable with minimal growth recorded. While the largest contractions were observed in civil engineering, home furnishings, industrial wipes and automotive, medical applications recorded a notable positive development. ■

Andritz Perfojet Spunlace order from China

The machinery producer Andritz Perfojet SAS, Montbonnot/France, will supply a new spunlace line with a capacity of 6,000 tons/year to Hangzhou NBOND Nonwovens. With 6 spunlace lines, NBOND Nonwovens is one of the leading spunlace producers in China. ■

NET conference in USA

The 2010 NET INC. (Nonwovens Engineers & Technologists Innovative Nonwovens Conference) offered by TAPPI and the Nonwovens Institute will take place November 10–12, 2010, Raleigh, NC/USA. Presentations at the conference will focus on:

- Health and Well-Being
- Emerging Technologies
- Nanotechnology
- Safety and Security
- Energy and Infrastructure
- Environment and Sustainability
- Training Future leaders. ■

Wacker Chemie Higher dispersion prices

Effective July 1, 2010, Wacker Chemie AG, Munich/Germany, increased prices in Europe for Vinnapas and Vinnol dispersions by up to € 80/ton. This dispersions are applied in a broad variety of industries, ranging from modern building products to adhesives, nonwovens, paints and coatings, paper, carpet and textiles.

Wacker Polymers has production sites in Germany, China, South Korea and the USA, as well as a global sales network and technology centers in all major regions. ■