



WORLD WIDE WEAVE

The right move

GKD complements its process expertise with spiral fabric

Spiral fabric belts are the established standard in countless industrial and municipal applications. Wherever seamless belts are an indispensable component in dewatering, transport or drying processes, they help to secure the required level of production efficiency. Now, GKD – GEBR. KUFFERATH AG, world leader for technical meshes, has expanded its process belt portfolio to include spiral fabric belts and has created a complete manufacturing environment specifically for this belt type at its parent works in Dueren, Germany. This means that customers for spiral fabric belts can now also benefit from GKD's all-round expertise – proven over decades in numerous key sectors by this reputable solutions provider – in all stages of production, from application-specific configuration and manufacture through filling, linking and fixing to final assembly.

Whether for dewatering of sewage and industrial sludge, for the production of fruit juices or for forming nonwovens – users all over the world rely on process-customised plastic woven mesh belts from GKD. However, for applications where, due to their construction, spiral fabric belts are superior to woven mesh belts, customers have long bemoaned the fact that this kind of screen was missing in the product portfolio of the process belt experts. For these seamless screen belts have a clear advantage in applications where a seam is prone to breakdowns due to mechanical strain or may create markings in the product. This is why seamless spiral fabric belts are used widely in dewatering processes with fibrous products like coir. Spiral fabric belts are also frequently deployed in a range of thermal applications like veneer drying, the production of plasterboards or in multiple storey dryers in



WORLD WIDE WEAVE

the food-processing industry. Reason enough for GKD to add spiral fabric belts to its product portfolio. To ensure that the customers get the maximum benefit of the company's integrated competence in consulting, engineering, production and service, a completely new manufacturing environment compliant with the latest standards has been created. Now, GKD also produces and fixes the individual spirals application-specifically at its own works. Depending on the intended use, the spirals of round or flat wire can be equipped with antistatic properties or improved abrasion resistance. In the course of the production process, the spirals are linked into each other and joined using a pin wire into spiral fabric belts measuring up to six metres in width. The linking and the connector give the screen belts stability and track accuracy. To increase the cross-stability even more or to equip the screen for deployment in a double-belt dryer with a magnetic support system, an additional pin wire made of magnetised steel is also an available option. Thanks to the specially formed filler wires worked into the spirals, GKD can specifically configure the air permeability of the screens to match the individual deployment scenario. For example, the aperture for sludge dewatering is equivalent to that of the tried-and-tested mesh type 1003. In contrast, for use in dryers the aperture is correspondingly larger. After the linking stage, GKD gives the unfinished screen its final properties as a spiral fabric belt through precision thermal treatment, cutting and edge sealing on both sides – all tailored to the individual case. The screens are delivered to the customer safely packed as rolls.

Always the best solution

Spiral fabric belts are available from GKD as filter or dryer belts and also as transport belts. Up to six metres wide, produced seamlessly and cut to size, they excel through their consistently robust construction, their high degree of cross-stability and their resistance to mechanical strain. Application-specifically configured air permeability, track accuracy, high throughput



WORLD WIDE WEAVE

performance and good product discharging properties make the new GKD spiral fabric belts – filled or unfilled – the premium choice for a wide range of applications where conventional woven mesh belts reach their limits. Thanks to the winning combination of their all-round solutions expertise in plastic woven mesh belts and spiral fabric belts and their extensive experience in the sector, the Dueren-based process belt specialists can always provide their customers with the optimal individualised solution – all from a single source, in proven GKD quality, and "Made in Germany".

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GKD – GEBR. KUFFERATH AG

The owner-run technical weaver GKD – GEBR. KUFFERATH AG is the global market leader for metal and plastic woven solutions as well as transparent media facades. Under the umbrella of GKD – WORLD WIDE WEAVE the company combines three independent business units: SOLID WEAVE (industrial meshes), WEAVE IN MOTION (process belt meshes) and CREATIVE WEAVE (architectural meshes). With its six plants – including the headquarters in Germany and other facilities in the US, South Africa, China, India and Chile – as well as its branches in France, Great Britain, Spain, Dubai, Qatar and worldwide representatives, GKD is never far from its customers.

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