

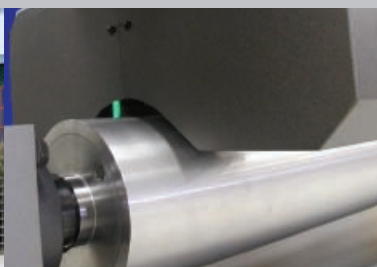
Huhtamaki Improves Quality with Unique Non-Nuclear Measurement

"We are delighted with the unique Thermo Scientific web gauging solution for our APET and styrene product lines. These systems have significantly improved our quality and productivity and delivered the results we were looking for quickly and consistently."

John Snowden, Process Optimization Engineer, Huhtamaki (UK) Ltd.



Huhtamaki (UK) Ltd, Gosport



Thermo Scientific ShadowMaster Gauge



Scanner Installation on Line 4

Huhtamaki

Huhtamaki is a global consumer and specialty packaging company. Its focus and expertise is in paper, plastic, films and molded fiber.

Through its worldwide activities and presence, Huhtamaki is committed to providing innovative solutions and ensuring operational excellence.

Today, Huhtamaki maintains a strategic focus on consumer packaging with some 14,800 employees in 66 manufacturing units and several sales offices in 36 countries worldwide.

Replacing the Legacy Gauging Systems

Huhtamaki Gosport (UK) chose to replace their two legacy gauging systems on lines 4 and 9 that manufacture styrene and APET products respectively.

Their primary objectives were to eliminate nuclear measurement gauges and to reduce their service costs. Other objectives included quality improvements with the ability to sell by the gauge and replace laboratory testing.

Web Gauging Benefits and Results

The benefits achieved with the systems have been:

- Faster start-up times
- Faster quality change times
- Flatter profiles and reduced machine direction variation
- Reduced scrap
- Online quality data as proof of compliance

Prior to the systems introduction, quality was certified by taking manual laboratory samples from each line incurring potentially high waste. Now the operators can see a complete picture of web quality and have used it to reduce the cross-web profile and other variations with confidence.

Improved process visibility has provided better quality, production and start-up time.

Unique Measurement at Huhtamaki Improves Quality and Reduces Maintenance

Non-Contacting, Non-Nuclear Measurement

Huhtamaki specified the need to measure the thickness of their products with non-contacting, non-nuclear gauges as part of an overall corporate directive.

In 2004, Thermo Fisher Scientific application specialists proposed a complete measurement solution for Huhtamaki's Line 9. This included a new gauge called the Thermo Scientific ShadowMaster, which is part of their Thermo Scientific EPlus! web gauging system. ShadowMaster is a unique, non-contacting, scanning gauge that optically measures the thickness of various materials as they pass over the surface of a roll. The measurement is compensated for roll roundness with an integrated eddy-current technique.

The first Thermo Scientific web gauging system was ordered based on this unique measurement ability and installed on Line 9. Although the gauge was the first field prototype at the time, it worked straight away with few problems. Based on this experience, a repeat order for a similar system was placed for Line 4 eighteen months later.

An Efficient Installation

Each system was completely commissioned within one week following a well-executed project plan with competent engineers. This was deemed essential as it helped build confidence in the systems quickly and generated results from the process without delay. Since start-up each system has performed accurately and reliably. The gauges have been checked routinely and have shown good agreement against the laboratory.

The operators found the displays both intuitive and easy to use and provide a clear insight to the process. This, combined with accurate measurements, low maintenance and the high reliability of the systems have been the foundation stones of two successful projects.

Huhtamaki is very satisfied with its investment and with the cooperation and expert services provided by Thermo Fisher. The installations have been a complete success and have met Huhtamaki's investment criteria.

**Visit our website at www.thermo.com/webgauging
or contact your local Thermo Fisher account manager.**

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