

REIFENHÄUSER EXTRUSION GMBH & CO. KG

Foundation

- 1911

Turnover

- 450 million €

Employees

- 1,200

Branches

- Machine building for the plastic processing industry

Key Materials

- All kinds of plastic
- Wood Polymer Composites (WPC)

Key Products

- Extrusion lines



Company

Innovative force as a motor for success Constant research and development of Reifenhäuser EXTRUSION's line concepts are the focus of the leading manufacturer of high performance extrusion systems. The resulting innovations ensure the company's competitive edge worldwide. The use of new raw materials, in particular, and the associated changes in process technology require ever new solutions.

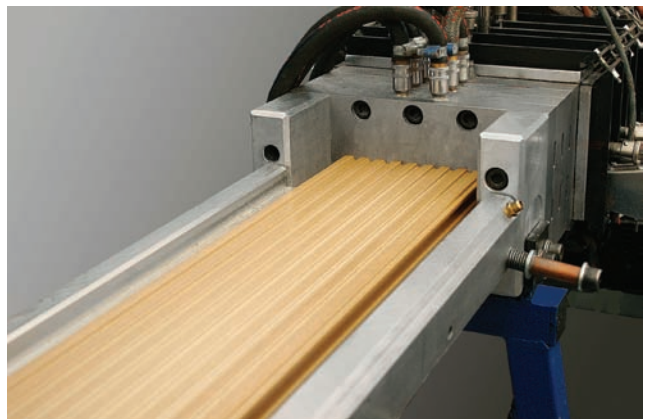
The benefit of its customers is always given the highest priority in all actions and considerations of Reifenhäuser EXTRUSION. Competitive advantages are generated from its employees' creativity, from superior and economically efficient technology, from speediness and convincing customer service.

The comprehensive portfolio includes extrusion lines for thermoforming sheet, cast film and WPC in addition to extruders and components. Future-oriented products, market-driven strategies and direct relationship with customers are ideal prerequisites that allow rapid and direct response to changes in the marketplaces.

Products

Although the success story of Wood Polymer Composites (WPC) has just begun, the issue of wood extrusion is not new to Reifenhäuser. Already in 2004, the company began to concentrate on the extrusion of wood fibre reinforced plastics for which different types of extruders are used, depending on the production method.

The basic component of Reifenhäuser WPC production lines is the new generation of the "BITRUDER" twin-screw extruders. Available in market-conforming sizes from 65 to 135 mm screw diameter and provided with parallel, counter-rotating intermeshing screws they offer ideal prerequisites





tes for the processing of wood fibres and thermoplastic materials such as PE, PP and PVC.

Beside compound extrusion, Reifenhäuser is increasingly focussing on the future-oriented, highly flexible direct extrusion process. This technology combines mixing, melting and direct processing of the individual components into the final product (profiles, pellets) in a single operation. The advantage of Reifenhäuser direct extrusion lines is that they can process up to 80% wood at the same output rates than compound extrusion lines, but offer higher flexibility. Further pluspoints are their reduced space and energy requirement and low initial investment costs.

Capacity losses experienced in direct extrusion (up to 50% compared to compound extrusion) could be completely eliminated.

The "BITRUDEX" direct extrusion technology developed and patented by Reifenhäuser forms the basis of this process. Key components are a counter-rotating twin-screw extruder (BITRUDER) and a gearless single-screw extruder (REltorque) combined to form a cascade-like assembly. This design enables fibres to be processed with about 12% humidity at speeds equal or higher than in conventional compound extrusion and, what is more, without sacrificing the quality of the end product. In addition, this process allows the production of high-strength, UV-stable WPC profiles from PMMA.

A guarantee-model of more than 20,000 operating hours given on the system's wear parts screws and barrels, and complete WPC solutions including the manufacture of WPC tools as well as service, research and development characterise Reifenhäuser as an established world market leader in this segment.



Direct-Extrusion BITrudex 115 II.

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