

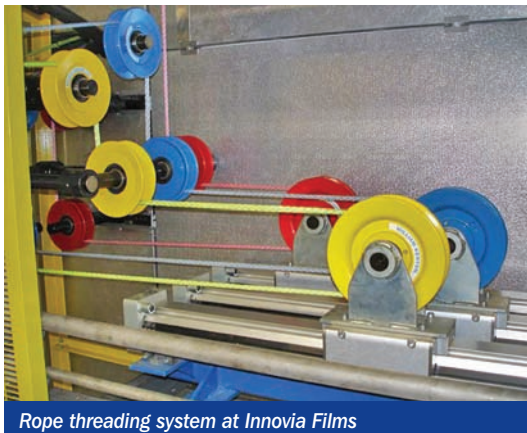
William Kenyon moves into film

A recent installation for Innovia Films, Wigton, UK has taken William Kenyon beyond its established paper and board markets and demonstrated that the company's expertise in designing rope threading systems can be adapted to handling other materials.

The challenge was to provide a rope system that could feed a two metre wide web of film through a dryer section. Whilst this was a radical departure from the standard 150mm wide paper tail normally fed using ropes, it was felt that a correctly designed system would work well which has proved to be the case.

To give the system every chance of success, three ropes were used to give optimum grip on the film during the threading process. Various configurations were investigated by both William

Kenyon and the mill at the pick-up of the system to identify the most effective and safest position for the tail to be introduced into the ropes. The system incorporates a William Kenyon vertical



Rope threading system at Innovia Films

crossover configuration at the tensioner and pick-up giving the required alignment to ensure optimum rope life.

Along with all the pulleys and mounting hardware being supplied, this project is the first where William Kenyon

has supplied a UK-designed rodless cylinder tensioner. These tensioning systems have been recently incorporated into the William Kenyon range of products to complement larger units sourced from the group's North American operation. In some instances, particularly where space is at a premium, the rodless cylinders can offer a highly cost effective option.

As the machine operators have not worked with ropes before, the system has been colour coded to identify the inside, outside and centre ropes for ease of fitting. Splicing and rope installation training has been provided as part of the William Kenyon service package.

Cont@ct

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