Infrared-System improves Throughput in Drying of dyed Fabrics

A fast, medium wave infrared (IR) system from Noblelight used to provice initial drying of dyed fabrics at British Millerain in Rochdale has proved totally reliable since its installation in early 2022. The new infrared system has been running without failures or malfunctions, allowing the company in Rochdale to optimise the use of its dyeing and coating equipment. British Millerain, which was established in 1880, was the original manufacturer of waxed cotton, patenting the Milerain® rainproof finish in 1894. Today, it is a world leader in specialist and dyed fabrics for outdoor and sporting apparel but also offers fashion coatings, cotton laminates and dry finishes, as well as flame-, rot-, and water-resistant canvasses for tentage and sails. In 2020, the company invested in a new stenter line to further enhance its market leadership. A stenter is one of the most important machines in the textile industry. It is used to stretch the treated fabric to the required length and width and also for heat setting. At British Millerain, dyed fabric is first passed through an infrared system to remove 80% of the moisture and then through the stenter to remove the remaining 20% moisture. The dried fabric is then coated and passed through the stenter again for final drying and fixing. Unfortunately, the infrared system originally fitted proved both inefficient and unreliable, because of frequent breakdowns and emitter failures.
In 2013, British Millerain acquired Century Dyeing Ltd, a in West Yorkshire based specialised commission dye company. Century Dyeing Ltd had solved a drying problem on its stenter by installing infrared emitters from Noblelight. After consultation, British Millerain replaced the original IR system with a medium wave infrared system from Noblelight. This has full PID control with an IR pyrometer, positioned to measures the fabric temperature as it leaves the system, optimising energy usage. Robert Watton, Production Manager at British Millerain, comments: "The Noblelight IR system has proved totally reliable, with no breakdowns or emitter breakages since installation. This means unbroken stenter up-time, which translates into improved productivity."

Features

- Fast response medium wave infrared emitters
- Uninterrupted operating time
- Optimised energy consumption

Technical Data

- 166,4 kW Infrared System
- PID-Control
- IR-Pyrometer

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