

Cross conveyor and multi gob weight system innovations

The latest product innovations from Emhart Glass include a cast iron cross conveyor and a multi gob weight system. Type 182 cross conveyor features a simple design, based on a cast iron girder, available in lengths of 4m–7.5m (in 0.5m steps). Lengths over 5.5m are supplied in two pieces, connected with a jointing plate.

According to the manufacturer, the use of an iron girder reduces vibrations and minimises distortion due to heat. It also reduces installation service requirements and is built to last for many years. In contrast to traditional aluminium and fabricated steel cross conveyors, the 182 needs no fluid cooling, reducing cost and avoiding the risk of girder distortion due to failed cooling. The design includes stainless steel dead plates (easily adjustable for tilt and rock) and can be precisely attached to the end of the machine conveyor for an exact transition. It also features hardened spring steel wear plates and a 6in (152.4mm) silent chain belt, with a gear ratio that caters for belt speeds from 6m/min to 72m/min.

The conveyor is compatible with a range of different Lehr widths and heights and four different heights of support are available. Supports are predesigned to accommodate cooling piping for servo motors, which is available as an option.

Also introduced by Emhart Glass is its Multi Gob Weight System, which is said to allow for unparalleled flexibility in glass container production when used in conjunction with the Emhart Glass 555 feeder, 565 shear and FlexIS feeder control software. The system controls both the feeder and the shear, giving a choice of gob weight and shape. As a result, each section of a forming machine (whether IS, AIS, NIS or BIS) can produce an item of individual weight and shape. The multi-motion profile plunger and shear are both controlled and monitored from a single screen. Settings are simple, intuitive and largely self-explanatory.

Benefits for glassmakers include the fact that production can be closely aligned with demand, in terms of both quantity produced and time of manufacture. This optimises the utilisation of machines and minimises the need to hold stock. Production can also be adjusted precisely to the supply of glass available, optimising furnace output.

With the Multi Gob Weight System, a short-notice job can be accommodated without stopping an existing run. One or more sections can be reassigned to the rush job, while the others continue as previously. Small quantities can be handled without equipping the entire machine with moulds, or leaving some sections standing idle. The system can also be used to test a new set of mould equipment or to make sampling runs on a single section without interrupting normal production. ■