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Garnett Controls Ltd.



Met - Alert

MET-ALERT From Garnett Controls

Garnett Controls have developed an on-line metal detection system for nonwovens. **MET-ALERT** is a single sided inspection system that can be easily integrated into the fabric path on the exit sections of a nonwoven or carpet line. The system has a high resolution and is capable of detecting metal particles as small as 1.5 mm spheres. This makes it ideal for the detection of broken needles and needle points.



MET-ALERT utilises a balanced coil detection system as part of a Garnett PLC control system. The unit has an on-board product library that stores information on each product type.

Metal detection devices are generally affected by the type and physical structure of the material being processed including backing type and process speed. To optimise high-level detection for the most demanding applications a detection system needs to be tuned in respect to such parameters as sensitivity and phase angle to suit the process.

MET-ALERT can store critical values in the product library so that each product is processed with maximum protection.

Installation onto existing production lines is relatively painless due to the single sided detection sensor that extends the full width of a nonwoven fabric or carpet, without affecting the threading arrangements. The system fully integrates with the line control panel, providing automatic stopping for the removal of metal. As well as the ability to stop the line automatically, the system triggers visual and/or audio alarms. A digital positioning system tracks the point where metal is detected and stops the line when the metal has reached the most efficient point of removal. A hand held detector pinpoints precise location within the width.

Garnett Controls recently installed a second system at Heckmondwike FB on a 4.2m wide backing line producing sports surfaces. This followed a previous installation on a 6m wide needling line producing geotextile fabric for the lining of impervious membranes.

MET-ALERT is available in widths to suit existing machinery and each system is designed as a retrofit to fit onto existing arrangements.

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