VERAMTEX

Flam-Fixe™

Flame-retardant treatment from Veramtex

VERAMTEX SA

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Introduction

The need for flame retardancy is ever increasing worldwide. Legislation covering the requirements is getting stringent. Some of the processes in use today will probably become ecologically unfriendly. One process which has stood the test of time is THPC based treatment. This is environmentally friendly and gives outstanding results in a variety of cellulosic and cellulosic blend fabrics.

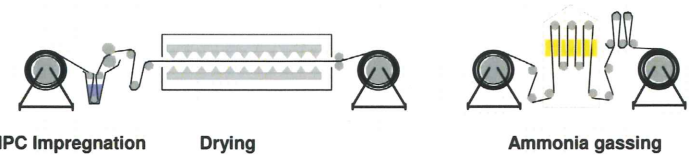
Process description

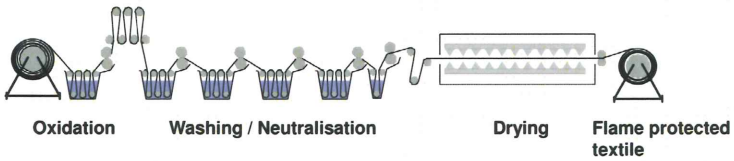
THPC treatment consists of three main steps :

1. Padding and drying the fabric with TPHC ;
2. Treating it with ammonia gas to achieve a poly-condensation reaction ;
3. Washing and oxidisation to chemically stabilise the fabric.

This produces a three dimensional network in and around the fibres, making the fabric flame retardant. The main problem with the process is the need for ammonia gas to promote the reaction. This can be prohibitive to many companies who are not set up with the skills and equipment to handle ammonia gas. This is where Veramtex is in a unique position to offer a solution.

Process flow of finishing with THPC





Veramtex

Veramtex company has been using ammonia for almost 30 years in liquid ammonia mercerisation of cellulosic and cellulosic blend fabrics. They are experts at handling, storing and recovering ammonia gas. Natural consequence of this is that they have decided to install a machine to treat THPC padded fabrics with ammonia gas.

The intention of Veramtex is to offer only the ammonia gas treatment. This way the customer can determine what products, concentration etc. to use without the need of an investment in a specific machine with all the associated financial and running costs. The equipment would probably also require local licensing because of the ammonia gas.

Conclusion

The investment made by Veramtex allows increased number of companies to apply a well established flame retardant finish using their own existing machines and keeping control of the process.

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