

Press release

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Bekaert Solaronics to install two electrical infrared systems WebMate® for drying of special coatings.

Bekaert Solaronics will supply two electrical infrared drying systems in a face-to-face offset position for special coat drying after sizerto a major specialty paper group.

The objective of the installation is an efficient drying and curing after sizerat different line speeds, achieving an increased web temperature at the outlet of the WebMate®. The temperature profile of the web after infrared is controlled via an integrated temperature measurement system and cross directional temperature profiling. The cooling air circulation system is totally closed, avoiding chemicals from the coat going into the exhaust air from the WebMate® system. The exhaust air of the infrared system can be re-used directly as make-up air for the hood in the pre-drying section, leading to decreased operating costs.

The WebMate® systems are equipped with Bekaert Solaronics new generation of electrical infrared modules, **eM24**. This new module gives outstanding heat resistance thanks to the implementation of a high reflectivity thermal resistant ceramic reflector. The new operating principle gives far more efficient cooling and the energy efficiency of the electrical IR module is thereby significantly improved.

About Bekaert and Bekaert Solaronics

Bekaert is a world market and technology leader in steel wire transformation and coating technologies. We pursue to be the preferred supplier for our steel wire products and solutions by continuously delivering superior value to our customers worldwide. Bekaert (Euronext Brussels: BEKB) is a global company with almost 30 000 employees worldwide, headquarters in Belgium and € 4.4 billion in annual revenue.

Founded in 1967, Bekaert Solaronics supplies customized drying and heating systems based on gas and electrical infrared technology to a wide range of industries. Today, more than 1 000 systems have been installed worldwide. The company also provides maintenance services and is available to assist on upgrades or improved energy efficiency of existing systems.