Straightening Concept

PATCONTROL PCS-15/RMM

The fusion of camera based pattern recognition with the fastest responding mechanical weft straightener for

- Automatic pattern detection,
- Distortion correction and
- Design-repeat control
Pattern & distortion detection, design-repeat

The manufacture and finishing of modern textiles poses problems that were rarely, if ever, encountered previously. It has become far more difficult to turn out straight or realigned patterns. Keeping variables such as design repeat or pattern distortions to within increasingly tighter tolerances is mandatory in the manufacturing, processing and finishing sectors. Distorted patterns especially on lace fabric, carpeting and printed fabric, must be straightened without fail. Bowed or skewed designs impair a product’s visual appearance, reduce its usable value and lead to complaints.

Principle of operation

A PATCONTROL is configured in accordance with each customer’s specific requirements.

It differs in accordance with the type of software analysis:
- One software package detects and controls bowed and skewed designs (PDS Pattern Distortion System)
- Another software package monitors and controls design repeat (PRS Pattern Repeat System)

The system registers the lie of the pattern by line cameras – the number dependent on repeat size and width of the product – monitors design repeat automatically and continuously, measures the width of the material, and realigns the pattern with the help of an associated straightening machine.

The system detects the repeat length and controls automatically the overfeed setting on the stenter. A clever algorithmic feed forward controller ensures outstanding results. Even with brief variations in repeat length, the overfeed setting is immediately adjusted to the necessary value as soon as the product arrives at the stenter in-feed. By automatically rechecking the result at the delivery end, the PATCONTROL helps to ensure a very stable repeat length on the product.

In order to project the best possible, computable image of the pattern or fabric structure onto the screen, the line cameras are supported by a special light fitting, the beam of which either penetrates or illuminates the surface of the product. Depending on whether the system is required to compute cross-sheet patterns or motion and carriageway repeat, different algorithmic assessments are employed. These depend in turn on the design itself (e.g. pattern, lines, etc.).
A variable number of line cameras are responsible for the image capturing.

- PRS-software for pattern repeat measurement and control
- PDS-software for pattern distortion measurement and control
Distortion correction

For the needful correction of the measured pattern distortion, Mahlo can provide the user with an ORTHOPAC RMM straightener, a universal and well-proven system. Distortions are eliminated with the utmost precision and instantaneously by the interplay between ORTHOPAC RMM and PATCONTROL PCS. The system is easy to operate and robustly constructed.

The exceedingly compact machine is furnished as standard with 3 skew and 2 bow rollers. The unique, stepless controlled actuators for adjustment of the bow and skew rollers ensure the quickest possible and most precise response along with an absolute minimum of maintenance.

The compact, solid construction of the mechanical straightener is capable of handling loads from lowest up to highest. Processing speeds range from 3 m/min to 100 m/min. A variety of options and there especially a sensitive web tension control system suitable for lace and knitted fabrics ensures that the system can be adapted optimally to suit the respective application and types of product likely to be encountered.

A typical installation for lace fabric:

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**Product highlights**

- Ultra-precise realignment of pattern
- Quick reacting servo-controller
- Progressive rate of straightening
- Exceedingly compact construction
- Low product content
- Wide variety of optional extras

**Customer benefits**

- Maintains tight distortion-related tolerances
- Helps avoid complaints
- Improves customer relationships
- High standards of repeatability
- Short payback times
- Highly reliable / long service life
Weft straightener ORTOPAC RMM, with two bow and three skew rollers, web tension control and spreader rollers available as optional extras.

Straightening capacity for skew and bow rollers.
## Technical Data

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Unit</th>
<th>Patcontrol PCS</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Measurement</strong></td>
<td>Optical measurement method by cameras</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Max. product width</td>
<td>Up to 5.00 m</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Max. line-speed</td>
<td>120 m/min, subject to resolution and lighting</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Max. length of camera cable</td>
<td>20 m</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Motion sensor</td>
<td>5000 Imp/Rev</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Subject to product width</td>
<td>Power supply 1 ~ 230/115 V AC, 50/60 Hz</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ambient temperature</td>
<td>Max. 50 °C</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Diagram:**

1. **System with two cameras**
   - `b/2`
   - `b/4`
   - `X = 125 x (b/2)`
   - `X = 125 x (b/4)`

2. **System with one camera**
   - `b`
   - `X = 125 x (b/2)`

3. **Dimensions:**
   - `X = 125 x (b/2)`
   - `X = 125 x (b/4)`

**Notes:**
- `b` = Warenbreite / product width
- Recommendations for camera lighting:
  - **Leuchte (Durchlicht)**: Lamp (penetrative light)
  - **Leuchte (Auflicht)**: Lamp (reflected light)
## Technical Data

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Straightener</th>
<th>Orthopac RMM</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Mechanics</strong></td>
<td>3-skew rollers, 2-bow rollers (3rd optional),</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Drive mechanism</strong></td>
<td>Hydraulic: controlled by a servo system; Electrical: controlled by frequency-regulated servo motors</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Straightening capacity</strong></td>
<td>(at w = 1800mm) Max. skew ±750 mm; max. bow ± 220 mm (2-bowrollers), (with 3rd bow roller: +50%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Rate of roller adjustment</strong></td>
<td>bow/skew adjustable, minimum of 4-5 seconds at maximum displacement</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Max. fabric width</strong></td>
<td>3400 mm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Max. fabric line-speed</strong></td>
<td>250 m/min (no tension control), 150 m/min (with tension control)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Fabric capacity (basic machine with scanner assembly)</strong></td>
<td>2-skew / 2- bow rollers: ~ 3250 mm, 2-skew / 3-bow rollers: ~ 3600 mm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Dimensions</strong></td>
<td>See diagrams</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Weight (at w = 1800mm)</strong></td>
<td>~ 950 kg</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Power supplies</strong></td>
<td>3 ~ 380V/50Hz, 3 ~ 400V/50Hz, no neutral; transformer available for other voltages</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Power consumption</strong></td>
<td>Max. 6.4 kVA (by fully furnished combi-installations)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Ambient temperature</strong></td>
<td>Max. 45°C (no air conditioner)</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

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Orthopac RMM with Patcontrol PCS

91-013172
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