



President / Chip's Corner
Chip.Hartzog@Oerlikon.com

Hello and welcome to the third edition of the Oerlikon Textile, Inc. newsletter, *Threads*. I think you'll like what you see and read from our key departments.

We have celebrated 3 retirees recently, all from our Repair department in Charlotte, and thankfully were able to do so without the challenge of face coverings. I found the 95 years of collective service of these 3 retiring gentlemen quite remarkable and we will miss their presence. The difficulty in communication over the last 18 months has obviously not "only" been due to masks. The scale-back of travel and inability to meet in person has us far more proficient with electronic meetings, and while the industry is far more adept at screen-sharing and remote dial-ins, we will all likely celebrate the day when we don't hear so frequently something like "Chip, you're on mute."

As I wrote in our last edition, we have remained very busy throughout the pandemic – especially with Field Service support for ongoing installations, troubleshooting, and plant re-starts. We have worked to streamline parts shipments even during times of logistics surprises, and our Repair staff in Charlotte and Dalton have done an outstanding job keeping your plants and equipment operable and profitable. See Kevin Pierce's article for further information on some specialized repairs we now have in our Dalton Service Center!

From a business perspective, we previously saw worldwide meltblown nonwovens demand ramp up due to the need for filtration media, and now are seeing a renewed focus by many customers on new extrusion capacity, and texturing expansions and modernizations. We currently have lead times for new equipment well more than 12 months in BCF for carpet and home furnishings markets, and even longer in POY and DTY equipment. Our North- and Central American customers are key drivers for the success we have in these new

technologies. We have seen and heard from you that our local presence has been critically important when support from other key vendors was not possible due to travel restrictions. We certainly thank you for the confidence placed in your Oerlikon partners, and we look forward to seeing you in person in the 2nd half of 2021!



Operations / Kevin Pierce
Kevin.Pierce@Oerlikon.com

Over the past year we have worked diligently to strengthen our team in our Dalton, GA facility. During the pandemic we started cross training employees to not only build depth, but also to better serve our customers. We recently added winder repair to our portfolio in Dalton and by year end we will offer Siemens repair work for our BCF customers.



Dalton, GA / Mary Ferguson
Mary.Ferguson@Oerlikon.com

August will mark our 6-year anniversary for our service center in Dalton. Our Site Supervisor, Mary Ferguson, has been with us since day one and she now leads the team. She brings new ideas on how to better serve our customers as well as improve overall operations. She directs a team of seasoned technicians that are always smiling and looking for their next challenge.





Important note: Our Charlotte phone numbers have changed. The old numbers are being forwarded for the time being, but that will end soon. **Our new main number is 980-465-6262**

Emergency Service support HOTLINE:
Dial: 980-465-6299



Field Services / Gary LaFleur
Gary.LaFleur@Oerlikon.com

Our Field Service department focuses on you, the customer, with technical support as well as new machine installations, upgrades, and training. Over the past several years we have seen substantial growth of business in Oerlikon BCF, Non-Wovens, Staple Fiber, and DTY.

With this growth comes increasing demands for our Field Service Engineers to be involved with new machine installations while at the same time providing you with exceptional and expedient customer support.

Highlighted below are a few changes we have made regarding our personnel to help realign our services with your business needs.



Eric Duncan
Field Service Project Manager
Eric.Duncan@Oerlikon.com

Eric has been with Oerlikon for over 23 years in various roles from Pump repairs to Services Sales and is now our Project Manager for new machine installations. Eric supports our entire Field Service team both inside the office and at your machine site. Eric also handles the logistics of warranty parts replacements and is still one of our primary resources for pump sales and support.



Roy Kendrick,
OMF Customer Training
Roy.Kendrick@Oerlikon.com

Roy has been with Oerlikon Field Service as an Electrical Engineer for over 25 years, the majority of which has been working on Neumag BCF machinery supporting customers and installations. So his recent role change to OMF Customer Training is very fitting based on his extensive experience. If you have any special requests for training topics, Roy will be able to work with you to tailor a training program to fit any need.



Roy Stillings
Field Service Electrical Engineer
Roy.Stillings@Oerlikon.com

Please welcome Roy Stillings to our Field Service team! Roy has over 6 years of industrial controls, maintenance, and automation experience and we are excited to have Roy join our team. His primary role will be to support our BCF customers and machine installations.



All customers should have received a **HOTLINE** sticker to be mounted near your machine. If you have not received yours or need additional stickers, please email me Gary.LaFleur@oerlikon.com and I'll be sure to get some sent your way.

Oerlikon Textile Inc - Service Center Locations :

Charlotte

Oerlikon Textile Inc.
8801 South Boulevard
Charlotte, NC 28273
Tel: 980-465-6262

Dalton

Oerlikon Textile Inc.
3012 N. Dug Gap Road SW
Dalton, GA 30720
Tel: 706-259-9970

Oerlikon Textile Inc. / Newsletter

Edition No. 3 / Summer 2021



Services Sales / Manuel Wray

Manuel.Wray@Oerlikon.com

Remember the popular song “On The Road Again” by Willie Nelson? I do, and I think anyone who travels for business had adopted it at times as their theme song. But as we all know it really hasn’t been much of a theme for many of us in the last 1+ year! However, at last we have been cleared to emerge like the locusts from our Covid nap and hear those somewhat familiar instructions from our flight attendants...well somewhat familiar? The part about our seat cushion flotation device was familiar, but don’t forget to take your mask off before putting on your oxygen mask! That is definitely new!!

As we continue to positively trend in a post-Covid direction of normalcy, we all probably contemplate what “normal” will look like. One thing is for certain, the Services Sales team anxiously looks forward to the in-person “Hellos” with our customers!

Also, with this new normalcy, let me refresh some of the ways OTI can help you. Did you know we sell parts direct to our customers? Some of you are buying from distribution channels...why not buy from the OEM?

Are you doing all you can to manage your machine uptime? Besides OEM quality parts and equipment, we have everything you need to support your maintenance and production groups from on-site training, remote assistance and best practices. Let us partner with you in your growth during this exciting time!

Aging equipment is also a hot topic for many of our customers. Do you have godet rolls that need resurfacing, winders that need an overhaul, a draw machine that needs refurbishment, or a crimper that needs rebuilding? We can help with all these topics and more. Give us a call today to schedule an equipment evaluation.

We are in the midst of summer and so I think it’s very appropriate to say, Stay Cool and Always Stay Safe!! We look forward to seeing you soon as your OEM Solutions Provider!



Jason Grubbs

Oerlikon Neumag, Technical Sales
Staple Fiber / Nonwovens

Jason.Grubbs@Oerlikon.com



Daniel Page

Oerlikon Barmag, Technical Sales
SPI / DTY

Daniel.Page@Oerlikon.com



Norbert Osterholz

Oerlikon Neumag, Technical Sales
BCF

Norbert.Osterholz@Oerlikon.com



Spare Parts

Oerlikon Textile, Inc. Spare Parts department strives to make sure we have the critical parts you need on hand. This has not been easy lately with the logistic issues worldwide that we all continue to see. The logistics nightmare along with the Suez Canal getting blocked for days caused delays in delivery of many of our raw materials in Germany. This has been challenging and our purchasing department has adapted very well. We have increased our inventory levels for all high running parts and returned to weekly sea freight shipments to offset the delays in shipments and ensure critical parts are always on hand.

If you are interested or need additional information, our OTI Spare Parts representatives are here to help.

Oerlikon Barmag Spare Part Team

OTI.Barmag@Oerlikon.com

Oerlikon Neumag Spare Part Team

OTI.Neumag@Oerlikon.com

Oerlikon Textile Inc. / Newsletter

Edition No. 3 / Summer 2021



OMF+ (Employee Development)
Deb Crissey-Smith HR Manager
deb.csmith@oerlikon.com

OMF+ local is a global development program for local talent. Employees were self-nominated or selected by a manager. After the selection process, the candidates train with the Oerlikon Manmade Fibers network for 2 years. They will build upon their individual strengths for potential positions as experts, project leaders, first leaders for regional focus or long-term development for international focus.



Please congratulate our OMF+ Team USA (L-R)

- **Mary Ferguson**, Site Manager, Dalton, GA
- **Eric Duncan**, Field Service Project Manager
- **Michael Summerville**, Senior Accountant
- **Lateshia Locklear-Theroux**, Repair Services / SAP Data Entry Clerk
- **Daniel Page**, Oerlikon Barmag, Technical Sales
- **Clay Thomas**, Mechanical Repair Technician
- **Monteise McKay**, Customer Service, Spare Parts



Community Engagement **Honoring our local Veterans!**

Oerlikon Textile Inc., (Charlotte) held their second Employee Community Engagement event for 2021. This was organized by our Event Planning Team –*Lateshia Locklear-Theroux, Deb C-Smith, Josh Outwater and Sandy Lehman.*

Recognizing and honoring local Veterans during the Memorial Day holiday is important to us! A collection of much needed items was identified by a volunteer office of the Department of Veteran Affairs. We included signed appreciation cards from all our employees to both the Veterans and the people that support them! Delivery took place on May 26th to the VA center located at 3506 West Tyvola Road Charlotte, NC 28208-7201, while following COVID-19 protocol.

<https://www.salisbury.va.gov/locations/CharlotteHCC.asp>



*We contribute to community engagement events every three months.

Celebrations:

On June 17th, we celebrated the careers of three long time Oerlikon Textile Inc. associates from the Charlotte Repair Department. Below, (L-R), **Matt Berrier (33 years)** worked primarily on rebuilding Barmag godets. **Malcolm Tyree (31 years)** worked on an assortment of projects in the Mechanical Repair Department, and **Brian Hartsell (31 years)** began his career with Schlafhorst later transitioning over to Oerlikon as an Electronic Repair Technician.





Pump Service

Eric Duncan

Eric.Duncan@Oerlikon.com

General guidelines for melt pump installation

You just had a position go down due to the failure of a melt pump! What can you do to make sure that you can get the position back up as quickly as possible?

You need to **follow the proper installation procedures** to ensure that you don't damage a second pump. Here is what you need to know to get a pump installed and operating quickly and safely.

Prior to installation

Do a visual inspection of the pump to ensure that there is no physical damage. Turn the pump by hand to ensure smooth operation. Make sure all plugs, and other foreign materials are removed from the pump. The pump is now ready for pre-heat. You can pre-heat the pump in an oven or during the installation. To prevent crystalizing the oil in the pump, the maximum time for preheating is:

- 24 hours at 250 C or 8 hours at 300 C.

Prior to installing the pump on the block, you must check the surfaces on the block to ensure that there is no damage (gouges, nicks, raised areas).

Installation

Prior to installing the external drive shaft:

- Properly torque the mounting bolts.
- Check that the pump spins freely.
- Check the direction of rotation of the pump.
- Allow polymer to flow until the pump is freewheeling, (the drive shaft may need a slight nudge to start turning) This ensures that the internals of the pump are at the correct temperature.

Install the external drive shaft onto the pump. Ensure that there is proper alignment (verify in operating manual). Inspect pump for leakage from mounting surface and sealing area.

- Polymer seal – adjust cooling fin as necessary.
- Coupling – small amounts of leakage are expected.
- Packing – check the torque of the packing gland.



If you follow these procedures, you should be able to restart your position in a safe and efficient manner.

Hidden in this newsletter is an email link to register for a very special prize. Hover your mouse over the link and then click to email us. You will then be registered for our prize drawing!

Registration ends August 31, 2021.



Our winners from the last edition are:

Grand prize winner:

James Williams from Mohawk Industries - Oak River
***Prize: Oerlikon backpack, Yeti tumbler, a Titan coffee mug and blanket.**

Runner ups:

Benjamin Bell from Tencate - Pendergrass
Craig Schutte from NanYa

Oerlikon – USA webpage

We've updated our web content

You can find us through Oerlikon's main page:

<https://www.oerlikon.com/en/>

or connect directly to the Oerlikon Textile Inc.'s link:

<https://www.oerlikon.com/polymer-processing-us/en/>

