JULY 2021 EDITION

Extrusion Solutions

THE LATEST EXTRUDING NEWS FROM ENTEK

ENTEK Launches New Twin-Screw Extruder Products and Technologies

New HT72 Twin-Screw Extruder and Vacuum Feed Technology (VFT) Introduced at June 8th Virtual Press Event

Leading plastics industry reporters and editors joined ENTEK on June 8th for a live, virtual press event via Zoom

June 8th was a big day for ENTEK Manufacturing Inc., as the company officially launched its latest twin-screw extruder products and technologies. After almost three years of research and development, the company introduced its new High-Torque HT72 Twin-Screw Extruder and Vacuum Feed Technology (VFT) through a virtual Press Event.

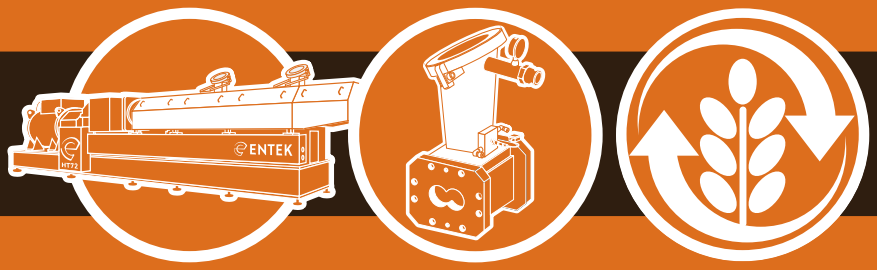
The plastics industry's leading reporters and editors attended the event, which was held on the Zoom platform. After a brief welcome from Linda Campbell, ENTEK's Vice President of Sales, ENTEK President Kim Medford provided updates on the state of ENTEK's business. Then Ryley Jones, ENTEK Mechanical Engineering Supervisor, and Dean Elliott, ENTEK Technical Processing Manager, presented the details on the company's newest products and technologies.

"The original plan was to introduce the HT72 and VFT at NPE2021 in Orlando," said Linda Campbell, "but as we all know the show was canceled. So we decided to hold this virtual press event as the best way to get our news out to the plastics industry."

Campbell noted the last major press conference that ENTEK held was in 2015, when members of the plastics industry press traveled to ENTEK's headquarters in Oregon to see the launch of the company's QC3 (Quick Change, Quick Clean, Quality Control) line of twin-screw extruders.

"Of course we would have preferred to host the press here in Oregon again, but there are still travel challenges due to the global pandemic," she said. "This virtual conference was our next best option and based on the coverage we're already seeing, we're very happy with how it turned out."

Detailed stories on the new HT72 twin-screw extruder and Vacuum Feed Technology (VFT) appear in this issue of *Extrusion Solutions*. Check them out and visit ENTEK's new website at www.entek.com for more information.



A Commitment to Innovation - and Continued Growth

Welcome to the latest issue of ***Extrusion Solutions***.

Kim Medford

> *Our team, even during a time of great uncertainty, came together and committed to continued investment to bring to market new solutions for our customers.*

Exciting Times

When I took on my current leadership role with ENTEK late last year, we were still in the middle of the unknown impacts of a pandemic, making investment decisions challenging.

However, our team, even during a time of great uncertainty, came together and committed to continued investment to bring to market new solutions for our customers.

We know that our greatest success comes from helping our customers to grow their businesses. Whether that means more throughput, more uptime, or new products being introduced to the marketplace, ENTEK extruders are the obvious solution. So, we took some risks, and the results are really exciting.

New Products, Technologies and Investment

You will see our announcements in this issue of Extrusion Solutions on the new HT72 twin-screw extruder, and our new Vacuum Feed Technology (VFT). In addition to sharing the news on our exciting new products with you, it is important for me to share that we are also committed to continue our overall growth as a company.

This year, we will be making significant capital investments in our machine shop to increase our wear parts throughput, and we have some exciting R&D projects in the works to expand our product offerings. Watch for more news from ENTEK in the near future.

Press Event

We really enjoyed meeting with the members of the plastics industry press on June 8th to introduce our new products and technologies. Even though we met virtually, the event was very successful and we got some great questions. Thanks to all who attended.

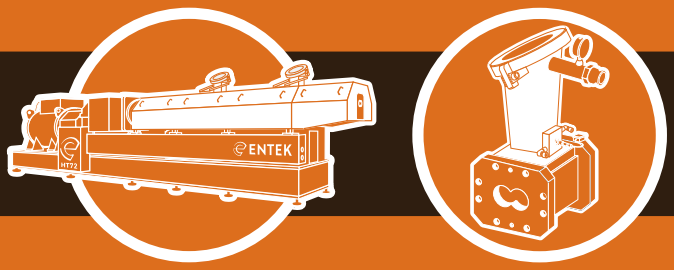
Prior to the June 8th event, our last press conference was in 2015, when members of the press came out to our headquarters in Oregon to learn about the new QC3 line of twin-screw extruders. As exciting things continue to happen at ENTEK and we accelerate our growth, it will not be another six years before we will invite the press to gather again for interesting happenings.

Thank you to all of our customers for your continued support.

I encourage you to contact me anytime at kmedford@entek.com.

Sincerely

Kim Medford
President



ENTEK Introduces the HT72 Twin-Screw Extruder

ENTEK is proud to introduce its newest co-rotating twin-screw extruder, the HT72. HT stands for 'High Torque' and this new machine provides just that – in fact, it delivers the highest free volume at 18 torque density in the industry!

In addition to its robust construction, the HT72 is coupled with a larger motor size to be a true workhorse for continuous 24/7/365 production. The HT72 is the first in what will be a new series of twin-screw extruders from ENTEK.

The HT72 is designed for the commodity compounding and masterbatch industry, where customers require medium-to-large batch production sizes and high production rates are especially important. When coupled with ENTEK's new patented Vacuum Feed Technology (VFT), the HT72 can drive throughputs even higher for processes which involve feeding low density fillers. This new machine will be welcomed by compounders looking for maximum uptime, high production rates, and readily available Overall Equipment Efficiency (OEE) data, both at the machine and via remote monitoring and access from mobile devices.

"We are excited to be launching this new twin-screw extruder to the compounding market," said Linda Campbell, ENTEK VP of Sales. "It represents almost three years of research and development, to produce a completely new machine that provides industry-best performance.

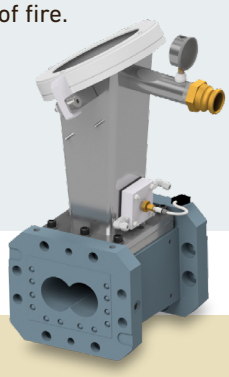
When you combine the industry-best performance and technology of this machine with the outstanding customer service and support that ENTEK is known for, we believe we are adding value for our customers."

Features of the new HT72 are numerous, but the following lists some of the machine's key specifications:

- 18 Nm/cm3 torque density
- 1.61 D_o/D_i
- Mistake-proof screw elements and shafts
- Dashboard for quick health stats (OEE)
- Low decibel water cooled motor
- Real time vibration monitoring
- Real time oil quality monitoring
- Easy access offboard cooling system
- Full stainless-steel shroud for easy cleaning
- Insulation blankets to retain heat
- Point of use tools
- Quarter turn, standardized retained fasteners
- Hinged guards for quick access

New Patent-Pending Vent Flow Sensor

An important new feature of the HT72 is a new, patent-pending Vent Flow Sensor. If the sensor detects a potential problem with vent flow, operators will have the time to correct any processing issues before they become problematic. This device will effectively reduce unplanned down-time and help reduce safety issues including the risk of fire. It will also make vent flow cleaning easier.

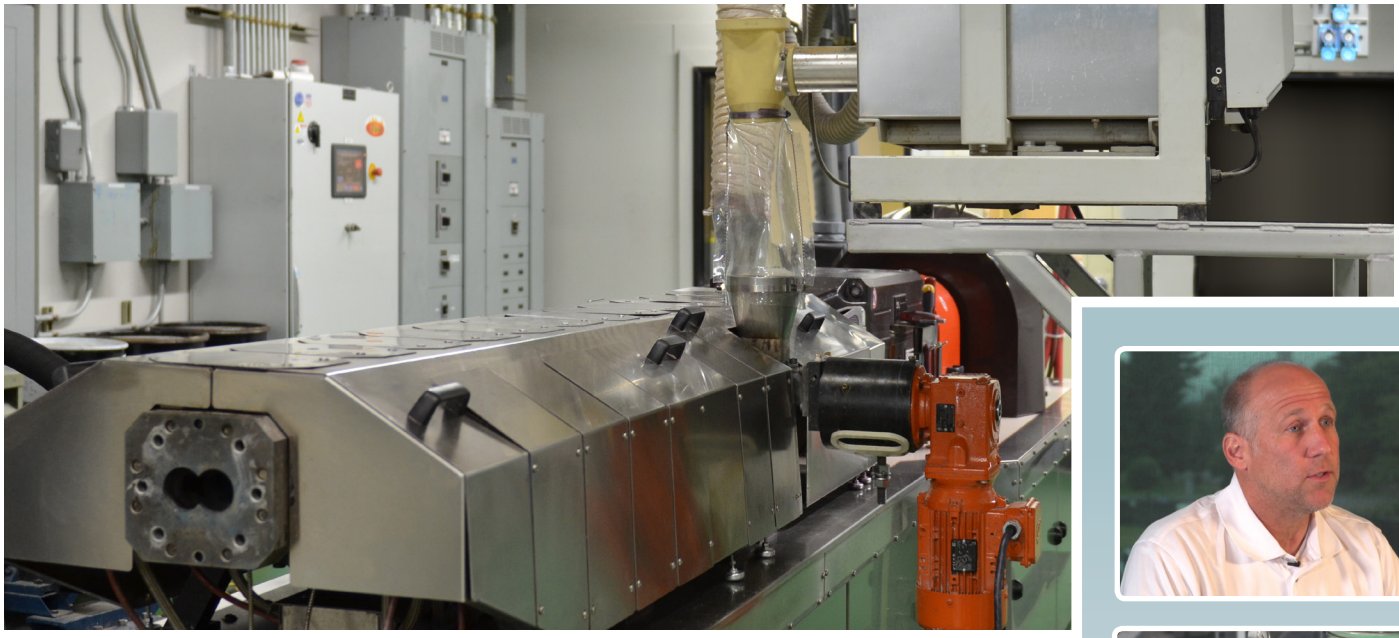


Watch our short video featuring Ryley Jones,

ENTEK's Mechanical Engineering Supervisor and HT72 Project Lead, discussing the features and benefits of our newest twin-screw extruder!

https://vimeo.com/channels/entek/559218752

New Patented Vacuum Feed Technology (VFT) from ENTEK Boosts Twin-Screw Extruder Throughput Rates



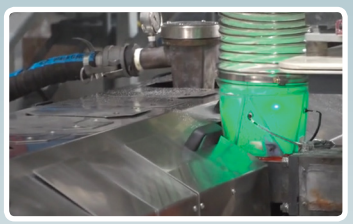
ENTEK has introduced a new, patented processing technology that improves twin-screw extruder throughput rates. Developed for use when compounding "fluffy" materials, ENTEK's Vacuum Feed Technology (VFT) also overcomes the discharge of fluffy powders out of atmospheric vents, traditionally used to vent out the air associated with fluffy powders.

"VFT is the solution if a compounder is challenged by a process that is volumetrically limited when processing low bulk density powdered materials," said Dean Elliott, ENTEK's Technical Processing Manager. "Processors can achieve much higher throughput, as much as twice the output rate as without VFT."

Since VFT does not require vents open to atmosphere, this technology solves the problem of powdered materials potentially spewing out the atmospheric vent of the extruder. "This prevents not only a messy situation but creates a safer work place environment," said Elliott.

Offered by license, ENTEK's VFT includes pilot plant trials at ENTEK to configure the extruder for customers' materials of formulation and to demonstrate the throughput rate improvement compared to traditional extruder atmospheric venting. Complete documentation of the screw and barrel configuration is provided, along with on-site process start-up support at the customer's location.

ENTEK VFT is available on all of the company's twin-screw extruders.



Watch our new video featuring Dean Elliott,

ENTEK Technical Processing Manager, discussing the benefits of Vacuum Feed Technology (VFT):

https://vimeo.com/channels/entek/560551235

Biopolymer Compounding Done Right

There has been a lot of 'buzz' lately surrounding biopolymers. This fast-growing segment of the plastics industry continues to make inroads into mainstream products, including packaging.

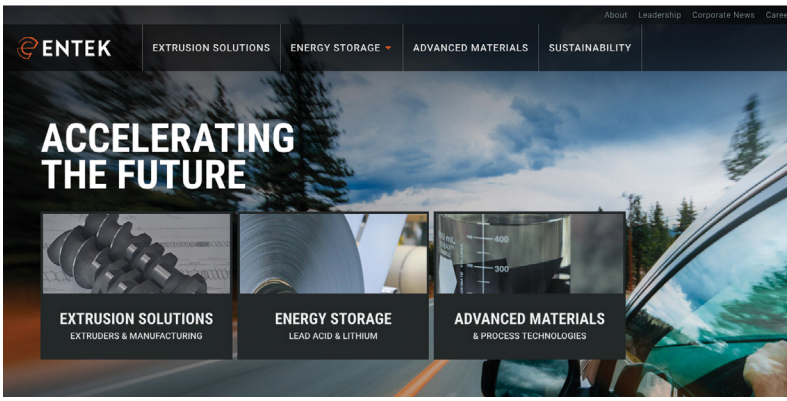
ENTEK has been at the forefront of biopolymer development since its earliest days, having worked with Plantic and others in the early 2000's on some of the first commercially successful biodegradable products. We have learned over the years what methods work best for processing these materials in twin-screw extruders.

Dean Elliott, ENTEK's Technical Processing Manager, recently presented a webinar sponsored by *Plastics Technology* magazine titled 'Biopolymer Compounding Done Right.' This webinar, which drew over 400 registrants, provides 'how-to' guidelines with numerous processing tips for compounders who are in, or want to be in, the biopolymer market. The agenda includes:

- Introduction to biopolymer compounding
- Biopolymer compounding challenges and solutions
- Biopolymers and specific mechanical energy
- Extruder metallurgy for biopolymers

The webinar is available on demand on Plastics Techology's website. Click here to watch: https://www.ptonline.com/events/details/919c6b20-f856-4bd3-b4c7-d3036edfb21c

ENTEK Launches New Website



In June, ENTEK launched its all-new website. The new site is the first major website refresh for ENTEK since 2014.

"We are excited to launch a fresh, new website that showcases our industry-leading products, technology and services," said Tammy Straw, ENTEK's Marketing and Business Development Manager. "We believe that our existing and future customers alike will find the new site easy to navigate and filled with useful content."

Besides its new look, the website features more technical information and includes numerous videos, specification sheets and white papers that are showcased in the 'Resources' section. In addition,the site is better organized to reflect ENTEK's three key business units: **Extrusion Solutions**, **Energy Storage** and **Advanced Materials**.

Check it out today at www.entek.com!

ENTEK is growing its East Coast Customer Support Team!

As our industry grows and changes, the ENTEK Customer Support Team is growing as well.

We are happy to welcome Craig Clayton to our team!

With his experience in the extrusion industry and extensive support of pelletizing systems, as well as his recognized high-quality service, our customers will benefit greatly from the dedication Craig brings to any role.

"Craig will be an excellent addition to our experienced team," said Darla Bulmer, Customer Support Manager. "We continue to grow this department to provide more services, faster response and increased coverage for our customers."

Customized Preventative Maintenance Plans

ENTEK is now offering **PREVENTATIVE MAINTENANCE PROGRAM (PMP) PLANS**, customized to each customer, including quarterly site visits and remote/site training of operators, maintenance staff and process engineering team members. Our goal is to help our customers receive the best results, while addressing the daily issues and challenges of this industry. Contact ENTEK for more information!

Upcoming Events

Extrusion 2021

Rosemont, IL,
Sept 21-23

Booth E-513

Extrusion 2021

Compounding World Expo

Cleveland,
Nov 3-4

Booth A515

COMPOUNDING WORLD EXPO NORTH AMERICA

Women Breaking the Mold

Nov 11-12

Sponsored by ENTEK

Plastics News WOMEN BREAKING THE MOLD NETWORKING FORUM NOVEMBER 11-12, 2021 AUSTIN, TX

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