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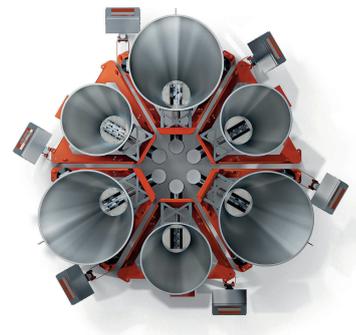
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New Preconfigured Feeder Line

Six Feeders on Seven Square Meters

ProRate Plus feeders can be installed as individual units or easily arranged in cluster of up to six feeders around a process inlet, depending on the recipe formulation. © Coperion K-Tron



Coperion K-Tron's continuous gravimetric feeder ProRate Plus was developed specifically to meet the requirements of the plastics processing industry.

The single-screw feeder is designed for metering granulates and other free-flowing bulk goods, and comes in three sizes. The trapezoidal shape of the ProRate Plus feeders enables a very compact, space-saving arrangement and allows up to six feeders to be easily grouped around an extruder inlet within a 1.5 m radius. The three feeder models Plus-S, Plus-M and Plus-L cover a wide range of throughputs. The new feeders are capable of handling feed rates from 3.3 up to 4800 dm³/h, depending on the material. Theoretically a feeding system with six ProRate Plus-L feeders can feed up to 28.8 m³/h on a footprint of only 7 m². The feeders are highly standardized and include a variety of design features to optimize performance and ease of use, as stated in a press release.

Simple access for cleaning and maintenance, even within a cluster, is provided thanks to a patent-pending rail system called ProClean Rail. This rail system makes it possible to retract the base unit toward the rear of the feeder and rotate it for access to the feeding section and screw element. This allows for maintenance and cleaning of the feeding unit while keeping the feeder in position. In addition, the bellows and screw use the latest magnet technology for simple but robust mounting. The magnet connections allow these parts to be released without tools while at the same time providing the required holding force for a safe operation. Many parts are identical for all three models and can be used as exchange parts for all devices.

The new feeders are suitable for use in hazardous locations rated NEC Class II, Div. 2, Group F & G and Atex 3D/3D (outside/inside).

All ProRate Plus feeders are equipped with P-SFT load cells, featuring reliable Smart Force Transducer weighing technology. They operate under compression and provide accurate, stable and reliable digital weight measurement under a broad range of operating conditions. The load cells supply a direct digital weighing signal and the onboard microcontroller reportedly ensures excellent repeatability and stability. P-SFT load cells have a high tolerance to vibration and electrical noise. They feature built-in over and underload protection.

Each feeder comes equipped with its own pre-wired ProRate Plus PCM control module. The PCM is mounted to the feeder stand, with adjustable height positioning. Each PCM is pre-tested in Coperion K-Tron's manufacturing facility prior to shipping. There are two models of PCM to choose from: a basic motor control unit (PCM-MD) or an advanced version with integrated user interface and line control functionality (PCM-KD). For maintenance of the new feeder, customers can choose different service packages.

www.coperion.com