explains EuPC managing director, Alexandre Dangis. **Promoting Debate-** The PVC industry's commitment to sustainable development goes well beyond just improvements in technology, processes and recycling. **Education and dialogue** are two central pillars of the programme. Initiatives such as the Vinyl 2010 annual Essay Competition, launched in 2007, have been organised to promote dialogue around sustainable development themes. The Essay Competition has actively involved more than a thousand young people in addressing and proposing solutions to the important environmental challenges our planet is facing. Vinyl 2010 has **come a long way since it was launched almost ten years ago.** Mutual understanding between industry and society has been instrumental to continue moving forward. The sharing of responsibility throughout a material's lifecycle is essential for all sectors. In this respect, perhaps because it was formerly the target of much environmental criticism, the PVC industry has been highly progressive in its approach and the Vinyl 2010 initiative has been recognised, and is being imitated world-wide, as a model for industrial voluntary commitments.

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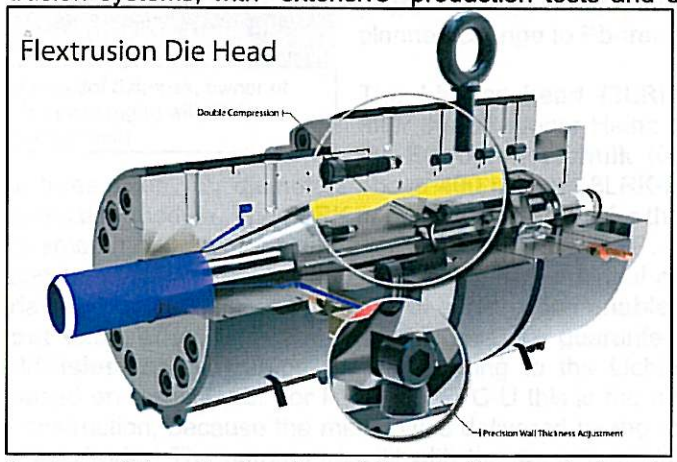
HG Engineering introduces Flextrusion Tooling System that maximizes quality + minimizes scrap

KWD-globalpipe, 22.02.2010. (pipe extrusion accessories) A patent-pending tooling system for pipe and profile extrusion uses what it calls the **world's first triple helix calibrator** to **provide precise adjustability during start-up and operation** and dramatically cut start up, change-over, and production scrap. Called the **Flextrusion system** and produced by **HG Engineering** (USA), the technology **features a patent-pending adjustable pipe-sizing sleeve** to provide precise adjustability during start-up and operation. In addition, HG says it has "rethought" the way extrudate is cooled with greater thermal efficiency boosting production rates. Specifically, the **calibrator sleeve maximizes heat transfer efficiency** to significantly improve cooling. Along with adjustability, the Flextrusion system **features a double compression extrusion head** that is said to boost product quality by conditioning the material and removing defects caused by die spiders and a lack of compression. An internal temperature sensor provides feedbac k on the state of the extrusion process, which HG says results in "robust and repeatable control" over wall thickness. Hans Groeblacher, president and CEO of HG Engineering, told that the system has been **used in conjunction with extrusion grades of PVC, cPVC, ABS, PE, PP, PEX, and composite materials.** Groeblacher reports that applications cover a variety of pipe and tubing products, including medical, gas, and pressure pipe from ¼-inch to 16-inches outer diameter (OD), with a variety of wall thicknesses. The company has received multiple orders for Flextrusion systems, with "extensive" production tests and evaluations on PE, PP, PVC, and gas pipes, according to Groeblacher. The **Flextrusion head assembly** has the **patents** pending **for its double compression, X/Y adjustment**, and **internal temperature monitoring** and **control features.** The calibration system is seeking patent protection for the multiple-helix adjustable-calibration sleeve assembly and the improved heat transfer in the calibration sleeve's front section.

Flextrusion Calibrator

Flextrusion Die Head



HG Engineering has more than 25 years experience in design and development of extrusion technology. The company works with a range of extrusion producers and equipment manufactures across the globe. Through this experience, HG has gained a fundamental understanding of the challenges facing the extrusion industry. The company develops solutions to overcome these challenges and increase product quality.

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