WALLMASTER

ID / OD / WALL Measuring and Control Systems for Plastic Tubing

- Medical
- Automotive
- Sanitary/Heating
- All Plastics and Rubber

For You:
- On-Line Measuring and Control Solutions
- Benefits:  
  - Improved Product Quality and Process Stability
  - Support Pressure Control
  - Improved Quality Assurance and Product or Process Validation
  - Application Specifications and Capabilities
- Data Acquisition, Processing and Display
- The Measuring Instruments
  - UMAC – Ultrasonic Wall Thickness Scanners
  - ODAC – Diameter and Ovality Measuring Gauges
- QC Lab Ultrasonics Bench System GagePro
- Worldwide Pre and Post Sales and Service Support
On-Line Measuring and Control Solutions
The demands for improved product quality and reporting on today’s plastic tubing manufacturers continue to escalate so that measuring and control systems are becoming increasingly necessary. Fortunately, the UMAC® WALLMASTER systems from Zumbach deliver the performance and capability to enable tubing manufacturers to exceed their industry quality requirements, while offering a process tool to improve their production control.

System Layout for Plastic Tubing

- Hot end mounting for ultrasonic head for both vacuum and free-extrusion
- Broad line of ODAC® scanners for reliable outer diameter measurement of clear and opaque products
- Two selectable control parameters (chose from extruder, line speed, vacuum or support pressure)
- On-board data reporting for both local printouts and plant networking (optional USYS Data Log function)
- Internet direct access (optional Web enabled function)

Common Benefits from using WALLMASTER:
- Rapid die centering and production set-up
- Improved product quality and process stability
- Complete product and quality traceability
- Reduced set-up time and scrap
- Improved product and process validation capability

Improved Product Quality and Process Stability
The WALLMASTER offers reliable and effective control to reduce process instability and to improve process capability (CP and CPK). The proven Sigma Expert self-tuning controller adapts the response and sensitivity of the control to the behaviour of the process, thus optimizing the control for each extrusion line.

Support Pressure Control
Sizeable diameter variations can be caused by the slightest pressure change during the extrusion of thin-walled products, such as medical hoses, where supporting air at a very low pressure is often used. Where an ODAC® laser diameter measuring head and USYS processor are used to continuously measure and control the extruded tube or hose, the possibility exists to automatically keep the diameter within tolerance by using the support pressure.

Zumbach offers different valves and controllers, capable to control precisely even slightest pressure variations with the necessary dynamic:

- Micro pressure controller MV
  For controllable outlet pressures between 0.3 up to 3 bar
- Electronic servo valves PS 11130
  The nominal pressure can be preset using a potentiometer for outlet pressure ranges up to 0.2 or 2 or 8 bar.
Improved Quality Assurance and Product or Process Validation

For medical and other tight tolerance tubing manufacturers new product developments require that the product and process is validated prior to official release to production. It is vital to establish process conditions that will yield product results that are within the established specifications of the newly developed product. The on-board statistics and data collection prove useful to gather data for validating process parameters and product specifications can be met. The data can be printed locally, saved to a USB storage device, and/or saved on the plant network system via our USYS Data Log software package.

For example

- Process engineer can view the SPC charts
- Production manager can view the real time trends
- Quality control can view the reel reports

USYS Web Server

With this new option an USYS processor with an IP address can be addressed over a local area network (LAN, Intranet) via an ETHERNET PCB, using a browser like Internet Explorer or other.

USYS Report Manager

The USYS system can store in a local or remote disc the detailed statistics calculated for the Piece, Lot and SPC periods. In this way it is possible to recover and visualize the data of previous productions and reproduce the quality control printed reports.

OPC UA*

Communication protocol for Windows. The OPC UA technology is a standard in the area of process control such as SCADA or HMI. It defines a common interface for accessing data of peripherals. The application "Zumbach OPC Server" provides the measured values and enables editing product recipes. The software operates with Windows 2000, XP, Vista or 7.

* For USYS 200, USYS IPCe (OPC version for USYS 20).

Application Specifications and Capabilities

Thin Wall Measurement

- Wall measurement down to 0.01 mm (depending upon materials)
- Thin wall measurements possible with 20 Megahertz (MHz) transducers using proprietary UTM (Ultra-Thin Mode)

Multi-Layer Measurement

- Up to 5 layers

Special Products

- Singlelumen (catheters etc.)
- Multilumen tubing
- Striped tubing
Data Acquisition, Processing and Display Systems

Display
Rack mountable touch screen for convenient installation into existing 19" rack or extruder panel. As an alternative, a desktop touch screen or screen with keyboard and mouse are available.

Multi Sensor Data Acquisition and Process Control Systems
The USYS IPC hardware provides a modular alternative to the other processor and display units of the USYS family. It offers the flexibility to mount the processor in a convenient location while mounting the flat panel touch screen at an optimum location for the operator.

USYS IPC 1e WALLMASTER
- Inputs: Up to 3 ODAC or MSD, detector, Start/Stop, Pause
- Up to 4 extension ports (digital and analogue inputs and outputs, relays, ODAC, MSD, etc.)

USYS IPC 2e WALLMASTER
- Inputs: Up to 6 ODAC or MSD, detector, Start/Stop, Pause
- Up to 7 extension ports (digital and analogue inputs and outputs, relays, ODAC, MSD, etc.
- 4 RS-422 ports as standard, extendable to 8

High-Tech Measured Value Processors for Ultrasonic Wall Thickness Measurement
Industrial processor with DSP (Digital Signal Processor) technology for connection to a higher level system (PC, PLC or USYS, resp. WALLMASTER systems). For display and process control, the UMAC CI provides serial RS or a PROFIBUS DP interfaces.

For specific applications, a high speed measurement mode (SHR = Super High Rate) may be employed sampling a product at a rate of 15’000 measurements per second.

UMAC® CI
For single and multi-layer cables and tubes
- Multi-layer measurement (up to 5 layers)
- Wall thickness down to 0.05 mm (.002 in.)

UMAC® CI B
For single layer tubes
- Automatic single layer measurement
- Wall thickness down to 0.5 mm (.02 in.)

For very thin wall tubing, the Ultra-Thin Mode (UTM) can be used to measure wall thickness down to 0.01 mm (depending upon material). On thin wall tubing, one cannot always depend on a clean separation between echoes. Rather than increasing the transducer frequency and being forced to deal with considerably weaker signals, shorter focal distance and increased sensitivity to product position, the UTM uses advanced mathematical models to determine the proper position for each echo, providing accurate measurements, even when the echoes overlap.

For best signal-to-noise ratio and increased resolution the digital signal processor (DSP) uses our unique Echo Optimization Mode (EOM) algorithm to minimize the effect of noise and enhance the shape of the echo waveform, thus providing an optimal signal for accurate and highly repeatable measurements. This mode is especially useful in applications where the echoes are weak and/or where environmental conditions, such as air or particulate matter in the water or compound, result in noise in the echo signal.
Zumbach SmartWall®
Zumbach ultrasonic wall thickness measurement utilizes the intelligent SmartWall® algorithm to dynamically analyze, configure and optimize all signal parameters during the set-up of each production run taking the guess work away from the operator.

Advantages
- Fully automatic signal optimization setting all key parameters to insure reliable ultrasonic wall thickness measurement.
- Advanced real time digital signal processing (DSP) and flexible trigger functions for best possible resolution and repeatability.
- True echo wave signal processing minimizes the effect of echo shape on accuracy.
- Dynamic signal analysis continuously monitors the quality of the signals being processed.

Operation
The system analyzes the raw echo trace to find and evaluate each echo position and polarity.

The velocity of sound in the material is calculated from the time between the echoes and the nominal wall thickness specification.

The result is an approximate calibration of the measurements.

The signal gain is automatically determined for maximum accuracy and repeatability.

Ultrasonic Measurement Principle
It is based on the time difference ($t_2$) of the sound echoes from the surface and the inner side of the product. A piezoelectric crystal is excited by a short electrical pulse. The crystal converts electrical energy into mechanical energy, i.e. sound waves. When the sound waves encounter a difference in the propagation medium (for instance when passing from water to a synthetic material), a part of them is reflected back to the crystal (echo).

$$\text{Wall thickness} = \text{Sound velocity of material} \times t_2 \times 0.5$$
The Measuring Instruments
UMAC® – Ultrasonic Wall Thickness Scanners

UMAC® scanners measure the wall thickness at multiple points of the product. Numerous scanner models are available for specific products such as tubing, pipe, flexible hose, cable and more. The measured data is sent e.g. to the sophisticated WALLMASTER processor which displays easy-to-understand information of product geometry and thickness values.

K Version
For standard water trough (free extrusion) with the height adjustment from the top.

V Version
For inside vacuum mount with height adjustment from the bottom.

Ring-shaped measuring chamber with two pairs of sliding guides, opening up automatically.

Adjustable transducer position control for symmetrical movement for different product sizes; provides a large measuring range.

Typical UMAC® Scanners Installations

Ultrasonic Diameter Measurement
For large tubing, the Zumbach ultrasonic system will utilize the transducers to measure the outside and inside diameters. For systems with four transducers, a two-axis measurement is provided. For systems with eight transducers, a four-axis measurement is provided.
ODAC® – Diameter and Ovality Measuring Gauges

The Zumbach WALLMASTER system also offers outside and inside diameter measurement and control by varying the level of vacuum. Depending upon the size of the pipe and the accuracy required, we have two methods for measuring the outside diameter: with UMAC® ultrasonic scanners or ODAC® laser scanners. In both cases, the inside diameter is calculated by aligning the wall measurements with the diameter measurements.

Laser Diameter Measuring Gauges
1-, 2- or 3-axis measurement

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>1-axis</th>
<th>2-axis</th>
<th>3-axis</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Measuring field</td>
<td>2 ... 550 mm</td>
<td>3 x 3 ... 160 x 160 mm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Min. product diameter</td>
<td>0.012 ... 2 mm</td>
<td>0.015 ... 0.5 mm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Repeatability (3 σ)</td>
<td>0.5 ... 10 μm</td>
<td>0.2 ... 0.5 μm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Scanning frequency</td>
<td>240 ... 1000/s (option 2000/s)</td>
<td>2 x 500 ... 2 x 1200/s</td>
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3-Axis Measurement
3-axis measurement is the perfect solution for accurately measuring the ovality of the pipe. This is very important when considering the connector requirements for pipes such as PEX and CPVC.

Comparison of 3- and 2-axis measurement:

By using a 3-axis arrangement the ability to detect faults in the pipe is vastly improved.

* Technical specifications are subject to change without notice
Why Choose ZUMBACH?

- Over 30 years of ultrasonic measuring system experience
- Over 80,000 ODAC laser scanners sold worldwide
- High precision, robust systems
- Global presence in 11 company-owned subsidiaries
- Vast line of products to support future needs