TRC

TEXTILE TOPICS

TEXTILE RESEARCH CENTER • TEXAS TECH UNIVERSITY • LUBBOCK, TEXAS • USA

Vol. XIII, No. 5
January 1985

OPEN-END SPINNING RESEARCH AT TRC Open-end spinning research has been conducted at the Textile Research Center for twelve years, beginning in 1973 with the acquisition of a Czechoslovakian Elitex BD-200M machine and followed by the installation of a series of machines such as the Schubert & Salzer RK-10 and Platt T883. These were used in our early research to determine the best combination of cotton fiber properties for producing quality yarns and regaining part or all of the yarn strength lost when changing production from ring to rotor-spinning. Through the intervening years, additional O-E machines were made available, and the Center acquired a Schubert & Salzer RU-11, a Rieter m1/1, an Elitex BD-200S, a four-unit Suessen Spintester, and a six-unit Rieter m0/5. During this time, some of the spinning units of the Platt T883 were converted from separator-feed to side-feed design. The amount of research conducted on these machines has been considerable and has utilized many fibers other than cotton such as wool, acrylics, polyester, and even carbon.

Our beginning open-end spinning programs were supervised by Jack D. Towery, and the foundation he built has been invaluable to TRC's continuing research and to many manufacturers throughout the world. After Towery's death in 1981, John B. Price joined the TRC staff and continued the research almost without interruption. Strong support has also been provided throughout the years by William D. Cole and Albert Esquibel, highly capable technicians in our rotor-spinning research department.

While we realize an institution such as the Textile Research Center does have limitations and cannot find solutions to all problems, we do feel we have made some useful contributions to fiber producers and textile manufacturers and we have, at least, enjoyed what we have done.

SCHLAFHORST AUTOCORO INSTALLED A Schlafhorst AUTOCORO is the most recent installation of rotor-spinning equipment at the Textile Research Center and is the ninth machine to be included in our research. As there are a great number of AUTOCOROs already operating in industry, we are pleased to have this machine so we can give better service to our many yarn manufacturing friends. To commemorate the installation of the AUTOCORO, a special ribbon-cutting ceremony was held which was attended by Texas Tech University officials, state government officials, and representatives of the fiber producing and textile manufacturing industries. We were pleased with their attendance and interest in our new machine.

Research on the AUTOCORO will include evaluating new varieties of cotton and determining the quality of yarns produced from these, both in 100% blends and with other fibers. The AUTOCORO will also be used in our academic program for instruction to students studying in the Textile Engineering Department.

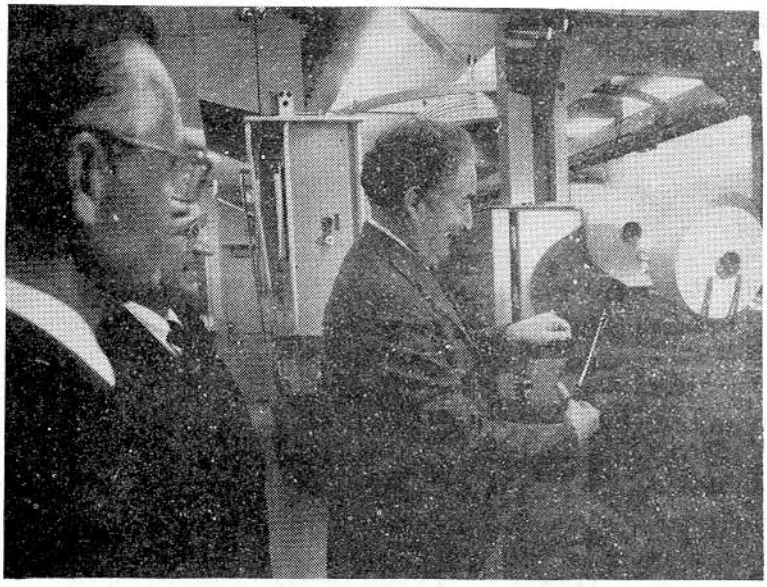
We hope the photographs of the dedication that we are presenting will be of interest to our readers.

VISITORS Visitors to the Textile Research Center during January included Roger B. Cates and Siegfried Prueckel, American Schlafhorst Co., Charlotte, NC; Ray Clary, Continental Textile Machinery, Augusta, GA; Welsford Bishopric and Mark Bishopric, Spray Cotton Mills, Eden, NC; Gaven Rathell,

USDA-FAS, Cotton & Tobacco Div., Washington, DC; Roger Bolick and Linley Jones, Allied Plastics and Fibers, Petersburg, VA; Karl Mueller, American Wool Council, New York, NY; John L. Walker, Zellweger Uster, Inc., Charlotte, NC; and Ken Hayes and Joe McGarrity, Mayfair Mills, Arcadia, SC.

Texas Tech University regent Wesley Masters stands before the Schlafhorst AUTOCORO to address those attending the ribbon-cutting ceremony. At upper left is Dr. Lauro Cavazos, President of Texas Tech University.

Helmut Deussen, President of the research and engineering division of American Schlafhorst Company, Charlotte, NC, discusses the operation of the AUTOCORO and the research that can be conducted with it.



Dr. Cavazos cuts the ribbon to signify the beginning of the AUTOCORO's use for research at Texas Tech University. Mr. Deussen and Mr. Masters watch at left.

The end-piecing and doffing mechanisms of the AUTOCORO were of considerable interest to those attending the ribbon cutting. Many remained after the ceremony to observe the machine's operation.

John B. Price (r), head of TRC's open-end spinning research, discusses the operation and future use of the AUTOCORO with American Cotton Growers' Emerson Tucker. At left is A. W. Lott, President of Lorenzo Textiles.

Among those attending the ribbon-cutting ceremony and expressing considerable interest in the new rotor-spinning machine were (from left) Emerson Tucker, American Cotton Growers; Carl Cox, Executive Director, Natural Fibers & Food Protein Commission of Texas; Don Anderson, President, Texas Cotton Marketing Corporation; and Dr. Lauro Cavazos, President of Texas Tech University.