

Simplicity meets flexibility

This new range of roll straighteners for wire have an impressively simple design, a sophisticated set of accessories and come at an attractive price. They can be easily adjusted to suit changing general conditions at any time, enabling the design of dynamic straightening processes.



Straightener from the "RT" range with individually adjustable rollers. Pictured in the 2/3 configuration, with two of the five rollers on the operating side.



"RTS 7-5.0 4/3" straightener with quick open/close mechanism. Four of the seven rollers are on the operating side. Photos: Witels-Albert

At the heart of the Theory of Evolution is the ability to adapt gradually to changing conditions in order to survive the process of natural selection. In the world of business, however, taking the time to adjust to barely perceptible changes can spell disaster for companies. The business world calls for goals to be achieved within a short space of time. The means of achieving these goals are all the more valuable if they can be applied in a flexible way. As a result, flexible means of production are expensive to procure. Success comes at a price. Over the past two years, Witels-Albert has looked closely at this dilemma and set itself the task of developing new and reasonably priced solutions for straightening wire.

Greater simplicity goes hand-in-hand with a lower consumption of resources, as well as efficient manufacturing and assembly. This provides a basis for keeping abreast of the competition. The delicate balancing act is possible thanks to the use of new materials, semi-finished products and standard parts, thanks to intelligent designs, based, for example, on the reuse of individual parts, as well as the use of highly evolved manufacturing and assembly techniques: Not forgetting the highly trained and dedicated workforce, whose ideas, actions and hard work were essential to the fulfilment of the stated objectives. All of these efforts and an optimized allocation of resources have given rise to the "RT" (Fig. 1) and "RTS" (Fig. 2) range

of straighteners, which are equipped with five or seven individually adjustable straightening rollers. As usual, each straightener has two rows of rollers. However, two different configurations are available, which differ in terms of the number of rollers on the operating side. These alternative configurations mean that the straighteners can adapt perfectly to the general conditions at the customer site, which are determined in each case by the direction in which the wire is traveling, as well as the alignment and rotational direction of the coil. Poor straightening results due to a lack of flexure are a thing of the past. The straighteners in the RT range lack the mechanism for quick opening and closing that is offered by the RTS range. Thanks to an innovative design that uses a positive-drive cam for opening and closing, RTS straighteners can be very quickly opened and closed with a minimum of effort. Because the RT and RTS ranges have the same basic frame in terms of size and straightening range and, as the designs do not use pinned roll adjustment spindles, RT straighteners can be converted to RTS straighteners at any stage. The customer can also choose to upgrade to the quick open/close mechanism. The same applies to the accessories, which include mechanical position indicators for defined, reproducible adjustment of the straightening rollers, protective covers and inlet-side and outlet-side wire guides. If customers initially buy

straighteners without these accessories but need them at a later stage due to changing conditions on-site, they can be ordered and assembled by the customer at any time. On this point, it's worth pointing out that all straighteners in the RT and RTS ranges can be assembled and disassembled quickly and easily. The straighteners also offer benefits in terms of maintenance. RT and RTS straighteners are available in eight different sizes, covering a total straightening area of 0.1mm to 9mm. Connecting angles can be delivered ex works for each and every size and upgraded at a later stage. This gives customers the option of creating complete straightening systems comprising two, three or four straighteners. The configuration of the connecting angles also enables the rotation of the individual straighteners relative to each other. As a result, customers can implement straightening chains of straighteners on various levels.

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