

Sulzer XPLA Foam Extrusion technology



Sulzer in a continuous search of sustainable and ecological solutions has combined the beneficial biodegradability provided by the PLA biomaterial with the reduction of the amount of polymer used through the extrusion foaming technology process. Using the appropriate additives PLA foams have a very high potential to replace today's PS foam standards in some applications. Thanks to their remarkable properties, PLA foams offer perfect solutions for various packaging industries.

Advantages

- Raw source is a biopolymer and biodegradable material
- Excellent thermal insulation of PLA foams
- Good mechanical properties for packaging applications
- Biodegradable foams under certain conditions

Special technical features

- Twin screw extruder technology ensures fast melting and homogeneous mixing without fluctuations
- Short start-up sequences thanks to operation with optimized melt cooling system
- Special temperature control algorithms are preventing over- and undershooting of temperature set-points

Wide range of applications

Trays food industry:

- Replacement of XPS trays for fruits and vegetables

Clamshells:

- Food containers

Cushioning materials:

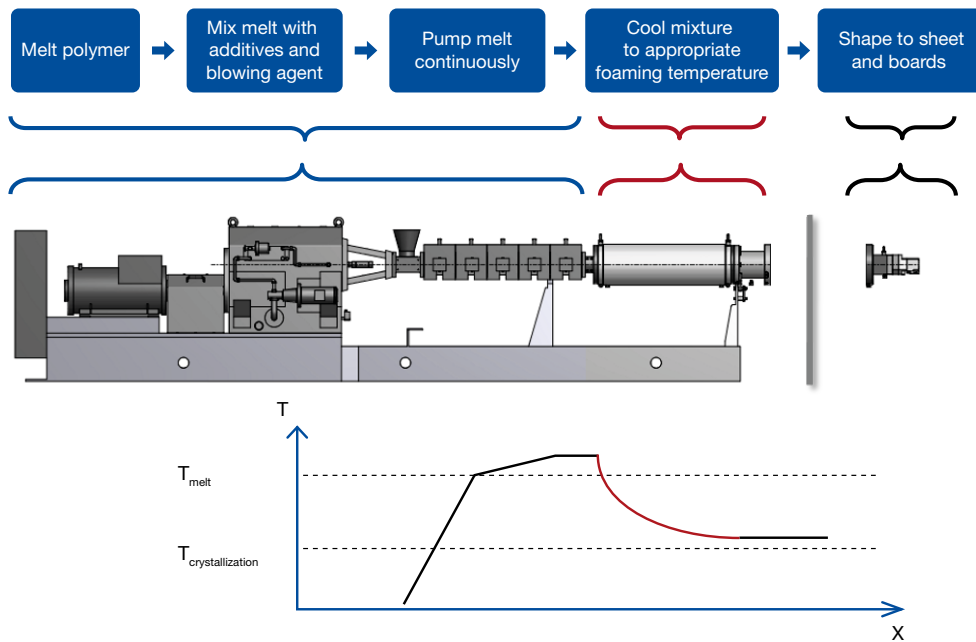
- Protection to safeguard products

One single use product:

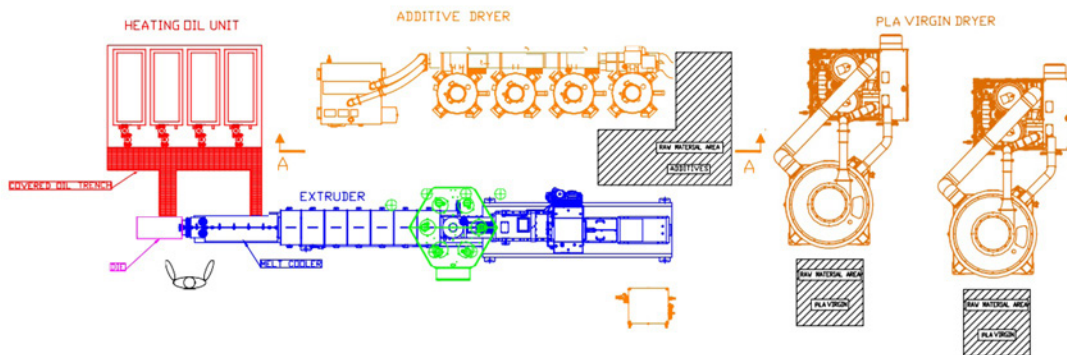
- Plates, cups bowls.



State of the art PLA foam extrusion process for sheets and boards



Typical layout of key components for PLA foam extrusion unit



Extrusion lines available for sheet applications

Process definition	Density range* [kg/m ³]	Capacity [kg/h]	Thickness [mm]	Width [mm]
XPLA sheets	150–400	200–250	0.8–1.1	1050

* Depending on blowing agents (e.g. Cyclo-Pentane, Carbon-Dioxide, Iso-butane)

**How can we help you?
Contact us today to find your best solution.**

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