



Arta's Thermex Econtrol range has a working width of 1.8 metres.

Winning combinations for ARTA

As an accredited supplier to leading European retail brands such as Marks & Spencer, H&M, INDITEX and Top Shop, Turkey's Arta Tekstil Ltd. is seeing a programme of continuous investment over the past three years now paying solid dividends.

With a production capacity of around 4 million metres of finished woven fabrics per month, Arta employs 300 workers over three shifts daily, with 50% of its output exported to key retail customers and the other half produced on a commission basis.

The company is situated in Çorlu, some 70km west of Istanbul – a city which has boomed over the past 30 years, with its population having risen from barely 20,000 to over 270,000 people. This has largely been due to a welcoming immigration policy and the new textile mills which have emerged in the past few decades in the city that now number around 350 in total.



Arta Plant Manager. Mehmet Kalipçioğlu.

Of the textile companies in Çorlu, however, around 250 are estimated to be dyeing and finishing operations. Despite this, Arta distinguishes itself through combinations of processes which exploit its comprehensive dyeing, finishing, coating and digital and rotary printing technologies to the full.

In addition to other technologies, the company's recent investment programme has seen the installation of a new European-built Monforts Thermex Econtrol dyeing system as well as two ten-chamber Monfongs Montex stenters and a Monfongs sanforising unit, all of which have been installed and commissioned by Istanbul-based Neotek.

Wider range

"In combination with the new Monforts Thermex system, this provides us with a far wider range of fabric finishes and surface effects that we can achieve compared to our competitors," says Arta plant manager Mehmet Kaan Kalipçioğlu. "We specialise in cotton, polyester, viscose and lyocell finished fabrics and their blends, with varying levels of controlled stretch, in advanced weaves including twills, poplins, canvas, sateen, double-face as and dobby qualities.

"Our dyeing methods include reactive, sulphur, indanthren, indigo, pigment and disperse dyeing, along with

specially-developed in-house techniques and special glitter, PU, pearl and other blade coatings. Through combinations of all of these techniques, we are able to provide our customers with highly-differentiated fabrics."

Added to these winning combinations can be a variety of finish effects such as silicone, wrinkle-free, paper-touch, water repellent, stain repellent, anti-bacterial, fire-retardancy etc.

Single process

One special development Arta has been involved with in a joint project for TÜBITAK – The Scientific and Technological Research Council of Turkey – has resulted in a fast and economical method for applying both reactive dye and a version of pigment dye in a single process.

"Since the washing effects of reactive and pigment dyes are far different, there are some colours you can only get with either, but our customers can now achieve outstanding new colour shades after garment washing with this process, and different shades or contrast colours can be combined," Mr Kalipçioğlu explains.

The latest Monforts and Monfongs installations, he adds, have resulted in a production increase of over 50%, with a

marked improvement in quality and reproducibility.

"What's been particularly impressive is the total control we now have over parameters such as humidity," he says.

The company's Thermex Econtrol range meanwhile has a working width of 1.8 metres and allows the single-bath continuous dyeing of cotton and polyester fabrics with selected reactive and dispersion dyestuffs, as well as cotton-polyester blends to be processed without reductive intermediate cleaning, eliminating the need for a steamer.

"Other processes, such as the use of indanthren vat dyes for enhanced wash and boil fastness, or the over-dyeing on reactive-dyed cotton fabrics to achieve an extremely broad range of colour effects, are also carried out on the range," Mr Kalipçioğlu says.

Another significant advantage for the company is the advanced water treatment and recycling equipment it has in place.

"It's now very difficult to get a licence to operate a new plant in Çorlu, due to new government regulations to protect agriculture in the region," Mr Kalipçioğlu concludes. "Luckily, we have been well prepared for this." ♦

A fast and economical method for applying both reactive dye and a version of pigment dye in a single process allows striking new colour combinations and effects to be achieved.

