

# **Batch coater** For exceptional product quality



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# **Batch coating system**

with or without vacuum



Vacuum coater

For years, vertical mixers provided gentle mixing of feed ingredients. Now, ANDRITZ is adapting vertical mixing to coating technology with or without vacuum.

The low energy input of vertical units ensures that mixing occurs without shearing. Most importantly, the concept of mixing using a vertical transport screw allows all of the product to be exposed over time at the top of the mixing vessel. This product exposure provides the ideal medium for uniform application of liquids or powders. ANDRITZ provides a new tool for extruded product manufacturers, a tool that:

 affords simultaneous cost reduction and quality enhancement,

**High-performance** 

pet food



 potentially opens the door to the production of entirely new categories of products in the future.

The aqua feed industry has used vacuum coating for several years, but has had problems maintaining performance levels with conventional coaters. The future will require high-energy products based on protein sources with poor liquid absorption properties. This, coupled with the addition of microliquids places stringent demands on tomorrow's vacuum coating systems.

The pet food industry currently utilizes a wide variety of externally applied liquids and powders. Drum coating systems fulfil the normal requirements, however several benefits can be achieved with vacuum coating that are not possible with atmospheric coating.





# The vacuum coating process for aquatic feed and pet food

Extruded pellets have a very porous inner structure. The liquid added is retained within the pores of this internal structure. The object of vacuum coating is to use a pressure differential to force liquids through the outer layer and deeply into the porous area of the pellet.

The system provides accurate control of the vacuum pressure, liquid addition, and cycle time to allow flexibility and reproducibility in terms of degree of absorption and penetration.

**Vacuum pressure release** must be controlled according to the amount of liquid to be added. With high coating levels, an extended pressure release time is required, often as long as 180 seconds.

- Short pressure release time of 30 seconds. Air penetrates the product, resulting in poor absorption properties.
- 2 Long pressure release time of 180 seconds, where the liquid is slowly forced into the center of the product.



Vacuum pressure





**Product characteristics** must be adjusted according to the required amount of liquid to be added. Degree of expansion as well as moisture levels must be controlled.

- Poor absorption properties occur due to insufficient expansion and too high moisture level.
- 4 Good absorption properties because there is sufficient porous area to contain the coating liquid.



Dried product
 1,015 mbar



Air evacuation
 500 mbar



Coating
 50 mbar



Liquid absorption
 500 mbar







Expansion



# Unique design provides excellent results

Gentle agitation avoids damage to your product, regardless of its shape.

The product is conveyed gently in vertical direction by the screw and dispersed on top of the barrel in a thin, spherically shaped layer and exposed to the hexagonal pattern from 6 flat fan spray nozzles, which secure a uniform distribution of liquids to the pellets. The conical shape and pitch design of the screw provides efficient circulation of the pellets during coating.

### Benefits of vacuum coating system High levels of liquid addition

Up to 35% of dry matter weight

### High spraying efficiency

Addition of microliquids

### Gentle product handling

No dust created

### Vacuum pressure

Suitable for 10 mbar

### Flexibility

- Large batch size
- Prepared for capacity scale-up



# Benefits of vacuum coating technology

- Improved absorption
- Improved palatability index
- Improved nutrient values









Easy coater capacity scale-up because all features, i.e. motor, valves, and spraying system, have been prepared for this.

# Specifications

of batch coaters



# Engineering and project management

ANDRITZ has more than 100 years of experience in the feed and food industries and can provide engineering support and proposals for installation of the vacuum coater. ANDRITZ also offers a wide variety of concepts for application of special liquids, such as:

- Pigmentation/colors
- Medication
- Flavors
- Various top coatings

Technical data			
Coater type		VAC-1000	VAC-1500
Batch size	liters	2000	3400
Motor size	kW	11	22
Height	mm	3320	4120
Diameter	mm	2400	2400
Total weight	kg	2000	2800

### Options

- Heating jacket
- CIP cleaning
- All stainless steel

# Features of the batch coater



▲ Inspection door hinged for quick opening provides easy access to coater. Sight glass allows visual inspection during operation.



▲ Gear motor with built-in bearing and seal ensures low maintenance.







▲ Spray nozzles with easy access from the outside of the coater. Automatic air cleaning of nozzles is standard on the ANDRITZ vacuum coater.

 Liquid manifolds ensure even distribution of the liquid to the nozzles independently of the flow rate.

▲ Batch coater in stainless steel

Discharge valve ► as slide gate driven by pneumatic cylinders is fastacting and leak-free.

## **Process control systems** for all key processes in processing lines

### **Basic function control**

Stand-alone control system

- Extruder ECPS;
   Extruder control panel system
- Dryer DCPS;
   Dryer control panel system
- Coater VCPS;
   Coater control panel system

### Extended function control

Client server-based control system

- Extruder ECMS;
   Extruder control management system
- Dryer DCMS;
   Dryer control management system
- Coater VCMS; Coater control management system

### Functions

- Extended remote control
- Fully automatic control

### Functions

- Basic functions
- Basic operation of equipment
- Manual settings/readings



Touch control panel system

- Total traceability
- Auto start/stop feature
- Production management
- Database
- Recipe logging
- Remote online support





Touch client for field installation
 Server installation for control room

ECPS/ECMS	DCPS/DCMS	VCPS/VCMS
Extrusion control	Drying control	Coater control



Process control systems							
Туре	Extruder	Dryer	Coater	Touch	PC		
				control panel system	remote management system		
Basic	ECPS	DCPS	VCPS	Х			
Extended	ECMS	DCMS	VCMS	Х	Х		



# Where to find us Global supplier – local presence

ANDRITZ is truly a global organization – but also with local presence. We are represented all over the world. The global market for feed technologies is served from five main locations:

- Esbjerg, Denmark
- Sanshui, Guangdong Province, China
- Geldrop, Netherlands
- Muncy, PA, USA
- Humenné, Slovakia

In addition, we operate from several strategic regional sales, engineering, and service locations in China, Vietnam, India, Australia, Mexico, Venezuela, Brazil, Chile, France, the UK, and Germany – and are also represented locally by agents and distributors in many other markets.



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