



Case Study Technology sought for automated application of silicone to compression knitwear

Promising low-cost solution found in the immediate neighborhood

Problem

- Our customer is a specialist in compression therapy. They manually apply silicone to their knitwear to prevent slippage and increase support. In order to speed up the production process and to save costs, our customer wanted to automate this production step.
- Therefore, *dtd* was commissioned to search for suitable technologies for the automated application of silicone to medical compression knitwear. The application of silicone should be done as a freely programmable pattern on different parts of the compression knitwear.
- Both industry and research should be consulted for this project.

Procedure

- A factory inspection at our customer's site provided the *dtd* project manager with a better understanding of the individual production steps and enabled us to gain a better understanding of the situation. Thus a competent communication between project manager and experts could be guaranteed.
- The identified application technologies were roughly validated by *dtd* according to predefined criteria. *dtd* provided an overview of suitable technologies and potential cooperation partners.
- Prioritised were companies with a solution proposal for a complete plant with the automated dosing technology.

Result

- A total of 40 companies and research institutes from the global area presented a possible application technology.
- The detailed evaluation of the proposed solutions and potential cooperation partners was carried out by our client. Following one-to-one discussions after signing an NDA and conducting tests enabled a final decision.
- Our customer found a promising low-cost solution in the immediate neighborhood and will test this technology for the time being.

Conclusion

Our customer found a promising low-cost solution in the immediate vicinity and will test this technology first. Should the prioritised application technology cause problems, our client can turn to a technology from the second prioritisation group and test it as well. This option will save the costs of the search.