

## The new Generation of technical Textiles

**Heinrich Essers GmbH & Co. KG and its sister company, Essedea GmbH & Co. KG, have dedicated themselves to the development and manufacture of high-tech textiles that are used in numerous production processes. Ideally suited for the manufacture of high-quality mattresses, the flagship line is made up of novel 3D spacer fabrics.**



Heinrich Essers GmbH & Co. KG and Essedea GmbH & Co. KG operate state-of-the-art production facilities in the German town of Wassenberg

Heinrich Essers GmbH & Co. KG was established in 1912 by the present managing director's grandfather. In its early days, the enterprise was a weaving mill; however, throughout the years, its core competence was adapted to come into line with market demands. "In 1977, the decision was made to specialise in warping services," as Mr. Heinz-Willy Essers, Managing Director, tells us in our interview. In a bid to enhance the enterprise's market performance, the management established Essedea GmbH & Co. KG in 2003. The sister company focuses on the development and manufacture of three-dimensional textiles marketed under the 3DEA® trademark.

Situated on shared premises in the German town of Wassenberg, the companies have a combined staff count of 60 personnel. While Essedea is solely focused on the production of 3D textiles, Heinrich Essers GmbH & Co. KG provides a wealth of services in the fields of sectional warping, direct beaming, and direct beaming on section warp beams. The company also processes high-tenacity-materials (HT) for technical textiles as well as yarns and filaments for the traditional textile industry.

The secret underlying the outstanding quality of the enterprise's products are the state-of-the-art machines deployed in pro-

duction. Heinrich Essers' sectional and direct beams are used in warp manufacturing processes in the following manner: with sectional beams, the yarn is wound off the spools from the creel in sections onto the warping cylinder and then onto the warp beam itself. With direct beams, the yarn is wound off the spools from the creel directly onto the warp beam.



With direct beams on section warp beams, the same process applies as for direct beams. However, in most cases, more than one beam is required for further processing. Section

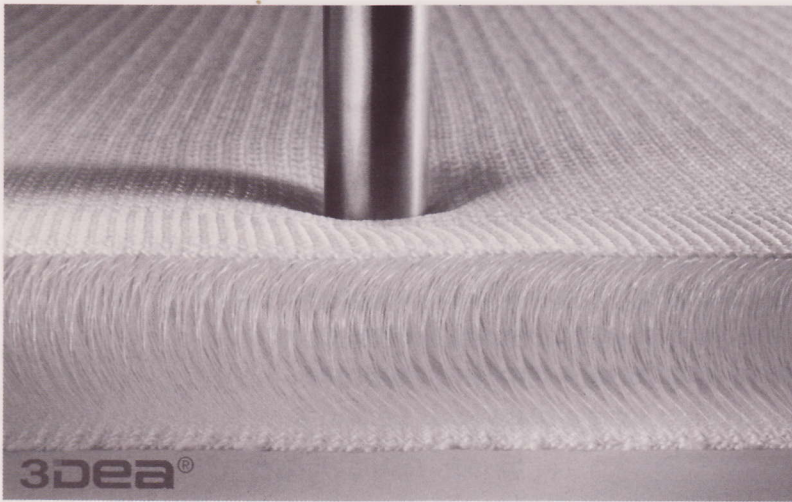
warp beams are used for knitting and Raschel.

Essedea's offering consists of 3DEA® spacer fabrics. They are especially designed to offer pressure relief as well as outstanding thermal and humidity regulation, and improve breathability and airflow. Further properties include improved work of compression, thickness recovery and excellent compression recovery properties. Consequently, they are highly rated among mattress manufacturers due to the fact that spacer fabrics help prevent bedsores and chronic wounds for hospital patients who are bedridden for a long period of time.

"Constantly striving to improve the range of operation, we have carried out tests with our textiles to find out if they are suitable for aircraft, special vehicles, boats, yachts and caravans. Moreover, meticulous research and testing are crucial to ascertain new areas of application for spacer fabrics," as Ms. Julia Essers, the managing director's daughter and re-

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presentative of the agency PR-Kollektiv, explains. In 2003, Essedea was the first enterprise capable of serial production of spacer fabrics with a height of up to 55 mm. The enterprise



Spacer fabrics by Essedea GmbH & Co. KG offer outstanding pressure-relief, thermal and humidity-regulation properties

makes use of innovative production machinery in its factory, as Ms. Essers elaborates: *"Our spacer fabrics are manufactured by means of a high-distance Raschel machine, which constitutes the core of our manufacturing equipment."*

With its unique combination of skills, expertise and experience acquired after many decades in the market, Heinrich Essers GmbH & Co. KG has positioned itself as a reliable and highly sought-after

collaboration partner when it comes to high-tech textiles and special products. *"Working with some of the most prominent manufacturers in the market, we supply technical textiles for their production processes. Our textiles are just one part of a whole range of elements that are used to create an almost unlimited number of different end products,"* stresses the managing director. Active on a global level, the enterprise generates 50% of its turnover through export.

Customers are located across Western Europe, with the Benelux, France, the UK, Austria, Switzerland, Spain and Scandinavia being the main target countries.

By participating in symposiums and congresses, as well as trade fairs

such as the Techtexil in Frankfurt, Heinrich Essers GmbH & Co. KG presents its technology and products to the industry. *"The innovative products of Essedea are being actively promoted through a wide range of channels,"* stresses Ms. Essers. *"Moreover, we are on the lookout for new confecting partners who would like to process our spacer fabrics."* Working hand in hand with its partners, the Heinrich Essers GmbH & Co. KG and Essedea GmbH & Co. KG wish to maintain organic and sustainable growth, revolutionising the market with high-tech textiles for a wealth of applications.



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**Continued from 93**

Altogether, 20% of the company's business today is foreign operations with customers in Italy, Austria, Switzerland, France, Spain and Hungary. Company founder Josef Nagel relates: *"As far as Proquama® is concerned, it has no competition in the market today, at least not with the*

*same complexity as our product. Our software enables the automatic generation of an action catalogue. Moreover, purchasing, maintenance and dispatch feature closed user groups. It is a transparent system that does not allow for manipulation."* M&F participates in trade shows such as

Control in Stuttgart and the annual AKJ Congress in Saarbrücken.



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