Rieter - K 45 ComforSpin Machine



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The K 45 ComforSpin machine is derived from the basic G 35 machine and the extremely successful K 44 predecessor model with further optimization features and innovations. Customers benefit from a powerful, high-quality machine incorporating diverse additional solutions in the fi eld of spinning technology. Superiority over competitors ensures market success.

HIGHER PRODUCTIVITY - UP TO 1 632 SPINDLES

The new K 45 is modular in design, and the total machine concept off ers maximum reliability and flexibility with up to 1 632 spindles.

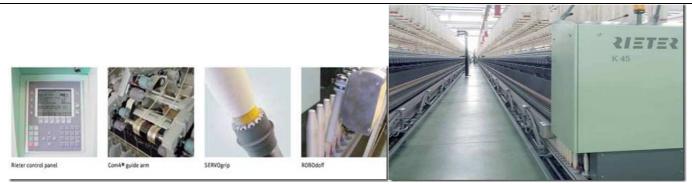
IMPROVED ECONOMY

A larger number of spindles per machine means lower costs in producing a given volume of output; fewer machines incur lower capital costs and reduced expenditure for infrastructure and maintenance (space requirements, energy, air conditioning, etc.). This reduces the fixed element of production costs per kg of yarn.

POSITIVE ENERGY BALANCE

Top priority has been given to reducing energy consumption

- a core element of manufacturing, maintenance and operating costs. Energy consumption per kg of yarn has been reduced signifi cantly on the K 45.



Com4® yarn quality extending over 1 632 spindles

The K 45 compact spinning machine is based on the well-established K 44 predecessor model. The cornerstones of its success – a well thought-out machine concept, technically and technologically accomplished solutions and a high level of operator friendliness – have been incorporated to a large extent in the new model. Process control is thus assured.

EASY OPERATION

All machine functions are incorporated in the process control system and can be operated centrally via the Rieter control panel. Technical data relevant for spinning operations are displayed clearly and practically on a screen with graphic capability. For maximum efficiency and reproducibility, MEMOset enables all important parameters for up to 18 yarns to be filed in the data memory and retrieved at any time. The machine can be adapted rapidly and reliably to new products.

HIGH FLEXIBILITY

The FLEXIdraft drafting system drive enables yarns to be produced in defined, consistently high quality, even with frequent batch changes. Yarn counts and twist rates can be adjusted rapidly to new yarn products at the push of a button. Individual actuation of both sides of the drafting system cylinders, which are divided in mid-machine, and an additional intermediate drive for the central bottom roller on machines with more than 1 200 spindles ensure high running accuracy and quality consistency at all times.

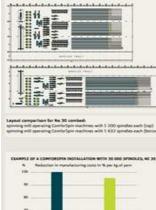
DEFINED YARN QUALITY

The mill-proven Ri-Q-Draft drafting system with pneumatically loaded guide arm and the Ri-Q-Bridge provide a sound basis for high yarn quality. The core feature of the K 45 is the compacting zone with the wear-resistant, perforated metal drum. This combination is crucial for uniform compact yarn quality. **THE MOST RELIABLE DOFFER – WITHOUT INTERMEDIATE STORAGE**

Up to 1 632 cops are doff ed reliably, rapidly and without intermediate storage on the K 45 - even with large cop formats.

SERVOgrip – the Rieter innovation for genuine doffing without underwinding – eliminates underwound ends and considerably reduces fi ber fly on ComforSpin machines. As a consequence the number of air changes in the spinning premises can be reduced, costs can be cut and yarn quality improved. This high-quality yarn results in fewer faults in subsequent processes.

ROBOdoff – the Rieter doffing system – guarantees maximum operating reliability. The doffing process is actuated automatically and monitored continuously throughout its operation. The starting and completion time of the doffing process in relation to spinout and start-up can be programmed for the specific product.



Potential savings with large numbers of spindles

A machine operates economically when it generates a cost benefit per unit produced or an advantage compared to other systems. Low operating and maintenance costs as well as a long service life are assured by the high quality and reliability of Rieter machines. Continuous innovation ensures a market lead.

REDUCED SPACE REQUIREMENT

With larger numbers of spindles per machine the space required in a ring spinning mill for a defined output volume is reduced. The requirements for a ComforSpin installation with 30 000 spindles are:

Space required

25 machines with 1 200 spindles each 11 300 m2

18 machines with 1 632 spindles each (K 45) 9 800 m2

This results in a reduction of 13 % in total floor area required. In addition to the cost of the building, running costs for maintenance, cleaning, lighting and air conditioning are lower.

Additional savings are possible in upstream or downstream processes if the actual number of machines in use there

can also be reduced. As a systems supplier, Rieter fulfi lls all the preconditions for upstream processes to provide timely supplies of the higher output volumes. In the above-mentioned example, 7 fewer winders are required for the K 45 installation combined with automatic winders (Link system), i.e. the same number as for the ComforSpin machines.



Top-quality compact yarns

ACHIEVING THE PERFECT COMPACT YARN : In the ComforSpin process the fi ber bundle is compacted by means of a partial vacuum in the extraction duct and the air current this generates. The compacting zone is located in the perforated area of a metal drum between the top roller and the nip roller at the delivery end. After the fi bers leave the nip zone of the top roller at the delivery end they are compacted by the selectively applied air current. The compacting zone extends over the entire length of the suction slot in the suction insert. The compacting zone distances are adjustable. The additional nip roller prevents the twist from being propagated into the compacting zone. Total fi ber guidance in the compacting zone is ensured by the optimum interaction of the compacting elements. This results in the characteristic Com4® yarn properties, such as

- higher material utilization
- · higher tenacity with the same twist factor, or
- · identical tenacity with reduced twist factor for higher productivity
- · lower hairiness (maximum reduction in hairs more than 3 mm long)
- improved yarn irregularity [CVm%]
- · fewer weak places in the yarn
- · improved yarn imperfections [IPI]
- · higher abrasion resistance



THE COMPACTING ELEMENTS : The K 45 refl ects the latest state of the art in terms of economy, quality, flexibility and maintenance.

The aerodynamic parallelization and compacting of the fi bers following the main draft ensures maximum consistency in yarn quality and running properties. The core elements of the K 45 ComforSpin machine are

· the perforated metal drum

· the suction insert and

· the air guide element PERFORATED METAL DRUM

The perforated metal drum is mounted rigidly on the delivery roller. It is directly driven and wear-free. Depending on the yarn count range being spun, perforated drums with grooved or smooth surfaces are used.

SUCTION INSERT: The flow characteristics of the suction insert have been optimized for the K 45. Air consumption per spinning position has been further reduced. The different, easily interchangeable suction inserts ensure optimum yarn quality for every application.

AIR GUIDE ELEMENT : The patented air guide element, which is also interchangeable, guides the suction air systematically into the compacting zone, thus enhancing compacting eff ectiveness.



High degree of fl exibility

The K 45 is characterized by a high degree of flexibility. The rapidly and easily interchangeable suction units (suction slots) and air guide elements mean that the optimum components are used for each yarn application.

CLASSIC COM4® YARN

Classic Comfor yarns can be manufactured from carded and combed cotton, as well as from manmade fi bers and their blends.

Depending on the raw material and yarn count, the appropriate suction units and corresponding air guide elements are used. In the case of carded cotton or cotton with a high short-fi ber content, the cage with the pressure rod is also used.

Classic Comfor yarns feature the characteristic parameters of compact yarns, such as low hairiness and higher tenacity values.

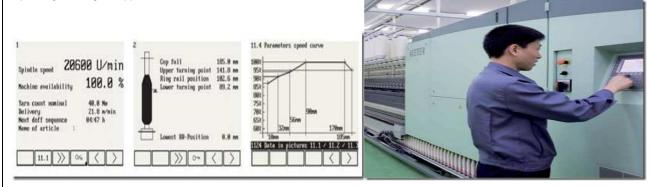
COM4®twin

Com4®twin is a compacted spun-twisted yarn. The two yarn threads pass separately through the Com4® drafting system, are compacted separately and are twisted and "doubled" in the same process stage after leaving the nip roller. The process of doubling and twisting is eliminated in the case of Com4®twin yarns. This means substantial cost savings in production.

Com4®twin yarns feature even further reduced hairiness compared with classic Com4® yarns. Com4®twin yarns are currently used primarily in high-quality knits and fine woven fabrics.

COM4®light

Com4®light yarns feature a smaller reduction in hairiness compared with standard Com4® yarns The other yarn quality parameters lie between those of conventional ring-spun yarns and Com4® yarns. Yarns with a reduced compacting eff ect can therefore be produced at minimum expense and eff ort, thus further expanding the range of application of the K 45.



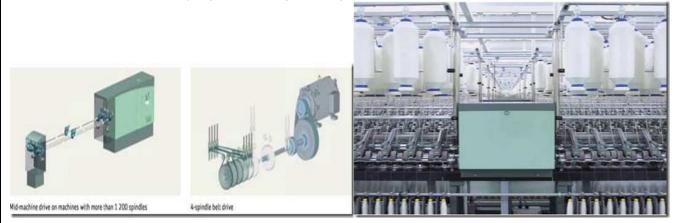
Centralized, ergonomic machine operation An operator-friendly, ergonomic operating and display concept has been developed in cooperation with users in the major markets as standard equipment for all Rieter machines. The main emphasis is on clear layout, good legibility and comprehensibility with a choice of 10 languages to ensure reliable man-machine communication.

SIMPLE, EFFICIENT FUNCTIONS ON THE CONTROL PANEL Machine functions, spindle drive, FLEXIdraft, ROBOload and traveling cleaners are centrally controlled. This enables all functions to be operated via a centralized operating and display unit. Maximum process control and real-time information regarding output and machine status are guaranteed. Adjustments, e.g. of yarn twist, can be made via the numerical keyboard. Modifi cations to machine data can therefore also be made quickly and efficiently for a change of blend.

SIMPLE GRAPHIC OPERATOR INTERFACE : Machine operation is facilitated by visualization of the current process status, easy retrieval of the relevant spinning data and displays of faults on the screen with graphic capability. The description and additional graphic display make the messages clearly understandable and self-explanatory.

IMPORTANT PROCESS INFORMATION IN SUMMARY: The basic display on the operator interface shows the current machine status at all times. The main data fi elds can be accessed directly by means of soft keys. The time remaining to the next doffing process is indicated directly on the basic display. This facilitates the allocation of personnel and improves machine efficiency. The spinning process can be infl uenced directly while the machine is running by manipulating the graphs on the control panel. The new input points on the spindle speed graph therefore provide opportunities for even greater raw material and yarn-specific c optimization. **SPINNING PARAMETERS RETRIEVABLE AS YARN PRODUCTS** The MEMOset product module stores spinning parameters for up to 18 diff erent yarns. The data are available at all times and can be retrieved and processed on the monitor. The parameter are downloaded directly from a laptop, as a transfer between several machines or via a USB interface.

A new product is thus configured only once and is then available to all users and machines – a contribution to enhanced efficiency and quality consistency. **RAPID TROUBLE-SHOOTING** :Fault signals during the production process are displayed graphically on the control panel. Complemented by brief, explanatory texts, this enables faults to be located quickly and rectified systematically.



Well-conceived drive systems

When do long machines also produce fl exibly?

When batch changes do not entail disproportionately long downtimes and when a problem at a single spinning position does not necessitate shutting down the entire machine, thus resulting in a drastic loss of production. The K 45 off ers all of this.

ENERGY-SAVING 4-SPINDLE BELT DRIVE

The 4-spindle belt drive guarantees constant rotation speeds over the total length of the machine, regardless of the number of spindles. The greater angle of wrap around the wharve compared with other drive systems significantly reduces the tendency to slip, and the tension and contact pressure of the belt can be reduced. The outstanding energy balance of the 4-spindle belt drive has already been demonstrated on the previous machine generation in comparisons with other systems. The high effi - ciency values calculated have been confirmed in mill operations.

NEW DRIVE CONCEPT

Bottom rollers are subject to material-specific torsion. Calculations and experimental values show that this causes faults during spinning start-up and spin-out as of a certain loading level and a critical bottom roller length. This is taken into

account in the K 45 with a modular drive concept. A single-sided drive is sufficient for short machines with up to 624 spindles.

Machines with up to 1 200 spindles are driven from headstock and tailstock. The division of the drafting system cylinders

in mid-machine reduces torsion and ensures high running accuracy and drafting action. On machines with more than 1 200 spindles the central bottom roller is driven not only

from the headstock and tailstock, but also from mid-machine in order to reduce torsion. This drive concept also enables manmade fi bers and materials that are diffi cult to draw to be processed without any diffi culty on the longest machines.

FLEXIdraft – PARAMETER CHANGES AT THE PUSH OF A BUTTON All three bottom rollers of the drafting system are frequency-controlled and individually driven by synchronous motors. FLEXIdraft enables yarn count and yarn twist to be changed at the push of a button. This drive concept for the drafting system is the precondition for the installation of FLEXIstart.

FLEXIstart – EASIER BATCH CHANGES

Based on FLEXIdraft and the central division of the drafting system rollers, each drafting system drive can be started or stopped individually with the FLEXIstart function.

The advantages of this are:

• time-saving start-up and spin-out of the machine

- signifi cantly reduced material losses and soiling
- optimized personnel deployment
- · ideal for spinning samples

On machines with up to 1 200 spindles start-up or shutdown with FLEXIstart occurs in guarters, on longer machines in half sides.

CHANGING YARN TWIST DIRECTION AT THE PUSH OF A BUTTON Yarn twist direction is changed from S to Z or vice versa – apart from spinning technology adjustments on the machine – also at the operator panel – without any mechanical intervention.

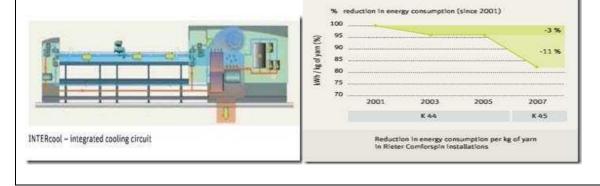


K 45 – the machine with the best energy balance :Developments to reduce energy consumption in yarn manufacturing have been vigorously pursued for years with top priority in the research and development of Rieter textile machinery. Energy consumption fi gures lower than those of other systems available on the market were already achieved by means of highly accomplished technical and technological solutions on the K 44 predecessor model. The K 45 off ers customers new and optimized functions with significantly reduced energy consumption.

4- SPINDLE BELT DRIVE: Mill operations have demonstrated clear benefits in terms of energy consumption for 4-spindle belt drives compared to tangential drives: a smaller wharve diameter and greater angle of wrap enable slip to be prevented and constant drive conditions to be guaranteed, despite lower belt tension. Customers also benefit trom simple, rapid belt replacement.

ENERGY-OPTIMIZED DRAFTING SYSTEM MOTORS The use of newly developed electric motors for the drafting system drive results in higher efficiency and has a decisive impact on the machine's total energy consumption.

EFFICIENT EXTRACTION SYSTEM : The fl ow characteristics of the extraction system on the K 45 have been optimized for machine lengths up to 1 632 spindles. The reduction in pressure loss achieved in this way ensures an adequate partial vacuum over the total length of the machine. Vacuum sensors in the rotating fi ber separator control the cycle time for the rotation and ensure uniform vacuum conditions throughout cop running time.



INTERcool

INTERcool is a closed-circuit cooling system integrated in the machine. The waste heat from the motors and frequency converters passes over an internal heat exchanger and then directly into the exhaust air ducts of the air conditioning system. The load on the air conditioning system is reduced, since the spinning premises are not subject to uncontrolled heating by the machines in operation. A constant spinning climate over the machine as a whole has a positive impact on running properties and varn quality

TRAVELING CLEANER WITH ENERGY-SAVING PROGRAM

The running cycle of the traveling cleaner can be programmed individually, depending on blend, fi ber content in the air and the tendency to contamination by fly on the machine. The finer the yarn, the longer the cleaning intervals that can be selected. The cleaning cycles of the traveling cleaner are generally set for coarse count yarns and can be reduced for fine count blends to save energy.

MONITORING SYSTEM FOR POWER FAILURES

Power outages are usually synonymous with ends down, loss of output, loss of quality and intervention by personnel.

This is not so on the K 45. A monitoring system supervises power supplies. In the event of a power failure - and regardless of its duration - the spindle drive motor switches to the generator function and supplies the other drives while they decelerate. In the case of power interruptions lasting up to 2 seconds, the machine accelerates to operating speed again without stopping. In the case of failures lasting more than 2 seconds, the machine decelerates in a similar fashion to a process-related machine stoppage. This prevents ends down when the machine restarts. . Ffficient cop change

ComforSpin machines are continually increasing in length. This makes solutions for replacing and removing full cops increasingly important. The goal is to reduce machine downtime. The K 45 guarantees good handling, well-conceived, ergonomically logical and individually adapted, automated solutions and fast, reliable performance of the complete doffi ng function.

SERVOgrip – TROUBLE-FREE DOFFING

The SERVOgrip clamping crown, patented by Rieter, is the convincing, mill-proven solution for a smooth doffing process with a minimum of fi ber fl v. Decisive advantages of SERVOgrip are:

- · yarn savings due to the elimination of reserve windings
- · no mechanical removal of yarn residues
- · elimination of series of ends down during manual or mechanical removal
- · reduction of fi ber fly on the machine and in the spinning premises
- fewer impurities in the yarn higher quality
- · reduced cleaning of machines and spinning premises

Reliable, defined breaking of the clamped yarn during the doffing process is guaranteed, even with especially tear-resistant yarns. Special support functions, such as draft and yarn count adjustment during reserve winding, can be programmed and optimized at the operator control panel.

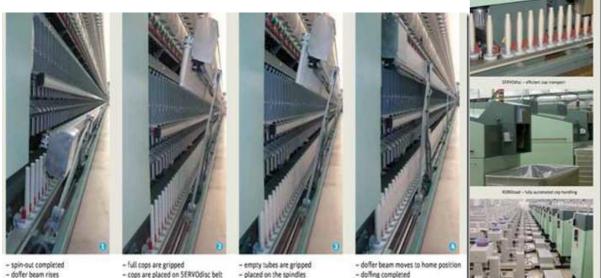
ROBOdoff – MAXIMUM OPERATING RELIABILITY

The need for maximum operating reliability during doffing has increased further with the extension of the machine to more than 1 600 spindles; this is no problem with ROBOdoff. The self-monitoring doff er operates quickly and reliably, performing movements precisely and uniformly. The power required to move the doff er beam is provided by intelligent drives in mid-machine and relief springs distributed along its length.

DOFFlock - SAFETY IN SMALL SPACES

DOFFlock is a safety function for ring spinning installations with close machine spacing. It prevents simultaneous

doffing on two neighboring machines, averting collisions and protecting personnel. This option is recommended where machines are installed 2 meters apart (between centers) and mandatory with spacing of less than 1.85 meters.



- dolling completed spinning started - SERVOdisc belt starts

Flexible logistics

SERVOdisc - EFFICIENT COP TRANSPORT

The doff er transfers the full cops to the SERVOdisc transport system, which conveys them either to the transfer station of the winder or to the fully automated ROBOload tube loader. The SERVOdisc discs prevent tilting and thus ensure smooth transport, while the machine already resumes yarn production. ROBOload – RELIABLE AUTOMATION

ROBOload has established itself as a reliable, fully automated tube and cop handling system for unlinked machines. Full packages are removed into a waiting container and empty tubes are fi tted with a transfer capacity of up to 32 cops per minute. ROBOload impresses by virtue of its well-conceived design and reliable automation, and can be converted at any time into a Link station for automatic transfer of the cops to the winder.

The mill-proven design of SERVOdisc, ROBOload and the Link station prevents the accumulation of fi ber fly and ensures smooth, maintenance-free operation.

Como® yarns in end products

The range of applications of Com4® yarns is unlimited. An extensive range of yarns can be manufactured on the K 45 from 100 % cotton, blends and manmade fi bers. Despite this variety, a common feature of all Com4® yarns is their high quality and unique yarn structure. This provides the basis for new, high-value applications and enhanced effi ciency in the preparatory stages of downstream processing and in fabric manufacture.

HIGHER EFFICIENCY IN WEAVING

Yarns featuring high tenacity and elongation are required to meet the high demands in weaving preparation and weaving itself. They should also feature low hairiness in order to reduce the tendency to cling in the weaving shed. Com4® yarns fulfi II these requirements.

Sizing, washing and singeing as well as the use of chemicals - the steps that have been customary to date for improving running properties - can be largely eliminated or reduced.

Picking rates on the weaving machine can demonstrably be increased with Com4® yarns - while reducing machine stoppages at the same time.



COM4® - FOR THE SAKE OF THE ENVIRONMENT

The use of Com4® yarns enables signifi cant improvements to be achieved with regard to:

- productivity
- · machine effi ciency
- · process costs

environmental friendliness **COM4® YARNS IN KNITS**

Signifi cant reductions in dust and fi ber fly have a positive impact on the quality of knitted fabrics. The benefits are clearly apparent mainly when processing yarns dyed in diff erent colors.

The improved conditions also noticeably reduce needle wear. A striking reduction in pilling tendency in the knitted fabrics improves the product life of the finished materials

ECONOMIES AND QUALITY IMPROVEMENTS IN FINISHING Printed Com4® fabrics impress by virtue of their clear contours and brilliant colors. The yarn structure means that singeing prior to printing can be dispensed with.



SPIDERweb

Rieter has developed an innovative information and data collection system in the shape of SPIDERweb. Machines and the data system come from a single source and are ideally coordinated with each other. Due to the modular structure of SPIDER-web any number of machines can be connected, from blowroom to spinning installation. The open-ended network enables additional machines or SPIDERweb workstations to be connected at any time. SPIDERweb collects comprehensive data that provide an ongoing basis for business decision-making.

All data, including those from the individual spindle monitoring system (ISM), are stored centrally and enable a wide variety of statistical evaluations and analyses to be performed. With SPIDERweb the entire spinning mill can be monitored directly via PC. Running behavior, machine efficiency, machine allocation, etc., can be tracked and analyzed.

SPIDERweb provides clearly laid-out displays of the following statistics:

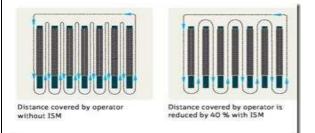
· effi ciency of each individual spinning position

· number and duration of - startup ends down - natural ends down - slipper spindles

- Diagrams and tables:
- · current readings
- machine effi ciency
- production effi ciency
- · production effi cienc
- production diagrams
- trend diagrams
- ISM trend diagrams
- shift report
- · spinning position overview
- · system report

chronological machine messages, machine status

and machine information



ISM - Individual Spindle Monitoring



TOTAL, CONTINUOUS SPINDLE MONITORING

Online monitoring of quality and output is the key to optimum utilization of resources in the spinning mill. Only by monitoring each individual spinning position can the production process be optimized systematically. ISM is Rieter's individual spindle monitoring system featuring precise data collection on the ring spinning machine.

OPTIMIZING OUTPUT AND QUALITY

ISM is based on optical scanning of the ring traveler. If the traveler is no longer rotating on the spinning ring, the control unit detects an end down and indicates this by illuminating the spindle LED on the spinning position itself. Continuous monitoring also enables slipper spindles to be precisely identified and indicated. USING ISM FOR EFFICIENT PERSONNEL DEPLOYMENT

The three-level light guidance system leads personnel directly to problem spindles by means of signal lamps.

1ST LEVEL: MACHINE

Two signal lamps on the headstock and tailstock of the machine indicate from a distance a ring spinning machine on which the ends down threshold has been exceeded.

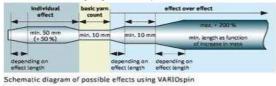
2ND LEVEL: SECTION

A high-intensity LED on each side of the section (24 spindles) indicates the section in which the end down or slipper spindle has been detected.

3RD LEVEL: SPINDLE

This level indicates the spindle at which an end down has occurred or which is operating outside the required tolerances. The malfunction can be identified precisely here on the basis of the illuminated signal shown by the spindle LED.

The three-level light guidance system enables the distance covered by operating personnel to be reduced by up to 40%.



VARIOspin

The integrated VARIOspin fancy yarn system enables fashionable eff ects to be produced economically. With this system spinning mills can respond fl exibly to very diff erent customer and market needs and produce various structured eff ects in ring-spun and Com4®vario yarns.

VARIOspin is available as an option and is integrated in the machine and the control system ex works. No complicated or costly retrofi ts are necessary. Switching between fancy yarn and standard yarn is performed easily and quickly at the operator panel via the machine control system.

VARIOSPINDÁTA

VARIOspinDATA programming software is used for creation, input and management of fancy yarn data and provides the basis for data conversion and transfer between PC and machine control system. The fancy yarn data are transferred via an RS 232, Ethernet or USB interface. Core Yarn System

Elastic yarns are becoming increasingly popular – mainly in the underwear and foundation garment sectors, swimwear, hosiery and sportswear. The outstanding quality characteristics of Rieter core-spun yarns enable them to be used in many items of ladies' and men's outerwear as well as in leisurewear.

Besides improved wear properties and comfort, better shape retention and crease resistance as well as a reduced tendency to bagginess are quality features that are positively infl uenced

QUALITY AND PROCESS CONTROL

Precision adjustment of core yarn guidance and a constant flow of fi lament (elastomer) to the fi ber bundle are the precondition for faultless integration in the yarn. This is ensured by a supplementary roving guide in the break draft zone of the ring spinning machine.

On the ComforSpin machine precise guidance of the roving is guaranteed by the compacting zone.

The roving stop motion interrupts roving feed immediately in the event of a fi lament break. This prevents yarn from being produced without fi lament. Lap formation on the top delivery rollers or the bottom delivery cylinder is also prevented.







Knitted fabric made from Com//#vario



nt feed - precise monitoring and accurate adjustabl

Top: Ri-Q-Cot top rolle Center: Ri-O-Tubes high-quality sp tubes Bottom: Rieter traveling cleaner on a ring ning machine

Ri-Q-Cots / Ri-Q-Tubes / Traveling cleaner **RI-Q-COTS**

The Ri-Q-Cot top roller cover developed by Rieter for Rieter ring spinning machines ensures faultless yarn production with high quality. Various Ri-Q-Cot top roller covers are available to meet diff erent requirements.

The specific cation of Ri-Q-Cot top roller covers is based on many years of experience in very diverse applications in spinning mill operations.

RI-Q-TUBES

Rieter has developed spinning tubes under the name of Ri-Q-Tubes together with Sonoco, the well-known manufacturer of yarn carriers. These tubes guarantee precision and long service life to meet the highest technical and technological requirements in the spinning process.

Ri-Q-Tubes high-quality spinning tubes have been designed specifi cally for Rieter ring spinning machines. With their special plastic composition and dimensional stability they are specifi - cally designed for high spindle speeds, high concentricity and long service life in conjunction with minimum loading of the spindle bearing. **RIETER TRAVELING CLEANER**

The Rieter traveling cleaner rounds off the off ering in Rieter's product range. Together with the transport system for roving bobbins, all components are now available from a single source. The traveling cleaner is an integral component of installation planning for all creeling versions - with and without roving bobbin transport system.

The Rieter traveling cleaner systematically prevents accumulations of fi bers and thus helps to keep roving frames and ring r spinning machines clean.