



Until now, continuous control of a vacuum extruder was not possible, as the fill level in the vacuum chamber could not be precisely determined, and as a result the extruder worm did not provide constant fill levels. The current state of the art involves limit switches that prevent overflowing of the vacuum chamber by switching off the upstream prepress or the double-shaft mixer. However, this does not allow for setting up a control system, as only the upper limit value is captured. Insufficient extruder worm fill levels are not detected. For this application, we offer a new solution: the LEVELTRONIC fluid level meter, which can be used under vacuum.

The fluid level meter determines the fill height in the vacuum chamber to within one centimetre, transmitting an analogue signal between 4 and 20 mA. This signal is integrated as a variable into a closed loop system, allowing for control of the flow of the prepress or the double-shaft mixer to match extruder worm performance. Thus, a uniform fill level in the vacuum chamber is achieved. As a result, the extruder works more smoothly, leading to a constant extrusion speed and uniform pressure.