

Filter making: KDF 2Neo

New generation of filter makers: investing pays off

Learn more about the KDF 2Neo



Older filter rod makers often cost more time and money to operate than necessary. The new KDF 2Neo ensures a return on investment (ROI) within three years.

Introduced in 2017, the KDF 2Neo continues the success story of Körber's AF-KDF 2er, the world's best-selling filter machine. As the technologically advanced successor generation, it takes this legacy to a new level.

The KDF 2Neo is Körber's future-proof successor to the world's best-selling filter machine, the AF-KDF 2er. Many established solutions offer limited potential for meeting the production requirements of future innovative products. The KDF 2Neo is not only capable of producing all the standard filters available on the market today or tomorrow—its modular design also offers all the technical features that the market will demand for further expansions in the next 10 or 15 years.

Money matters

Budget is one of the key factors that manufacturers must consider when deciding whether to invest in a new machine or continue to use existing equipment. "However, the purchase price is not the only issue at stake," explains Andreas Johannsen, Product Manager Filter Making. "The key question is how quickly the savings from new purchases exceed the initial acquisition costs." Here, the numbers for the KDF 2Neo are more than respectable: With older filter machines, more than 4% of production is often lost as waste during the manufacturing process—resulting in costs of around EUR 187,500 for a production facility making 1.5 billion sticks per year.

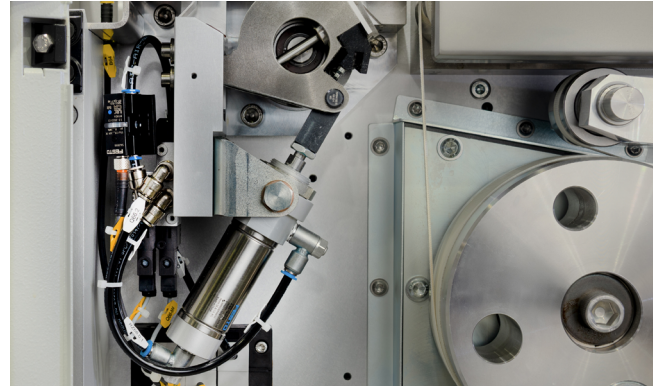
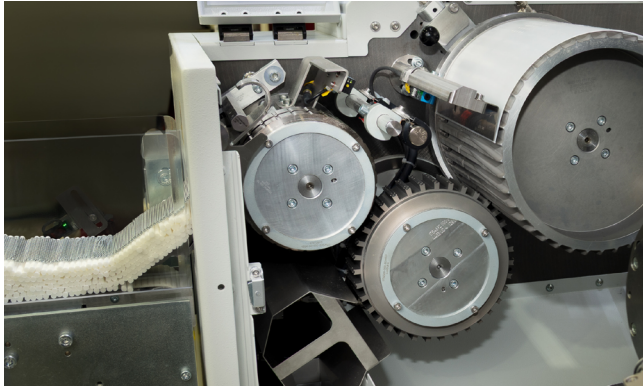
Overhauling an older machine to keep it in operation adds a further EUR 280,000 in costs. "Purchasing a new KDF 2Neo eliminates these overhaul costs and reduces waste to less than 1.5%, for an annual saving of around EUR 140,000," explains Johannsen. "It ensures a return on investment within three years—not even including the reduced handling and maintenance costs."

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Technology for the future

The KDF 2Neo's simple operation and troubleshooting systems offer considerable potential for additional savings, e.g., rapid troubleshooting, low downtimes and reduced demands on operating, maintenance and training personnel. Its output exceeds that of older machines by around 25%, with an efficiency level of greater than 90%. Alongside its consistently high output and quality levels, the machine's excellent reliability and state-of-the-art programmable logic controller (PLC) and sensor system will make the KDF 2Neo the technology platform for the next decade and beyond.

For example, the low-noise filter rod maker's modern hardware and software are designed to facilitate the future integration of new sensors and interfaces. It is also simple to connect up with all common IT security systems. "The machine's extensive data analysis options are another plus point," says Johannsen. "Intuitive, easily accessible shift reports and statistics improve local integration with production control, further enabling targeted performance improvements through data-driven fault analyses."

Additional benefits



High flexibility

- Length change in 1 hour
- Diameter change in 3 hours



Existing KDF 2 format parts & adjustment tools can be used



Data analysis

Performance improvement via fault analysis—easily accessible shift reports and statistics



Up to 25% more output

(500 m/min.) /Efficiency = > 90%



Latest safety standards



Noise level < 82 dB(A)





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“With the KDF 2Neo, customers are buying a future-proof but also highly cost-effective solution—it’s not for nothing that we guarantee an ROI within three years.”

Andreas Johannsen, Product Manager Filter Making



ROI calculation based on:

 Waste rate < 1.5% Save up to EUR 140,000 per year	 New machine = no overhaul Save up to EUR 280,000	 Technology platform for the next 10+ years <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Stable, high-quality output• Low MTBF• State-of-the-art PLC and sensor system	 Easy to operate & troubleshoot <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Fast troubleshooting via VISU• Less stress for operators• Less downtime
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Flexibility for success

When designing the KDF 2Neo, Körber put a strong focus on flexibility—and not only in terms of future filter production requirements. “By using controlled individual drives and eliminating a main gearbox, the KDF 2Neo dramatically reduces the conversion time required for format changes. The conversion for a filter length change is completed in one hour—the conversion for a filter diameter change in three hours. Existing AF-KDF 2/2ER extruded parts can still be used,” reports Johannsen.

“Outstanding flexibility, quality and efficiency of the machine were our benchmarks when developing the KDF 2Neo. After all, the challenge was nothing less than to design a successor to the world’s most successful filter maker.”

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