



report

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The interface between traditional yarn production  
processes and the Future.

### FRICITION SPUN ACRYLIC REGULARITY

As reported in the previous issue of *OE Report*, details of the principles of the British made MasterSpinner were given to us and many questions about it answered in detail.

Not only were many technological aspect discussed but a sample of 1.3 dtex *Courtelle Neochrome* was provided and this has enabled us to make a superficial analysis of this friction-spun yarn.

It was made at a delivery speed of 150 m/min. and the tests were carried out at 5,000 mm/min.

The tenacity of the Nm 50 (20 tex) Neochrome yarn was 14 cN/tex which is less than would be expected from a comparable rotor spun yarn. The breaking force variation of 9.5 CV% is good and may be compared with that of an average combed cotton yarn.

The evenness of the yarn was an Uster CV% 14 which is very even and it was revealed that the thick places, thin places and neps were much the same as would be encountered with a rotor yarn.

The count variation within the small sample package was 0.7%, which means very little variation between the weights of 100m yarn length samples.

These figures are very much in line with those suggested by Ike Karnon of PSL and it is apparent that the MasterSpinner can produce an equivalent yarn to that of current rotor spinners, but at a speed that we calculate would be roughly equivalent to a rotor speed of 130,000 r.p.m.!

Implication once more is that should rotor spinning finally reach the level of 150,000 r.p.m., then where will friction fit?

Certainly it confirms the statement made some time ago by PSL's British head executive who said the technology is superb, so one has to question whether, in part at least, the failure to penetrate more than a limited segment of the market is also to an extent confirming another statement from the same source which was that 'Now we are having to learn how to engineer it and to manufacture it'.

The danger here is that by the time production difficulties have been resolved there could well be tough competition from elsewhere within the trade.

Remember : Paris is the time when patents expire.

Siegried Klatsch