

Mixing and Reaction Technology

Pace-setting technology, worldwide





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Sulzer mixers: Broadly imitated

...never duplicated

Always a step ahead

Since the early 1970's Sulzer Chemtech has pioneered static mixing to enable homogenization and dispersion of gases and liquids without resorting to moving parts. The ongoing development and innovation brought diversification in the area of heat and mass transfer, reaction technology, polymer production and plastics processing over a wide range of fluid properties and process conditions.

Today, we are the undisputed market and technology leader serving the global needs of our customers with the widest range of products and applications. Our solutions are backed by the experience of more than 70,000 references and the latest methods in development, client testing, engineering and fabrication to meet the processing challenges of our customers and create long term benefits.



What is the secret of the Sulzer mixers?

- Decades of experience in design, manufacturing and applications
- Backed by unparalleled knowhow in fluid dynamics
- Best R&D facilities in the industry
- Standardized and accurate design standards
- Customized customer testing units
- Widest range of mixer types, sizes and materials of construction
- Fit for any mixing requirement

Innovative engineering and production



What can our customers rely on?

- Customized solutions
- Joint development work
- Proven design proven components
- Execution of smallest and largest projects on time
- Troubleshooting and global service
- Improvement of process reliability, energy consumption and product quality
- Highest rates of return due to best mixing effect
- Competitive pricing

Static mixing to your advantage

...70,000 references

Static mixers are tubular internals of appropriate shape and strength to cause desired mixing and dispersion effects as the fluid flows around suitably arranged motionless mixer parts. The fluid flow is provided by pumping.

In practice, small volumes, low maintenance, simple installation and cleaning and excellent reliability characterize the static mixer.





Laminar mixing in the Sulzer SMX™ mixer shown with Laser Induced Fluorescence

Laminar mixing

Laminar mixing is achieved by repeated division, transposition and recombination of liquid flowing around a static mixer. The components to be mixed are spread into a large number of fine layers. A static mixer consists of several identical mixing elements. The more mixing elements, the finer the layers. The finer the layers, the better the homogeneity of the mixture.

Turbulent mixing

Some turbulent mixing is observed even in an empty pipe. By installation of a static mixer, however, the distance required to achieve a good homogeneity is reduced by a factor 10 and more. A static mixer has one or several mixing elements generating eddies in the flow. Any kind of inhomogeneity will be dissipated by strong cross currents within the mixing elements and downstream.



Turbulent mixing with eddies in the CompaX[™] mixer shown in a CFD simulation

Leading technology for your process intensification



Mixing

Blending of miscible components regardless of the volume, density, viscosity and properties of the media.



Dispersing and Contacting

Dispersing two or more products for scrubbing processes, reactions, mass transfer.

Contacting of liquids with gases to create high mass transfer surface area and high rates of absorption, reaction, vaporization and condensation.



Conditioning Conditioning of process flows upstream of reactors and heat exchangers for increased efficiency.

Heat Exchange and Reaction

Heat exchangers for controlled reactions, high conversion or gentle tempering of viscous media.

Reactions within a narrow residence time distribution and maximum possible driving force.



Sulzer SMV[™] and Turbulent Mixers

- Turbulent mixing, dispersing and contacting for mass transfer and reactions
- Mixing and homogenizing of liquids and gases of low viscosity
- Admixing low viscous additives



SMV[™] Turbulent mixing with highest mass transfer rate



SMV[™] Gas Mixer Shortest mixing length



8840 580

Contour™ Gas Mixer Optimized turbulent flow



SMI Prevents clogging



CompaX™ Shortest space requirement



KVM Smallest pressure drop

Sulzer SMX[™] Mixers

- Laminar mixing
- Best handling of large viscosity difference
- Homogenization and dispersing of viscous liquids
- Blending melts and homogenizing fibers
- Injection molding and blowing agents



SMX™ Gentle and efficient mixing of viscous products



SMX[™] Achieves shortest mixing length



0698 2734

Polyguard™ Handles sensitive products



SMXS Extreme mechanical strength



Fiber Module For temperature homogenization

Sulzer Heat Exchangers and Reactors

- · Selective control of exothermic or endothermic reactions
- Narrow residence time distribution
- Gentle cooling and heating of temperature-sensitive viscous media
- Enhancement of heat transfer rates in heat exchanger tubes for viscous and temperature-sensitive products

SMR™

Plug flow behavior with large heat exchange area for applications with demanding rheology





SMXL™ Mono Tube

Heat Exchange Enhanced heat transfer for highly viscous products



SMXL[™] Multi Tube



Thousands of references document the versatility of Sulzer mixers in the chemical process industry. The applications range from mixing of liquids at various viscosities, mixing including reaction, gas liquid contacting, mass transfer and absorption, gas mixing and liquid evaporation. In order to cope with corrosive chemicals the mixers are available in a wide range of materials.

Customer benefits

Uniform and consistent process conditions in respect to

- Concentration
- Temperature
- Residence time distribution
- Consistent product quality
- High yield
- High selectivity for continuous reactions
- Low energy consumption
- Low volume of the mixer/reactor
- Low volume/hold up of the processed products
- Low maintenance cost (no moving parts)
- Easy start up and operation



SMV™ EDC reactor

- Dilution of liquids
- In-line mixing of various additives
- Liquid and gas flow conditioning
- Dispersing of liquids
- Evaporation of liquids into gas streams
- · Gas/liquid contacting
- · Absorption of gases in liquids



SMV™ Spray evaporator



Sulzer mixers have enormous potential in energy technology, and their use is widespread. In gas treatment, small amounts of reactive agents are often added to high volume flows and distributed very uniformly within a short distance over the entire channel cross section. In other applications, it is necessary to uniformly distribute the concentration and temperature of a process feed upstream of a catalyst or to dissolve gases into liquids and to generate fine, uniform bubbles in insoluble liquids. Sulzer has the proven mixing technology and products for these growing processing technologies.



SMV[™] gas mixer for flue gas treatment

SMV[™] gas mixer for challenging space limitations

- Excellent mixing performance for shortest space requirements
- Fits any duct dimension
- Well suited for dosing small amounts of additive
- Low pressure drop



CDF simulation for a DeNO_x application

Contour[™] mixer for gas conditioning

The new Contour mixer provides effective large scale eddy mixing

- For any required gas conditioning task
- At lowest pressure drop in the industry



Ideal flow conditions in the Contour™ mixer

- Injecting ammonia into flue gas for NO_x removal
- · Gas conditioning
- · Oil/water dispersions

Water & Wastewater

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Mixers for water/wastewater treatment

In the field of water and wastewater treatment, mixing and contacting are key unit operations. There is a fundamental influence on the performance of individual process stages or even on the results of the entire process itself. The ever increasing demands on water quality drive continuous improvement of the purification processes. This has led to an increasing number of installations of in-line static mixers for mixing and contacting operations in the water and wastewater sector.

The use of static mixers in the water/wastewater industry saves costs by reducing additive consumption.

Customer advantages

- High specific exchange area leading to efficient mass transfer
- High utilization rate of the ozone gas
- Short installation length
- Low pressure drop
- Guaranteed absorption degree of the gas
- Steady absorption degree at turn-down and turn-up conditions



CompaX[™] and SMV[™] mixers in FRP for seawater desalination

Main Applications

- · Admixing of flocculent into water or sludge
- · pH control or neutralization
- · Oxygen enrichment of drinking water
- · Ozonization of water
- · Admixing of disinfectants
- · Admixing of additives for the sea water treatment



4,500 references

0691 2724 02 / -3

The SMF mixer in polypropylene for sludge treatment

Food Processing Industry

...over 4,000 references

Static mixers and heat exchangers have been used in the food industry for over 30 years.

Sulzer mixers offer an outstanding mixing performance combined with excellent cleaning and sterilization abilities, an essential requirement for continuous food processes. They are used in various branches in the food industry (e.g. dairy, sweets, beverage, ingredients, etc.).

Applications range from blending, dispersing, foaming, aerating, conditioning, heat exchange to various other operations in the liquid, gas and sometimes solid field.



Gentle mixing of fruit into yoghurt

Static mixers for

- Easy cleaning and sterilization in place (CIP)
- Uniform and gentle product treatment
- Reproducible product quality
- Shorter process time

Main Applications

- Mixing flavors and colors into creams, yoghurt, chocolate, etc.
- Desliming vegetable oils with phosphoric acid
- Homogenization of sweet
 masses
- Carbonization of beer with CO_2

Static mixer heat exchangers

The Sulzer mixer heat exchangers SMXL[™] or SMR[™] are well suited for cooling, heating or sterilization of food products.

- No dead zones
- Excellent in-line cleaning ability and sterilization
- Capability to process viscous fluids
- No sealing and wearing problems
- Low shear stress, gentle handling



 SMR^{TM} for chocolate cooling

- Cooling of chocolate, creams
 or sweet masses
- Heating of dough or coffee
 extract
- Crystallization of caramel
- Sterilization of vegetable or fruit concentrates

Oil, Gas & Refining

There are numerous applications for static mixing units in the petroleum industry.

By using Sulzer mixers some widely recognized corrosion problems in oil refineries and gas plants can be significantly reduced. Sulzer Chemtech has the right solution for offshore platforms, for transporting oil, for the measurement of the water content of crude oil, for desuperheating purposes, for the desalination plant, for distillation units or for alkylation or catalytic processes. Our static mixers not only reduce operating costs, but also increase plant on-stream time. As a result, they are a sure demonstration that Sulzer Chemtech mixing and reaction technology pays off, whatever the application.



SMV mixer for LNG desuperheating in a regasification plant

SMV mixer PN 400 for temperature homogenization

Main Applications

- · Desalting of crude oil
- Gas scrubbing for removal of sulphur compounds
- · LNG desuperheating
- Blending of gasoline, diesel, lubricants, etc.
- Crude oil sampling



over 3,000 references

0606 2715





Handling of highly viscous melt is often one of the key tasks in the polymer production industry. Sulzer has the right equipment and the necessary fundamental understanding of mixing phenomena to handle your application.

Value creation for the polymer industry

- Customized solutions
- Customer testing and pilot work - e.g. in the Sulzer lab
- Scale-up know-how
- Broad expertise in process and equipment engineering

Customer advantages

Increased product quality through

- Shortest possible residence time
- Reduced degradation
- Lowest residual volatile contents
- Precise heat transfer control
- Plug flow behavior

Reduced costs through

- Virtually no maintenance
- Very high polymer conversion
- Lowest energy consumption





SMR™ reactor for polystyrene

Main Applications

- · Loop and plug flow reactors
- Removal of volatile components
- Heating and cooling of polymer melts
- Admixing of liquid additives or masterbatch

SMR™ bundle

Fiber Production

. over 2,200 references

Static mixers and coolers are used in fiber production to ensure optimal mixing, homogenization and cooling of the polymer melt (PET). This provides a basis for an economic production of man made fibers of consistently high quality.



Melt homogenization

In spinning plants SMX^{TM} mixers are installed prior to line splitting, at the spin position and in the spin packs to avoid fiber breakage.

Admixing of additives

The SMX mixer handles great viscosity differences as well as dispersive mixing. The highly effective mixing characteristics prevent unnecessary over dosing of additives and result in substantial cost savings.

SMX™

melt homogenizer

Polymerization

Due to the narrow residence time distribution in a SMX[™] tubular reactor, a spinning polymer is produced with a narrow molecular weight distribution and low content of by-products.

Cooling / heating

In cooling applications the SMR[™] structure achieves mixing, boosts the heat transfer and provides plug flow. Very low temperature driving force and low pressure drop operation without maldistribution or plugging are possible. In addition, the capital and operating cost of ancillary equipment like pumps is up to 25% lower than in the case of multitube heat exchangers filled with mixing elements.

- Homogenization of melts
- · Mixing of additives
- Cooling of polyester melt in direct spinning plants
- Gentle heat-up of spinning solutions
- Polymerization in a plug flow reactor



SMR™ heat exchanger

Plastics Processing

.. over 15,000 references

A perfectly homogenized melt is one of the most important requirements in achieving high quality polymer products.

Irregularities, such as color streaks, flow lines, uneven wall thickness, flow variations etc. lead to increased reject rates and increased production costs and are often the result of poor quality melt homogenization.

The Sulzer mixing head SMK-R is an efficient tool developed to provide consistent melt homogeneity in injection molding machines. For extrusion and blow molding applications, the Sulzer Melt Blender SMB-R is used to achieve the same results. These Sulzer mixers provide a larger processing window, allow higher throughputs and give improved product quality while ensuring that products are produced more economically.



SMK-R mixing head for injection molding

The benefits for injection molding technology

- Reduced color costs
- Lower reject rates
- Faster cycle times
- Improved mixing of regrind
- Fast payback

The benefits for the extrusion process

- Consistent product quality
- Uniform wall thickness
- Elimination of flow lines
- Closer tolerances



SMB-R for extrusion

Additional products



0604 2719-1

Polyguard™ The mixer for PVC and rubber extrusion







Optifoam™ The technology for foamed plastics



In the R&D lab of Sulzer Chemtech, engineers are developing new and improved products as well as analyzing and optimizing processes to support our customers and improve our design tools. Close relationships to Universities and independent research organisations are maintained.

Our Capabilities:

- Measurement and prediction of dispersion behaviour of immiscible fluids or gases in fluids
- Measurement of gas mixing
- Prediction of polymerisation as well as devolatilisation performance using computerized process simulation
- Prediction of flow and mixing behaviour using Computational Fluid Dynamics (CFD) for both highly viscous and low viscosity applications.
- Measurement of residence time distributions in plug flow reactors, heat exchangers and all mixers.
- Measurement and optimization of heat exchanger performance for highly viscous media.
- Viscosity measurements under realistic conditions of temperatures and pressures
- Laser Induced Fluorescence (LIF) for characterization and quantification of mixing performance and residence time distributions
- Laboratory measurements using small test reactors



Picture from a dispersion test and analysis of the acquired data



Residence time distribution for an SMX static mixer determined by CFD



CFD (above) and LIF (left) prediction of concentration distributions after an SMX static mixer



LIF test rig for highly viscous flow



Sulzer Chemtech offers a variety of pilot testing services at company headquarters in Winterthur, Switzerland. Whenever physical properties, phase behaviour or product purities are not known to the extent required for reliable design, Sulzer Chemtech has the ability to perform test work tailored to the specific project requirement and customer objectives. The pilot installations are large enough to enable our experts to reliably scale up the process to commercial size.

Pilot plants and test rigs for the following applications can be assembled for customer testing:

- Reaction and devolatilisation
 of polymers
- Admixing of additives into highly viscous melts
- Extrusion and foam injection molding with physical blowing agents
- Dispersion of immiscible liquids and gas/liquid

Devolatilisation vessel and control system display of a pilot plant for devolatilisation of polymers

Mixers are also available for testing at customer's sites

Unique in the field of particle foams is the Sulzer EPS pilot plant. It is an exact scale-down of the industrial Sulzer EPS process and was erected to demonstrate to our customers the feasibility of the continuous EPS production with their specific raw materials and formulations. The plant is fully automated and includes the most recent underwater pelletizer technology, specially developed for micro pellets production. Apart from customer testing, the rig serves for basic research on the production of particle foams and alternative, environmentally friendly technologies.



EPS pilot plant

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Sulzer Chemtech Pte. Ltd. 10 Benoi Sector SGP-Singapore 629845 Phone +65 6515 5500 Fax +65 6862 7563 Sulzer Chemtech Ltd, a member of the Sulzer Corporation, with headquarters in Winterthur, Switzerland, is active in the field of process engineering and employs some 2500 persons worldwide.

Sulzer Chemtech is represented in all important industrial countries and sets standards in the field of mass transfer and static mixing with its advanced and economical solutions.

The activity program comprises:

- Process components such as trays, structured and random packings, internals for separation columns and reaction technology
- Engineering services for separation and reaction technology such as optimizing energy consumption, plant optimization studies, pre-engineering for governmental approval, basic engineering
- Separation and purification of organic chemicals by means of crystallization and membranes
- · Mixing and reaction technology with static mixers
- Mixing and Cartridges Technology
- Tower field services

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