

Insulation Jacket FAQ's



How much does a set of insulation jackets cost?

Our jackets are tailored made; consequently they are priced on an individual basis. As a general guide the average cost for an insulation jacket is £100 - £150 dependant of size & complexity. We generally recommend covering heater bands individually; therefore if a machine has 5 heaters fitted, an estimated cost would be £500 - £750 to insulate the machine. We can of course provide more accurate costing upon request.

What energy savings can I make?

The short answer is we can't give a precise figure. There are many variables involved that pre-determine how much electrical power is used by heater bands. Factors such as:

- Size & age of machine [greater savings to be made on larger/older machines]
- Grade/type of polymer
- Material shot weight/throughput
- Cycle time
- Ambient temperature dependent on machine location within a factory
- Ultimately what tariff you pay for your electricity will obviously have a large influence

General figures which we have gathered from customers who have fitted insulation jackets have reported typical savings of anything between 2% & 25%. Following trials, 70% of our customers have subsequently installed jackets on virtually all their machines.

Our recommendations are to monitor energy consumption prior & subsequent to installing jackets while trying to keep as many of the control conditions as identical as possible. In our opinion it is only then that you can make an informed decision as to whether insulation jackets are right for your company. There are numerous data loggers available on the market, a reliable range can be found at: <http://www.spclloggers.com>.

Do jackets provide protection against material ingress?

The outer coating of the insulation jackets makes them resistant to material ingress. However the high temperature texturized glass cloth fabric on the inside & outer edges of the jackets are less resilient.

Insulation jackets provide the best protection against material ingress in areas close to the material feed of a machine where the material is still in a granule state. As the material becomes more molten then the jackets level of protection for the heaters decreases.

We would recommend that extra care is taken when installing jackets to ensure that surfaces are clean of plastic material in both granular and molten form.

Can I insulate cooling zones?

In theory yes, however experience has shown us that in many cases the addition of insulation results in the cooling fans having to work more of the time in order to dissipate the additional heat. The subsequent knock on effect is that any electrical savings made by the heaters not being energized so much is then negated by the cooling fans being switched on more.

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