

Issue 65

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Overcoming Challenges of Rigorous Demands

Expediting Design Validation

New product development labs need to validate their new product or component design. Often part of this design validation requires mechanical testing. A common need in these research and development labs is to perform rapid "what if" analysis during design validation. That is, a test engineer may not know the test speed, end-oftest value, etc. before pressing the start button on their frame. Often the mechanical test is iterative and takes a trial-and-error approach. Most new product development labs would like to accelerate this type of "what if" analysis.

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How To Minimize Air Bubbles in Polymer Extrudate

Materials are getting stronger, stiffer, and lighter. Test standards are becoming stricter. Testing labs are asked to perform more complex analytical tests.

With all of these changes affecting the way labs test, it's important to think about the following questions: How does your lab environment challenge test results? Is your lab equipped to handle the new strength of specimens? Are you testing under load or position control parameters, or do you require the use of strain control?

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Air bubbles could contribute to inconsistencies in melt flow values. There are many reasons you could be seeing air bubbles in a filament sample. Ultimately, it comes down to keeping the testing and cleaning processes as consistent as possible. There are a few major points to consider.

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