

Ensuring that the right material is being used in production

Barcode scanner and material change – Important tools for quality control



Comprehensive quality control is increasingly important because of product liability. The material being processed should be verified as correct prior to production and after each change of material. This is an important aspect of quality control and ensures traceability across the entire production chain all the way back to the material used.

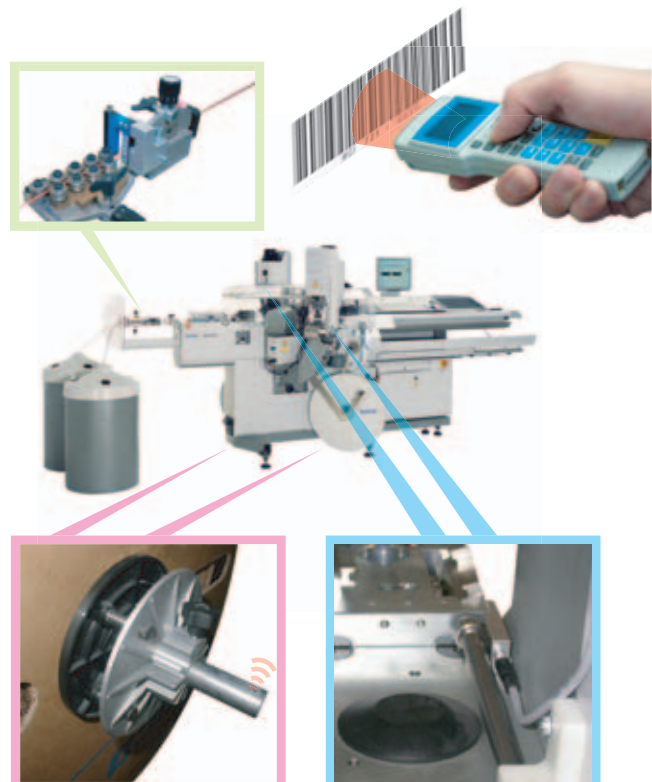
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Recording wire lengths, crimp heights and pull-off forces are established quality assurance procedures in wire processing. At Komax, these verifications are fully integrated in the TopWin machine software and if activated, are automatically requested by the software. Production is not allowed to go forward until the check is conducted.

However, these procedures are not sufficient to prevent the use of incorrect material, such as a wire of the wrong color. It is therefore necessary to run an additional check of the material being used. Komax's barcode solutions are another form of material verification fully integrated into TopWin:

- The barcode used for identifying the material is entered in TopWin.
- The software automatically prompts the user to verify the material.
- Production is not allowed to proceed until the material has been verified as correct.

In addition to the barcode used for identifying the type of material, a barcode with the batch number of the material can also be recorded. The scanned data can be retrieved via the WPCS (Wire Processing Communication Standard) interface. This approach provides full traceability all the way back to the material batch used.



Material change detection

The new option for material change detection can also be employed:

- The machine is equipped to detect a change in contact roll, crimp tool and conductor.
- If a production job is interrupted for a material change, the software prompts the user to verify the material as correct before restarting the machine.
- Production is not allowed to proceed until the changed material has been verified as correct.

This approach ensures that the correct material is used during an ongoing job following a material change. The intended goal is achieved, namely to record material batches in full.

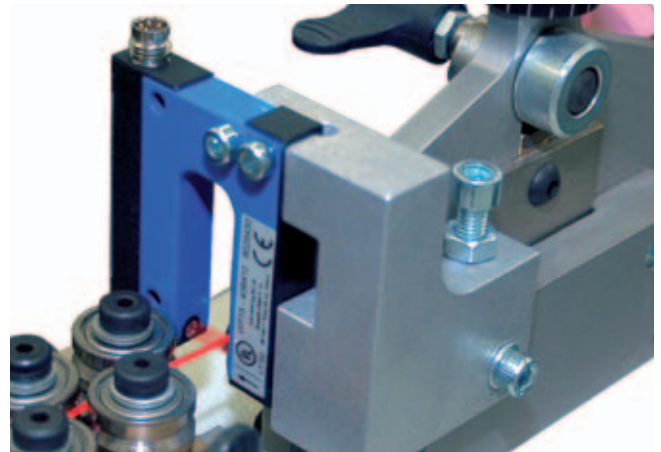
Material is generally verified using the Komax 351 barcode scanner. For the Gamma 255, Alpha 355, Alpha 455, Alpha 477, Alpha 488 and Zeta 633 machines, the operator can also use a barcode scanner already being employed at the factory.

YOUR BENEFITS

- > Defective production is avoided because production is allowed to proceed only after material has been verified.
- > Retraceability back to the batch number of the material used is ensured.
- > Verification and retraceability are automatically guaranteed even if material is changed while a production job is in process.
- > A barcode scanner already being used in the factory can be employed.



Komax 351 barcode scanner



Monitoring of wire change