

Take 5

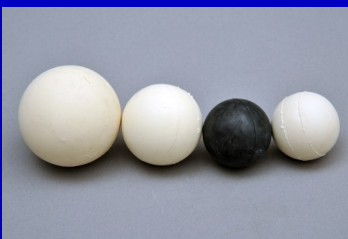
5 tips for *Increasing Throughput*

Screen blinding and material build-up are problems encountered by many processors...



SLIDERS

A sandwich screen with sliders between the mesh panels can help. The vertical action of the sliders bounces off both panels to shake loose built-up material and near-size particles. They also shear off protruding material which then allows the particle to pass through the mesh. Sliders are placed between screens mounted to the top and bottom of the ring, and are sometimes used in conjunction with balls. Alternatively, a slider tray of perforated plate may be used, facilitating removal of the sliders.



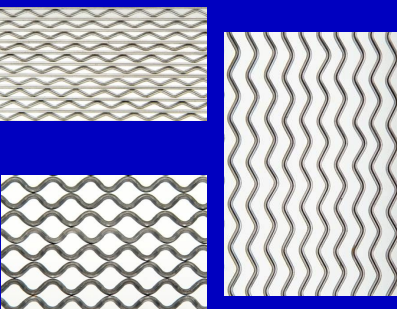
BALLS

Ball trays work in a similar fashion. Balls are available in rubber and neoprene, including FDA-approved material. Balls are often used in conjunction with sliders.



ULTRASONICS

Screens can be fitted—and retrofitted—with ultrasonics. These screens use an ultrasonic frequency to stimulate the material in a manner independent of the screen's vibratory pattern. This motion helps prevent clusters of material from forming in the mesh openings.



NON-BLINDING SCREENS

These screens significantly reduce pegging and blinding while still separating flakes and slivers from finished product. The high percentage of open area (when compared to square openings) translates to higher production rates. Styles include diamond and triangular shaped openings, and a herringbone pattern.



BRUSHES

Brushes are often used to sweep fibrous material; they form the material into balls that then pass through the discharge chute.