

Extrusion Process Creates Dangerous Static: NRD Ionizers Safely Eliminate Problem

Static Problem

Expanded polystyrene (EPS) is manufactured in a process where it is extruded in a sheet and then “formed” or expanded using gas that is injected into the material during extrusion. The gas that is released after the EPS is extruded is flammable and can ignite if a static discharge takes place.

Both the extrusion process and the polystyrene itself generate high static charges.

NRD Solutions

To reduce the possibility of a static discharge in the extruder area, a P-2035/4165 can be used on each side of the web so that both sides are neutralized. The EPS web is then slit and spooled on two or more racks. Since high static charge levels can build up during slitting and rewinding, you should also use a P-2001 or combination ionizing bar prior to the rewind rolls to reduce the risk of operator injury or static-related problems in secondary operations.

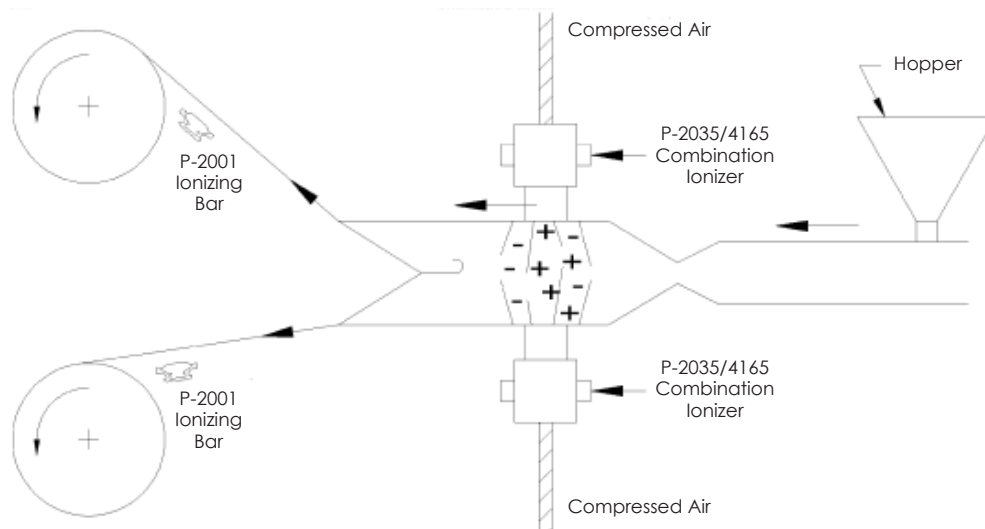


Figure 1: NRD linear ionizers neutralize static charges in EPS manufacturing