

Model X4 Tape Casting System

A New Paradigm in Tape Casting Thickness Control

- > Automatic thickness control to $+/-1\mu m!$
- Closed-loop feedback of wet coating thickness
- Computer controlled doctor blade gap adjustment
- Real-time continuous dry thickness monitoring
- > Aqueous or solvent systems
- > Advanced film drying techniques result in small footprint





Model X4 Tape Casting System





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System is designed for precision coating of slurries on polymer films or metal foils.

Thickness range <10 μ m to >400 μ m depending on rate / drying capacity.

Drying system designed to dry film from the bottom, atmosphere above controlled to prevent skinning, reducing drying cracks.



Model X4 Tape Casting System

System Operation;

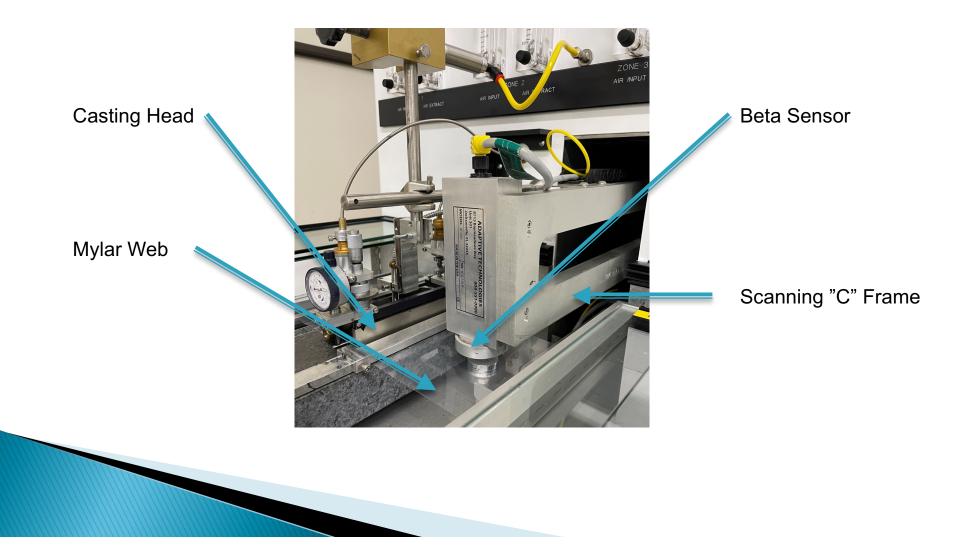
Carrier film passes over static eliminators to release the charges that hold the particles to the film. Film then passes through a series of sticky rollers to remove any debris. HEPA filtered air charges the system. Slurry is fed into casting head via peristaltic pump. Optical sensors control the level of the slurry in the casting head. Wet film is monitored via Beta transmission attenuation. Desired film thickness (density) is maintained by computer controlled feed-back loop to doctor blade. Adjustments to doctor blade gap are made via very high ratio gear box to minimize backlash. Wet film travels over heated platens through several zones with independent control. Air flow over the drying wet film is laminar with air input and outflow independently controlled for each zone. Confocal colorimetric sensors continuously monitor the dried film thickness. Cast material is then wound up onto a roll. All process parameters and data are exported into data file.





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Scanning Wet Thickness Sensor





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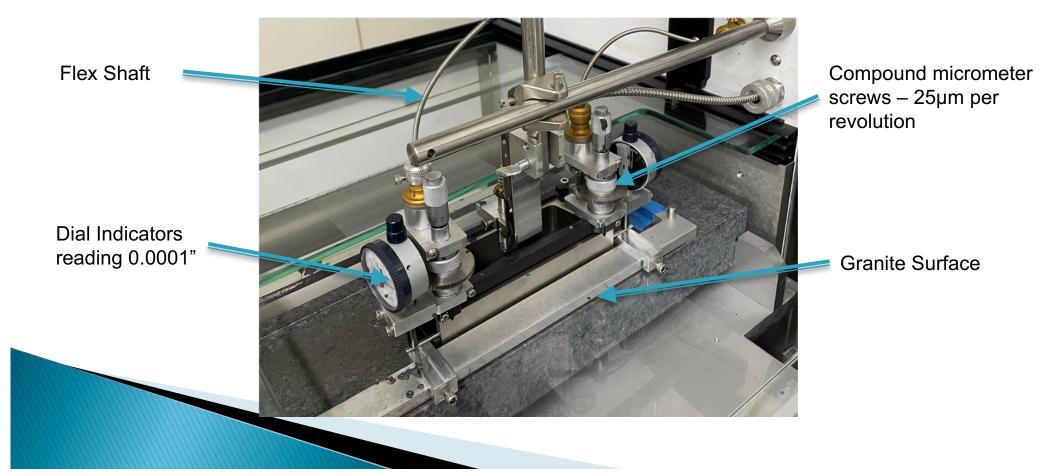
Operator Controls and Touch Screen





Ragan Technologies, Inc. Model X4 Tape Casting System Casting Head

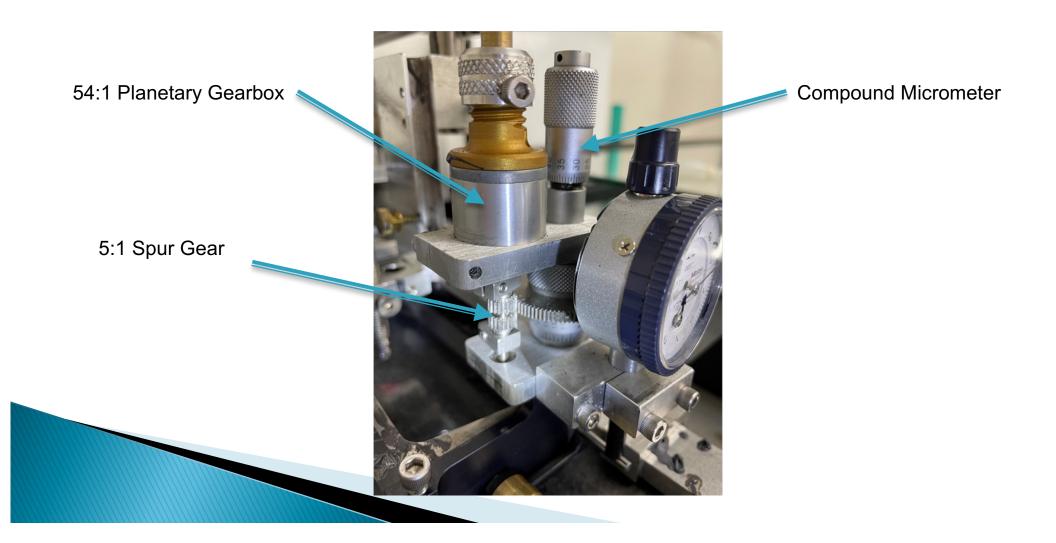
Adjusting Motors Remotely Mounted for Explosion Safety





Model X4 Tape Casting System

Doctor Blade Adjustment Mechanism

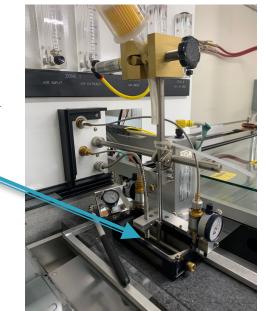




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Automatic Slurry Level Control

Optical sensor controls Slurry level in casting head





Manifold distributes Slurry evenly

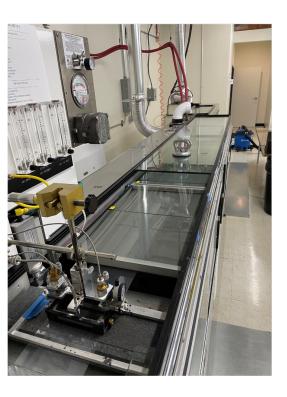


Ragan Technologies, Inc. Model X4 Tape Casting System Drying System

Arced bed drying path with fluid heated platens

Three horizontal zones with independent air and temperature control



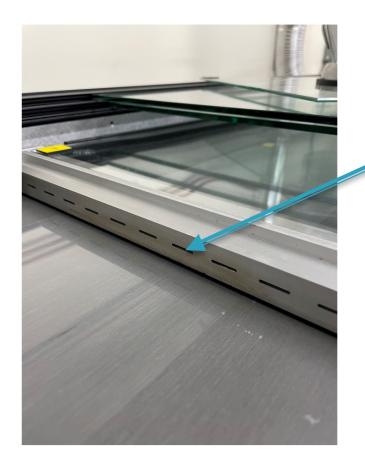




Model X4 Tape Casting System Drying System

Active air flow management with air injection and vacuum removal





Air-flow slots for laminar flow



Ragan Technologies, Inc. Model X4 Tape Casting System

Contamination Removal

Sticky Rollers

Blue silicone - contact web white peel-off for cleaning blue

All rollers separate when not in use to prevent bonding and damage

Rolls are preceded by static eliminators to release the charges that hold the particles to the film





Ragan Technologies, Inc. Model X4 Tape Casting System Drying Path Extension

Wheel reduces machine length by 8 feet

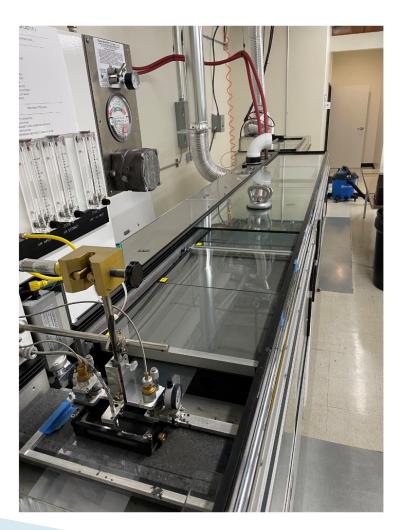
Heated circulating fluid

Path can be extended for aqueous binder

Counter-flow hot air sweep

Shroud easily removed for cleaning

Path can be shorter for lab model





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