NEW DEVELOPMENTS IN SPUNLACED NONWOVENS Stuart Smith Norafin (Americas) Inc. Hendersonville, NC

Abstract

Spunlace materials can offer performance advantages in many applications compared to more traditional textile technologies. Originally seen as a process more suited to the manufacture of lighter weight materials; the spunlace process has evolved to be capable of also producing materials at the higher end of the basis weight spectrum. Additive to the enhanced process capabilities; the wide range of fibers that can be used, the ability to introduce a wide range of scrims, hydroembossing capabilities, multi-layer gradient density materials, and in-line manufacture of composites to name just a few, spunlace materials can bring new solutions to a wide variety of end-uses.

An overview of the spunlace process, its capabilities, fabric performance characteristics, advantages, and examples of different end-uses are discussed.