

ROYAL CROWN DERBY ENSURES QUALITY WITH RUSSELL SIEVES

Essential quality control of the raw materials used in the production of its fine china's table and giftware is now being carried out at the Derby factory of Royal Crown Derby, part of the Royal Doulton Group, by a Compact 900 sieve supplied by Russell Finex Limited, of Feltham, Middlesex.

The world's largest manufacturer and distributor of premium ceramic tableware and giftware, the company uses the Russell sieve in its slip house, where raw materials are combined to make the clay that forms the basis of all its fine china.

Improving product quality

Water slip, a mixture of these raw materials and water is pumped in to the Compact sieve which check screens and removes any impurities, such as carbon and metal particles, which could contaminate the virgin clay, and be detrimental further along the production process.

Part of a range of high performance separators, the Compact 900 achieves high throughputs as a result of effective screen evacuation. Material passes straight through the vibratory mesh without hold up to the next process stage.

Material is passed through the sieve's vibrating mesh, and is then passed through a second mesh with a slightly larger micron size which acts as a further control to protect the virgin material and so ensure the quality of the finished product.

Easy installation and maintenance

In contrast to many other sieve products, the Compact 900 is designed to operate in a confined space. At Royal Crown Derby it fits neatly into the production line even through headroom in the slip house is very limited. The machine offers high throughputs yet is very quiet running, with noise levels of less than 70dbA, in line with the requirements of Royal Crown Derby to meet stringent Health and Safety Regulations. The Compact 900 is also very easy to clean down between production runs.



- **Improve product quality**
- **Increase productivity**
- **Reduce maintenance costs**

In addition, Royal Crown Derby also uses two other Russell machines in the slip house, both of which are used in the recycling of slip for re-use in other production areas.

Comments Brian Bourne, slip house manager, "We specified a Russell sieve because we have already experienced Russell quality and are completely confident in the equipment's reliability, and the service offered by the company is second to none."

For over 200 years traditionally skilled craftsman and women have created an international reputation for creativity and quality for the Royal Doulton Company. Today these traditional skills are preserved and practised at the Royal Crown Derby factory at Osmaston Road, Derby to which these latest quality control techniques are making a valuable contribution.