SURFACEVISION

The leading automated surface inspection partner for fast and accurate materials checking.



NONWOVENS

WEB INSPECTION AND MONITORING

DELIVERED THROUGH

SMART VIEW® Online detection, classification and visualization of surface defects

SMART ADVISOR® Synchronized real-time process monitoring and inspection

AMETEK®

SURFACE VISION

GIVING YOU THE WHOLE PICTURE

The leading automated surface inspection partner for fast and accurate web inspection and monitoring.



Nonwoven fabrics are created through a variety of manufacturing processes and are designed for a number of versatile applications in a range of industries. The quality standards and inspection challenges are as extensive as the purposes for which they are produced.

AMETEK Surface Vision helps nonwoven material manufacturers meet their production challenges with fully integrated web inspection and monitoring solutions that boost efficiency and improve quality.

Setting the highest standard for web inspection and monitoring, we have been successfully providing web inspection solutions to the nonwovens market for more than 20 years, inspecting millions of square meters of fabrics every day. We are pioneers in surface inspection, launching our first digital camera-based system in the 1990s.

This experience ensures we understand that each nonwoven production process has unique challenges, properties and defects, requiring an equally unique solution.

Our expertise drives the selection of the best combination of lighting, cameras and other hardware, as well as the right monitoring, detection and classification solution.

Our approach is to provide the latest, best-fit technology for each application, delivered with the highest consistency and without compromise by the most experienced service personnel.

This means AMETEK Surface Vision systems ensure real-time detection of all critical nonwoven defects, with highly-configurable inspection software that automatically identifies and visualizes product imperfections, synchronizing to the root cause of the imperfection with our web monitoring solution.

The benefits are immediately visible: improved product quality, better productivity, maximized yields, defect detection prior to value-added processes or shipping, and a reduction in customer claims and complaints.

That's why AMETEK Surface Vision's solutions are relied upon by major rolling goods producers around the world.

APPLICATIONS

SmartView® and SmartAdvisor® solutions can be applied to the full spectrum of nonwoven materials applications, including:

- Chemical bonded
- Composites
- Thermal bonded
- Thru-air bonded
- Carded
- Co-form
- Lamination
- Meltblown
- Needlepunch
- Slitting
- Spunbound and SMS
- Spunlace/hydroentangled
- Wetform
- Airlaid
- Fiberglass material

SMARTVIEW® NONWOVENS INSPECTION AND MONITORING SYSTEM

AMETEK Surface Vision's integrated nonwovens inspection and monitoring systems combine cutting-edge software and rugged, proven hardware to deliver the most precise real-time detection and classification possible.

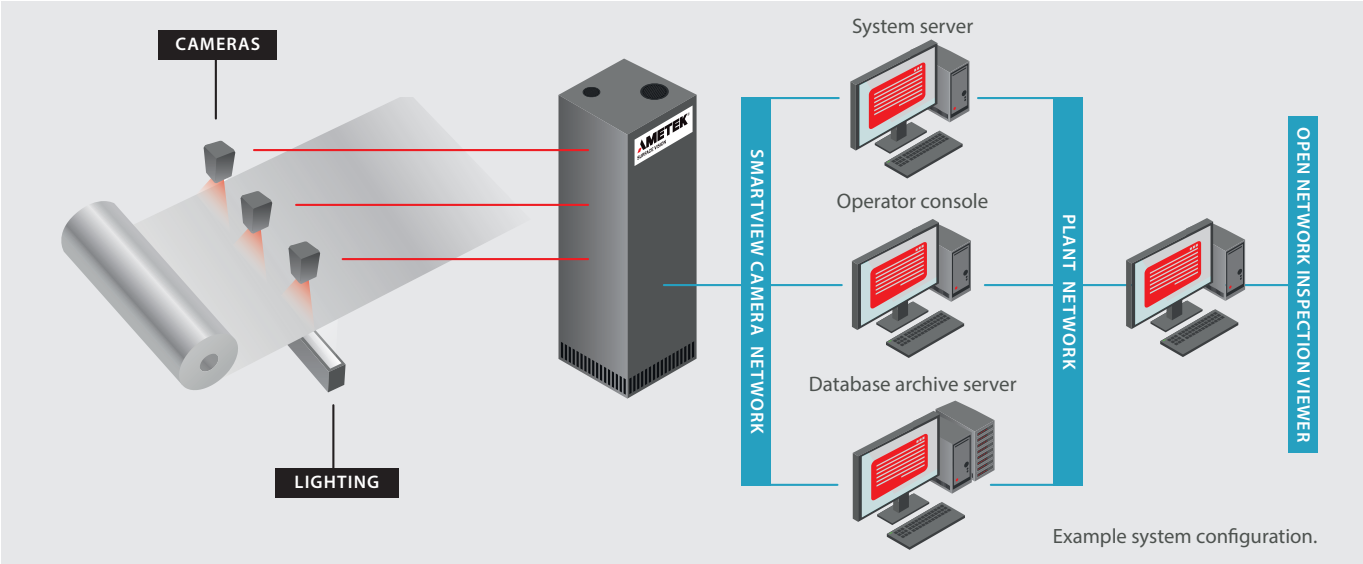
This provides a flexible, customizable solution that provides comprehensive insights about the entire manufacturing process.

Uniting AMETEK Surface Vision's powerful web inspection and monitoring capabilities, synchronized camera technology is supported by powerful LED lighting arrays for high-quality image capture of defects using multiple inspection angles.

This inspection data is processed through high-performance computer systems, integrating sophisticated software control tools and detailed real-time analysis into an easy-to-operate package.

Our modular inspection and monitoring systems can be expanded or upgraded whenever needed to meet changing customer requirements.

Designed with ease of operation and future-proofing in mind, all our inspection and monitoring systems are supported by AMETEK Surface Vision's unmatched applications experience and technical expertise, for solutions that are trusted by the nonwovens industry.



Example system configuration.

SOFTWARE

Our dedicated Windows-based software integrates seamlessly with "off the shelf" system hardware to provide continuous detection, classification, visualization and reporting, accessible across the network.

CAMERAS

Non-proprietary, high-precision, continuous-operation cameras are located across the process, using resolutions and optical technologies best suited to each specific application.

LIGHTING

Powerful, long-life LED lights brightly illuminate the web for inspection and monitoring, delivering uniform lighting levels.

DATA CAPTURE & ANALYSIS

Windows-based, non-proprietary computer systems store and analyze data from the cameras, supporting video streaming and defect classification capabilities.

APPLICATION SUPPORT

Our expert applications knowledge helps you to run your system more easily, providing the optimal solution for your process.

SMARTSYNC



SmartSync is a fully integrated unified vision platform that harnesses the combined power of our flagship SmartView® surface inspection system and SmartAdvisor® web monitoring system.

It is built upon proven technologies including advanced classification software and patented synchronized camera technology.

Customers gain the multi-camera video monitoring power of SmartAdvisor's synchronized system along with the flexibility and proven performance of SmartView web inspection.

SmartSync maximizes return on investment by providing accurate root cause analysis capabilities of web break events AND nonwoven defects.

SmartView's advanced classification can be configured to trigger an event capture across multiple SmartAdvisor data points on the production line. As a result, the operator can rely on multiple views and data points to rapidly analyze and determine the root cause of a defect or process upset and take corrective action.

This visual synthesis between upstream and downstream cameras provides the foundation for increased production performance through the reduction of web breaks and nonwoven defects.

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KEY FEATURES

Defect libraries

We use our application experience to create your custom defect library when we commission your system, providing a reference structure that is quickly filled with data relevant to your process. This forms a library of detection thresholds and inspection parameters that is easily configurable, delivering unparalleled detection classification and visualization of surface defects, allowing quick start-up and immediate return on investment.

Detection and thresholding

To ensure accurate detection of target defects and minimize false detection, AMETEK Surface Vision utilizes a combination of basic, advanced and application-specific thresholding technologies. Thresholding algorithms are optimized for continuous processes and enable the system to filter non-defects/pseudo-defects and ensure best-in-class detection rates. All changes can be made using a graphical user interface (GUI) designed to suit the customer, not software engineers.

Classification tools

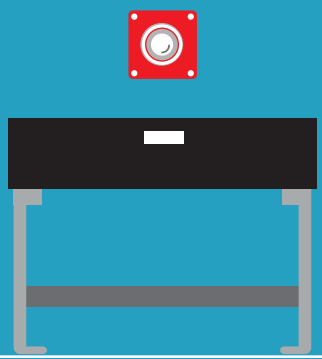
SmartLearn® is our patented multi-step classification tool set, supplied with every AMETEK Surface Vision inspection solution. Combining self-learning classification with expert knowledge, a selection of multiple classification engines can be tailored to your process and requirements. With this flexible approach, SmartLearn maximizes the potential of your inspection system for improved product quality, higher production yield, and decreased customer returns.

Streaming video

Powerful streaming video functionality takes defect inspection to a new level. All image data for the inspected material is captured and saved at the full resolution of the system's cameras, using memory-based or disk-based image capture and display. This means operators can view and review a continuous, real-time video display of the nonwoven surface, using standard SmartView cameras and lighting, without having to unwind, re-roll or unroll the material.

SEAMLESS INTEGRATION OF WEB INSPECTION AND MONITORING SYSTEMS

END USER BENEFITS



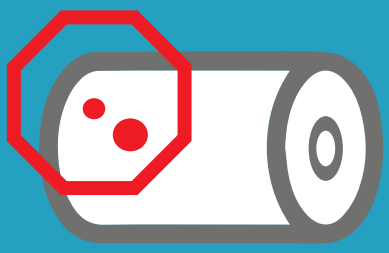
Control your process

The AMETEK Surface Vision nonwovens system is highly modular, allowing the use of the most appropriate light and camera configurations for your application, using standard system components. AMETEK Surface Vision offers the most comprehensive selection of lighting solutions in the industry, applying collimated, diffuse, transmitted, reflected, side lighting, UV, etc., depending on your application needs. In addition, our collection of thresholding algorithms can be quickly optimized for your particular material and requirements, all performing on-line in real time. You never have to wait for results.



Through-process visibility

The Windows®-based AMETEK Surface Vision nonwovens system, connected to your network, provides information for all users, from the manufacturing floor to the front office, ensuring that operators, inspectors, process engineers and managers have all the data they need, at their fingertips. The Open Network Inspection Viewer, distributed across the plant network, enables any user to view current or historical inspection results remotely, from any stage of production.



Continuous vision

The AMETEK Surface Vision SmartView and SmartAdvisor systems continuously analyze and record images and report any defects or web breaks, providing the information needed for the management of material quality. SmartAdvisor enables the review of hours and hours of synchronized images, allowing unmatched root-cause analysis and material troubleshooting to be performed. SmartView facilitates the performance of formation analysis, defect identification and advanced defect classification.



Integrated vision

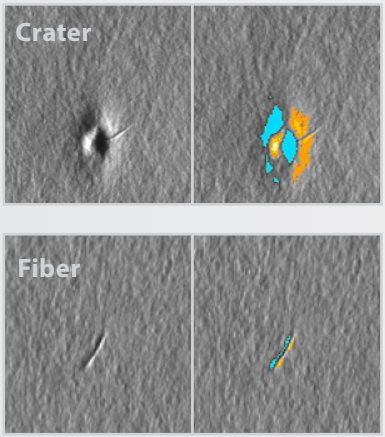
The integration of both video and defect classification information into an integrated operator display allows fast and easy root cause identification and problem-solving. This visual synthesis between upstream and downstream cameras provides the tools to clearly identify root cause of the production upset, such as web breaks and defects. We can also integrate the current SmartView or SmartAdvisor systems of existing customers to deliver the quality benefits of a fully-integrated vision platform.

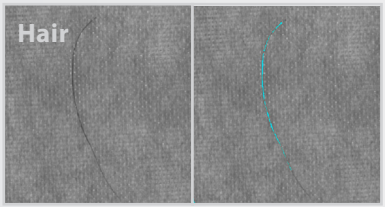
SWIFT DEFECT IDENTIFICATION

Advanced inspection technology ensures real-time detection of defects on nonwoven surfaces. Our parallel processing algorithms can analyze every camera view using multiple detection scenarios, allowing users to define their own areas of interest and set specific threshold levels to suit individual processes. Powerful self-learning classifiers are used to categorize defects correctly, while data from similar applications can be used from start-up to deliver immediate results.

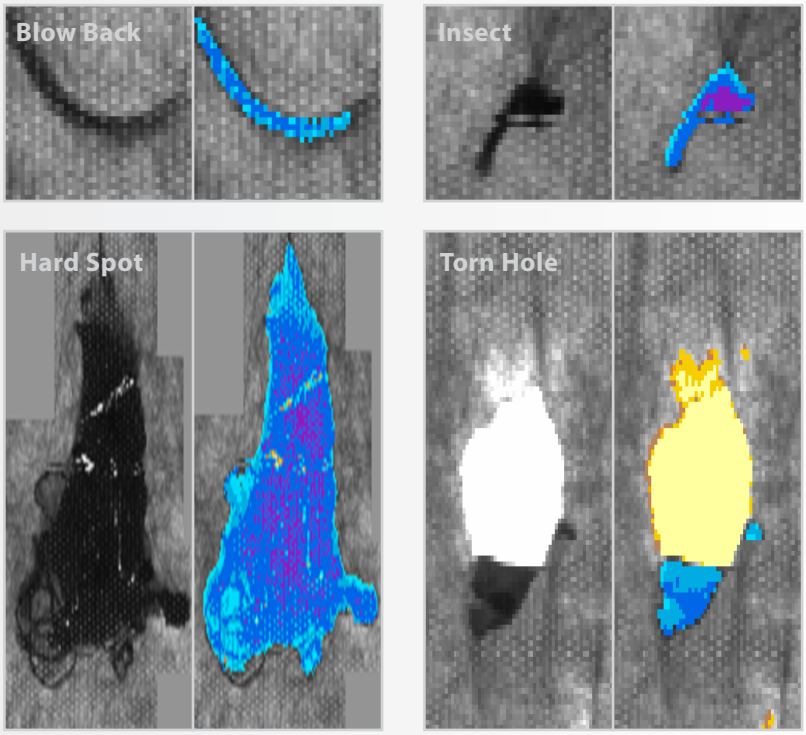
SEE THE RESULTS

MATERIAL: FIBER MAT

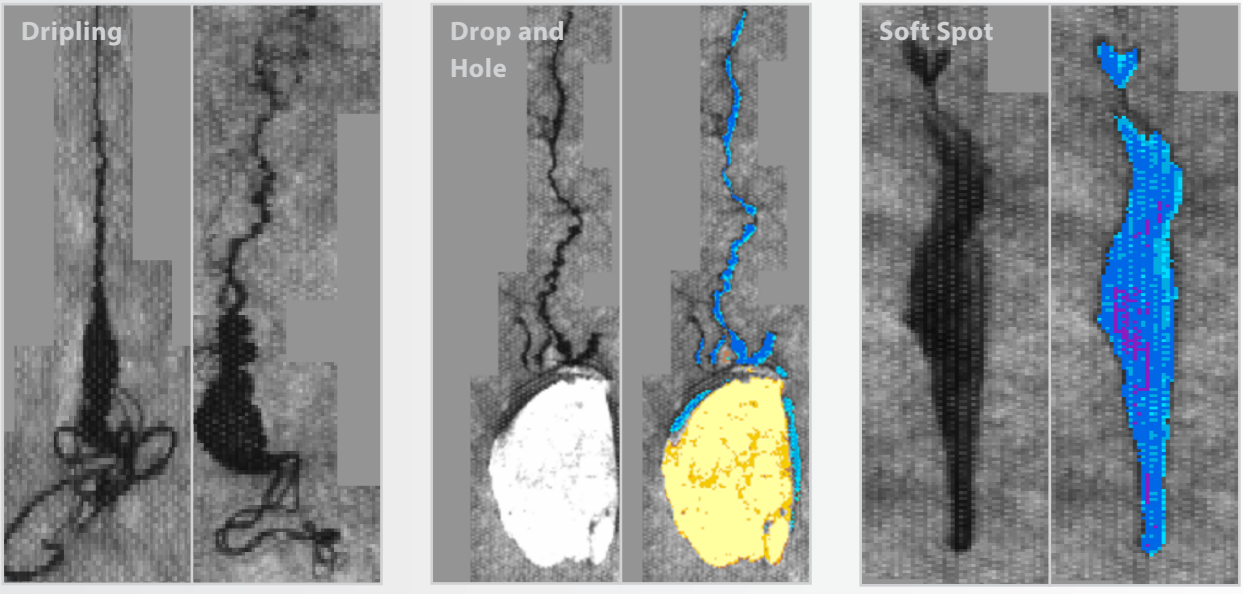




MATERIAL: SPUNBOND MELTBLOWN



MATERIAL: SPUNBOND MELTBLOWN



APPLICATION SUPPORT

AMETEK Surface Vision is the global leader and preferred choice for web inspection and monitoring systems in the nonwovens industry. We've been delivering inspection and monitoring products to the global market since the 1990s, with more companies relying on our vision technologies than any other image-based web inspection and monitoring system.

Our expert engineers can help you select the perfect solution to meet your goals, customized to your unique process requirements.

When you purchase a Surface Vision solution, you're not just buying our patented software and advanced hardware – you also get our deep applications knowledge and support.

Product requirements, technology and customer demands are constantly changing. That's why we developed modular solutions, based on off-the-shelf technologies, that can grow and build over time according to your needs. Our expert support teams will advise you on initial set-up for your system, and we'll help you improve it over time, as process conditions change, and budgetary considerations allow.

We also give you full access to essential information, troubleshooting assistance, spare parts order fulfillment, and application consulting services.

A global team, supporting you

We offer worldwide technical support via phone, email and direct remote access, along with options for on-site engineering visits and training courses, ensuring you always have access to our extensive technical expertise and applications knowledge.

Let us provide the support you need to meet your goals, with a solution that grows alongside your process and continues to deliver the maximum return on investment for many years post-installation.



SURFACEVISION



ABOUT AMETEK SURFACE VISION

AMETEK Surface Vision is the world leader in automated online surface/web inspection and monitoring solutions. Our broad product range is optimized for the monitoring and inspection of webs and surfaces, and for process surveillance applications.

The SmartView® and SmartAdvisor® product lines deliver robust, flexible solutions to continuous production processes across a number of industries, with hundreds of customers and more than 3,000 installations worldwide.

Our systems have become vital to increasing efficiency, streamlining operations, improving product quality and reducing costs and waste in industrial processes. Manufacturers in the metals, paper, plastics and nonwoven industries rely on our solutions to detect surface flaws or defects, and optimize process efficiency, at their production facilities across the globe.

We continue to innovate, providing cutting-edge technologies and world-class technical support that delivers highly accurate defect data, high-definition video, intelligent grading, archiving and detailed reporting. Customers who use AMETEK Surface Vision's services get the benefits of:

- **Reduced operational costs**
- **Process optimization**
- **Improved product quality**
- **Maximized yield**
- **More thorough and objective grading of material**
- **Detection, classification and visualization of defects**
- **Minimized need for manual inspections**
- **Inspection reports you need, in a form you can use**

Based in Hayward, California, AMETEK Surface Vision has offices and sales representatives around the world. We are part of the Process and Analytical Instruments Division of AMETEK, Inc., a leading global manufacturer of electronic instruments and electromechanical devices.

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