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PARTICULATE KNOWLEDGE

Start-Up Precautions for New Fabric Filter Bags

The first 24-48 hours of a new fabric filter bag operation can be the most critical period for determining overall bag life expectancy. This is due to the vulnerability of the unprotected fabric to high velocity particulate embedding into the indices of the filter media. If this is allowed to occur, the trapped dust accelerates the blinding process and greatly shortens bag life and increases average drag/ restriction coefficient.

New filter bags typically have a flow permeability range of 25-60 CFM/ft² while seasoned bags have 5-10 CFM/ ft² and blinded bags range less than 2 CFM/ ft². With this large disparity between new and blinded flow rates, it's easily seen how new bags/compartments can receive considerably more gas/ dust at a higher velocity than the old blinded ones. The key to preventing this premature blinding from happening is to follow some simple rules during start up:

1. Apply a compatible protective **pre-coat** material to the filter bags prior to initiation of process gas flow
2. Restrict the gas flow to the new bags/compartment to a level at or near the design filtering velocity/air-to-cloth ratio
3. Reduce or stop the cleaning energy until the process dust cake has sufficiently developed on the bags to necessitate the cleaning cycle to start

Any new bag start-up is a critical operation that should not be taken lightly, but if these basic rules are followed the chances of causing premature bag damage will be greatly reduced. Remember, the effort and attention given at this time will pay dividends later in longer bag life and reduced operating differential pressure which equates to energy and cost savings.

See more details for your specific type of baghouse startup procedure and the recommended pre-coat material for your process on our web site at www.Neundorfer.com.