

Fiber Interspaced Grids

Introduction

The grids factory produces antiscatter grids for different applications in the global X-Ray market. The grids are supplied internally for Cardio-Vascular and General X-Ray (URF, radiology, surgical) applications.



The third party and OEM sales are covered by Smit Röntgen, a globally leading antiscatter grid supplier. Consequently these grids are shipped to almost all major companies in the medical world in Europe, USA, Japan, Korea and South America.

Product characteristics

Often the number of lead strips in a grid, described as lines per cm, is elementary for choosing a grid in certain applications. The product range of grids varies from 31 lines/cm (mammo) to 36, 44 and 60 lines/cm. For digital applications we produce 70 or even 80 lines/cm grids.

The FFD (focus range) varies from 50 to 280 cm. Grid dimensions are available in standard film sizes, for use in grid cassettes and bucky's, in circular shape and in line with flat panel detectors. Final grid finishing is done on customer specification.

Added value

Because of the fact we manufacture fiber interspaced grids, we can on average reach a level of **dose saving** up to 40% compared to aluminium interspaced grids. Furthermore, we are well known for contributing to a high contrast image with good homogeneity.

Besides that, our engineering department is always available to assist with all kind of questions and issues that may arise in order to optimise the product for certain applications.

In that respect we strive for flexibility in setting up customized solutions. We fully meet environmental standards. In manufacturing grids for specific systems, we offer a great accuracy and knowledge.

Quality in process

Statistical Process Control (SPC based on the 6-sigma methodology), automate processes, customer specific final testing and so on guarantees highest product quality and an optimal performance of our grids. A recent Q-audit from a GE company resulted in a 98% audit score.

Logistic awareness and planning resources lead to a high level of flexibility. Approximately 120 customers have challenged our production capacity up to more than 300 grid type numbers per year and a change in product portfolio exceeding 40% per year.

Market position

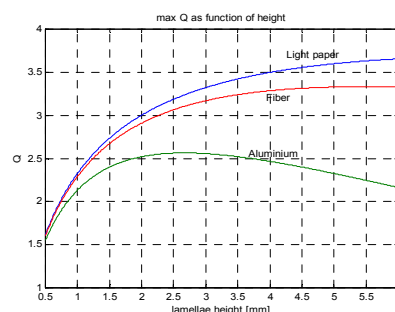
In mammography we are global market leader with an estimated market share of 80%. We supply to all major mammography system manufacturers. Dose savings of our fiber interspaced grids are most effective in the mammography market.



Also in the general X-ray market our position is dominant with rapidly increasing market shares in Japan and consistent position in Europe and USA.

Digital solutions

The rapidly developing digital market creates a demand for grids that can meet the high-resolution character and image level of flat detectors. The critical image quality in the digital world is measured by Signal to Noise Ratio and Detected Quantum Efficiency (Q). Also for digital applications our fiber interspaced grids give a leading edge.



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