



RUSSELL FINEX

Global Sieving & Filtration specialists

Global flooring manufacturer use Russell Compact Sieves® to guarantee consistent product quality

A close relationship between Russell Finex and Altro helped ensure that six Russell Compact Sieves® were supplied and fitted to safeguard the quality of their final product.

Founded in 1919 Altro is a family owned manufacturer that supplies safety flooring and wall cladding solutions world-wide. Altro pioneered the world's first safety flooring recycling system, and with sales subsidiaries across the globe, produce over 5.4 million square metres of safety flooring each year.

Altro have been expanding their Hertfordshire operations for a number of years, allowing them to increase the manufacturing capacity of their flooring production. With a new product range of safety flooring being developed a new sieving machine was required. Having worked with them previously, Russell Finex provided Altro with a sieving solution to meet their exact requirements.

Altro pride themselves on providing high quality, high wear flooring materials which maximize durability and life of the flooring. Recycled glass granules are one of the materials used to increase the hardness of the flooring whilst adding to its robust safety features. In addition, the use of recycled glass conforms to Altro's sustainability plans to remove fewer resources from the Earth. Before the glass is fed into the flooring, it is passed through a sieving system via a hopper where oversize particles are removed, leaving the fine material needed. The material of the correct particle size is then added to the product line.

Having purchased two **Finex Separators™** from Russell Finex 8 years previously, Altro have formed a strong relationship with Russell Finex and therefore when a new sieving solution was required it was the natural choice. After a short consultation, an onsite trial was arranged for a 600mm diameter **Russell Compact Sieve®** to be installed within the new processing line where staff could monitor the effectiveness and suitability of the machine. Sieving recycled glass during the trial proved very successful and it was decided that the Compact Sieve was the machine needed to meet the production demand. "It was important for us to be able to trial the sieve at our facility prior to purchase. It allowed



Figure 1. One of the Russell Compact Sieves® installed below a hopper at Altro.

- Easily stripped down and cleaned without tools
- Solid rubber suspension provides quieter operation
- High throughput rates offering 10,000 tonnes a day

us to put the machine through the toughest conditions and it needed to succeed to ensure that product quality would not be compromised," says Richard Holt, Manufacturing Shift Team Leader.

The **Russell Compact Sieve®** is a versatile check screener ideal for high capacity screening of a wide range of materials. One of its key features important to Altro is the ease of dismantling the machine. "We needed a system that would allow our operators to easily dis-assemble the machine for cleaning," explains Holt.

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The slim-line straight through design of the Compact Sieve enabled Altro to mount the sieve below the hopper, with material passing straight through to storage once sieved.

Deblinding discs were also fitted underneath the mesh of the **vibratory sieve** to eliminate blocking of the sieve mesh which has also prolonged the mesh life.

"Our long relationship with Russell Finex has been cemented with excellent high quality machinery and aftermarket support they provide. We would certainly recommend them to others in the industry" concludes Holt.

For 80 years Russell Finex have manufactured and supplied sieves, filters and separators to improve product quality, enhance productivity, safeguard worker health, and ensure liquids and powders are contamination-free. Throughout the world, Russell Finex serve a variety of industries with applications including food pharmaceuticals, chemicals, adhesives, plastisols, paint, coatings, metal powders and ceramics.

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