



VORTEX IRIS VALVE HANDLING PVC PIPE

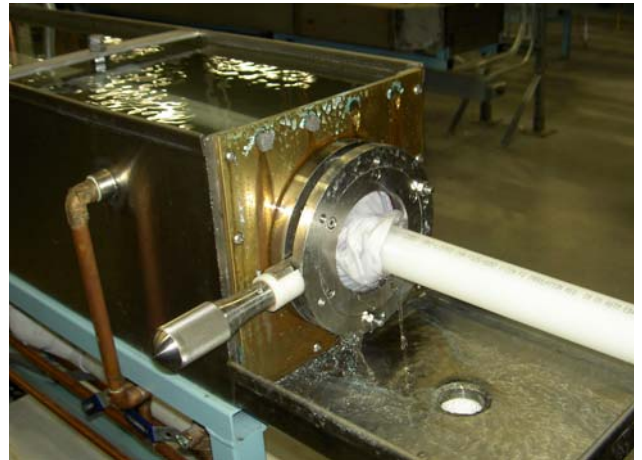
Customer: Manufacturer of products for plumbing and sprinkler systems

Material: Polyethylene tubing

Application: Plastic extruder

Challenge: Develop a way to contain water used to cool hot extruded tubing

Valve: Iris Valve
UBS06IP2-UR



Results:

To form tubing, plastic is heated making it easier to push through a die. The die sizes the molten plastic to the desired diameter and wall thickness. Once formed, many factories direct the hot extruded product into a booth where water is sprayed onto the tubing to cool it down. This allows the tube to become self-supporting at normal temperatures.

Water, adhering to the formed tubing, eventually drops off creating a wet area (sometimes many feet long) on the production floor, extending from the extruder. Safety and maintenance around this area are constant issues.

In solving the problems created by the coolant, the customer utilized a Vortex Iris Valve. The valve was constructed of 304 stainless steel to address the wet environment. The IP model allows infinite positioning of the opening to accommodate different tube diameters. A urethane-coated double sleeve acts like a squeegee wiping the water off the tube and restricting it to one area.

For this application, a drip pan was fabricated to contain and recycle the water coolant.