

TESTING OF FLUIDIZED BED SAND COOLER FOR FOUNDRY RECLAMATION

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Abstract - In this study, a sand cooler for Circulating Fluidized Bed (CFB) has been designed and a 20 kg batch scaled test rig has been fabricated. Grain size characteristics and time required for cooling have been captured using a cold test rig. Taguchi method was used for parameter optimization. The model has been validated using the experimental data. The influence of quantity of sand and the temperature of sand on the grain size and time required for cooling have been studied. The results show that there is an increasing in quantity of sand on decreasing the present reclamation. Design of Experiment for parameter optimization has also been analyzed. It has been observed that the combination of temperature 600 °C, holding time 20 mints and 15 kg of quantity are optimum values.

In this work, a chemically bonded No-bake sand was reclaimed sand cooler utilized the fluidization technology has been proposed. This sand cooler is intended for lab use. The proposed sand cooler does not recover waste sand all the heat is loos in atmosphere.

2. DESIGN OF FLUIDIZED BED COMBUSTOR

Thermal conductivity of sand is move so, Sand in act as insulation. In direct type of heat exchangers sand stick to surface of heat exchangers. For design of fluidized bed cooler, study of existing coolers, heat exchangers, cooling towers etc., According to required parameters and properties the design modification is done.

Key Words: sand reclamation, chemically bonded No-bake sand, DOE, Taguchi method, Quantity of sand, grain size etc.

1. INTRODUCTION

A continuous fluid-bed dryer/cooler is a machine in which a continuous flow of damp, granular material is conveyed over a perforated bed, through which air is blown to bring about fluidization. The drying and cooling sections of the machine form a single conveyor in which the hot and cool air flows are segregated. In the first stage of drying, free (surface) moisture is removed from the product and all available energy supplied as heat in the drying air is used for evaporation. The temperature of the air moving through the fluidized bed drops as it absorbs moisture up to its saturation point, whereas the temperature of the hot air supply remains constant. In the second stage of drying, after the free water has been evaporated, part of the incoming heat energy is used to remove the residual absorbed moisture and part is used to heat the product. In sand cooler various parameters are fined namely Temperature, Quantity, Mass flow rate of water, sand holding time, velocity of air etc. In this testing various parameters are studied which Temperature, Quantity and sand are holding time etc. Studies of sand cooler have done in commercial application. Sand cooling is possible naturally but force cooling gives bester results.

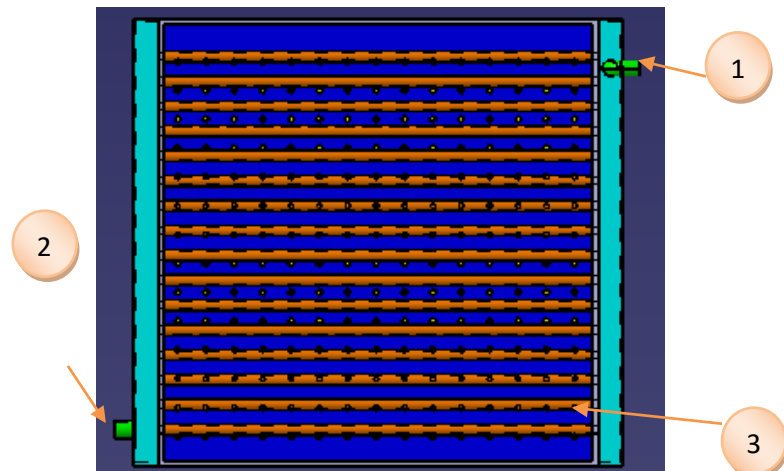


Fig.2.1. Top view of sand cooler

1. Cold water inlet
2. Hot water outlet
3. Cooling pipes

Sand structure dimension is 450 × 450 × 450 mm and plate used for structure is 6mm. Nozzles are 15 mm length and outlet diameter is 300 microns.

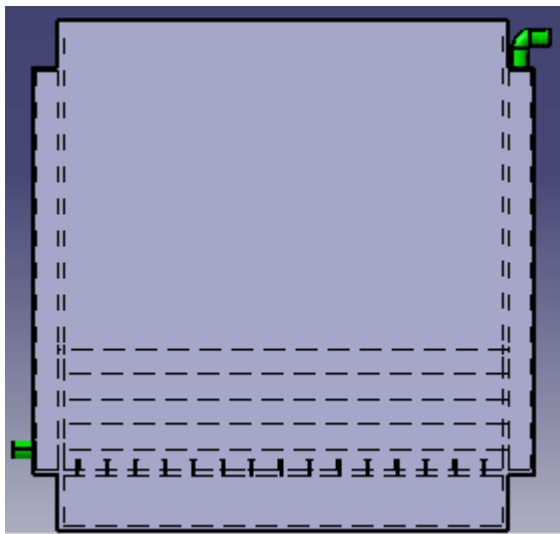


Fig.2.2.Side view of sand cooler

3. DESIGN OF EXPERIMENTS (DOE) AND TESTING OF COOLER

Design of experiments is the design of any task that aims to describe or explain the variation of information under conditions that are hypothesized to reflect the variation. The term is generally related with experiments in which the design introduces conditions that directly affect the variation, but may also refer to the design of quasi-experiments, in which natural conditions that influence the variation are selected for observation.[10]

Developed system of sand reclamation is particularly used for chemically bonded no bake sand This type of foundry used sand binder is burn at temperature of 500° c to 800° c.[4] during testing of system we consider temperature range 500° c, 650° c and 800° c also holding time of sand in system and quantity of sand varies between 15 min, 20 min, and 25 min and quantity is taken 10 kg, 15 kg and 20 kg of sand respectively. With the help of above values optimum combination of temperature, time and quantity of sand is obtain. Taguchi method is used for that optimum value. [5]

Table3.1. L 9 Array of DOE

| Test no. | Temperature (Degree c.) | Sand Holding time(min) | Quantity of sand (kg) |
|----------|-------------------------|------------------------|-----------------------|
| 1 | 500 | 15 | 10 |
| 2 | 500 | 20 | 15 |
| 3 | 500 | 25 | 20 |
| 4 | 650 | 15 | 15 |
| 5 | 650 | 20 | 20 |
| 6 | 650 | 25 | 10 |
| 7 | 800 | 15 | 20 |
| 8 | 800 | 20 | 10 |
| 9 | 800 | 25 | 15 |

The prototype of the sand cooler and cooling mechanism are shown in figs.2.1 and 2.2 respectively. A prototype has been used to simulate the cooling effect and after cooling properties of sand.

Table3.2. Experimental data

| Sr. no. | Parameters | |
|---------|-------------------------------|-----------------|
| 1 | Dimensions of sand cooler(mm) | 450 × 450 × 450 |
| 2 | Capacity of blower, hp | 5 |
| 3 | Partial size, µm | 300 |
| 4 | Velocity of fluidization, m/s | 8 |
| 5 | Mass flow rate of water, kg/s | 0.3 |
| 6 | Numbers of nozzles | 210 |
| 7 | Numbers of cooling tubes | 83 |

The primary air is supplied using a blower with a capacity of 5 hp. The primary air enters bottom side of cooler through nozzles. The sand cooler is filled with silica sand having a mean particle size of 300 microns. The sand was filled into the sand cooler up to a bed height of 65 mm. The fluidization velocity is obtained was 4-8 m/s. The mass flow

rate of water is 0.3 kg/sec [3]. Cooling coils holes were drilled at an interval of 20 mm from the bottom of the bed.

3.1. Boundary condition

In this paper three parameters are tested temperature, mass of sand, sand holding time etc. by changing the factors effect on cooling time. Grain size that can we find. The boundary conditions corresponding to the cases are presented in Table 3.3 [7]



Fig.3.1 prototype of sand cooler

According to table no.3.1 tested sand reclaimed quantity, grain finesse number and cooling time are as follows:

Table 3.3 Boundary condition for sand testing

| Sr.no. | Name | Boundary type | Boundary condition |
|--------|-------------------|----------------|---------------------|
| 1 | Primary air inlet | Velocity inlet | V=4-8 m/s, t=303 k |
| 2 | Water jacket | Mass flow rate | M=0.3 kg/s, t=295 k |

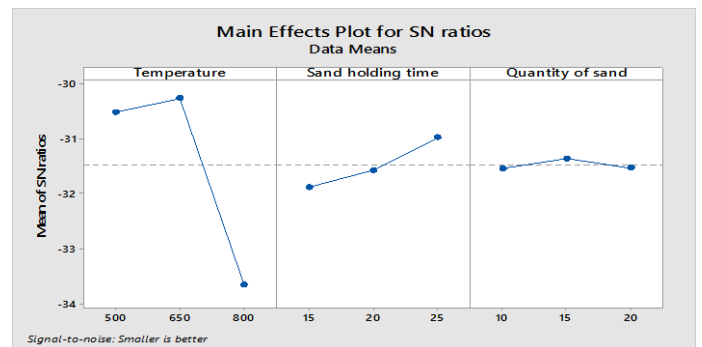
From above testing result table we got idea about percent reduction of reclaimed sand and time required to cooling one working cycle with respect to temperature, time and sand quantity. Nine tests conducted in that the result nearest to sixth test. That is sand temperature 650°C, sand holding time 25 minutes, but quantity of sand is 15 kg etc.

Table 3.4 Testing result table

| Sand weight before reclamation (kg) | Reclaimed sand weight (kg) | % weight reduction of sand | Grain finesse no. | Cooling time (min.) |
|-------------------------------------|----------------------------|----------------------------|-------------------|---------------------|
| 10 | 7.5 | 25 | 45.55 | 22 |
| 15 | 12 | 20 | 52.23 | 31 |
| 20 | 18 | 10 | 45.64 | 28 |
| 10 | 7.5 | 25 | 47.8 | 20 |
| 15 | 14.5 | 4 | 46.9 | 24 |
| 20 | 14.5 | 27.5 | 45.47 | 26 |
| 10 | 4 | 60 | 59.12 | 48 |
| 15 | 8 | 46.67 | 56.87 | 40 |
| 20 | 13.5 | 32.5 | 53.25 | 35 |

4. Results of tested fluidized bed combustor system

By using Taguchi method we get optimum result. Result obtain from Mini-tab software are as follows



Graph 4.1 S N ratio graph

The factor levels corresponding to the highest S/N ratio were chosen to optimize the condition. From these linear graphs it is clear that the optimum values of the factors and their levels are as given table. Optimum result obtained from various test combination here we use Taguchi method to obtain result. Result obtains by using Taguchi method is as follows:

Table 4.1 Optimum values of factors and their levels

| Parameters | Temperature (° C) | Sand Holding time | Sand quantity |
|---------------|-------------------|-------------------|---------------|
| Optimum Value | 650 | 25 | 15 |

After Taguchi method combination is shown in above table, but sand quantity is not as we taken in test. Validation is done in the new combination.

By testing this result parameters combination on actual setup we get,

Table 4.2 optimum result from test

| % weight reduction of sand | Grain finesse number | Testing time(minute) |
|----------------------------|----------------------|----------------------|
| 17.2 | 50.98 | 28 |

Testing of fluidized bed cooler gives results like optimum temperature, time and sand quantity combination by using Taguchi method also suitable grain size for foundry application are obtained by testing fluidized bed combustor.

Thermally reclaimed sand properties are compared to the fresh sand. AFS no.is 50.98 the standard grain size of foundry sand ranges from 35-55 gfn. Following is the sand test results

Table 4.4 Reclaimed sand properties

| | |
|------------|--------|
| AFS NO. | 50.98 |
| V.M. | 1.6% |
| L.O.I. | 2.4% |
| Total clay | 0.540% |

5. CONCLUSION

In this study, concept of chemical bounded nobake sand cooler based on the concept of a bubbling bed has been proposed. The factors and their levels have been validated using the experimental test of the developed prototype. The conclusions are summarized below.

- Temperature of heating is 650°C and sand holding time is 15 mints.

- Cooling time is reduces by using forced cooling unit.
- Tested reclaimed sand is useful in foundry for box molding application.

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