

Separator head panel symbols from the Solna 635 mm A2 series press for making all feeder adjustments. The millimetre scale at the bottom is included to help operators who do not normally work with the metric system to make adjustments

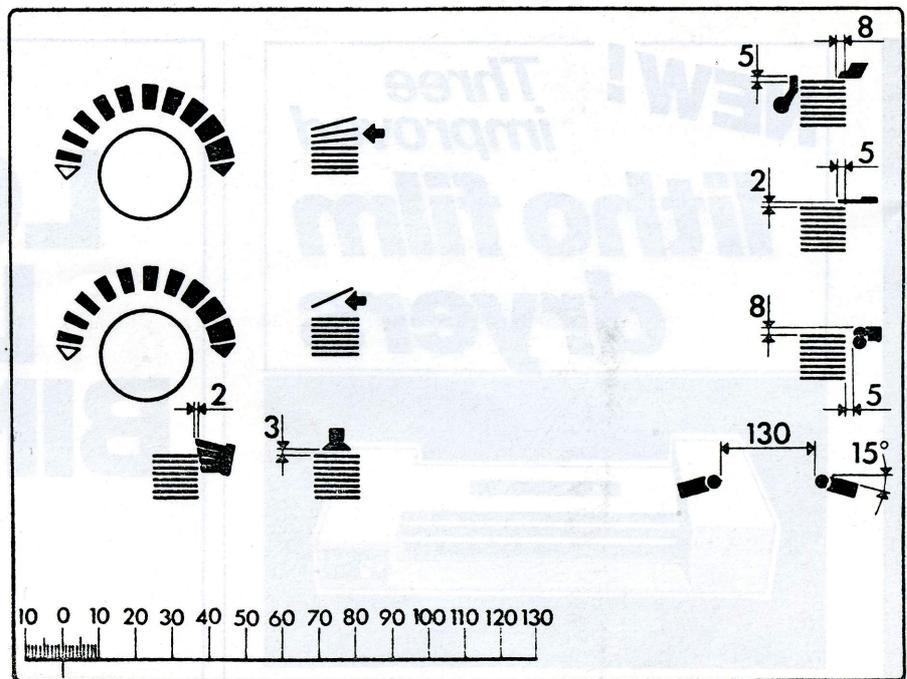
double-head separator can be rapidly adapted for either single-head or double-head feeding by sliding the separators along a common shaft. This system enables the feeder to handle sheets from 20 cm to 200 cm in width.

Controls

Suction and blast are usually provided by an independent compressor. The pneumatic mechanisms are usually geared in to the main feeder and the timing of the various functions may be controlled by either a rotary valve, a special purpose cam, or by a system of pneumatic logic circuits. On modern feeders few allowances are made for adjustments to the timing mechanisms once set, although it may be possible on some models to adjust the amount of air blast, or to vary the angle of the suckers to allow for different stocks or wavy edges etc. As with front separation feeders, different types of suckers may be provided to allow for lightweight or heavy stocks.

Additional items

A range of springs and/or brushes is usually available in order to control the back edges of the sheets at the time of lifting, and to prevent more than one sheet from being picked up at a time.



Careful attention to the selection and setting of these items is essential to ensure efficient separation and avoidance of faults such as sheet marking or tearing at the back edge.

Small, adjustable weights are often provided at the back edge of the pile on either side of the separator head in order to give additional control of the sheets, and particularly to prevent sheets from being lifted without positive

control. These are often combined with the back stop bars of the separator head rack. Topsheet guides may also be provided to prevent the first sheet from blowing up too high under the effect of the main blast. Good control here is particularly important when feeding limp or lightweight stocks, and may also be helpful in counteracting any tendency to crease or buckle prior to reaching the feedboard. □