

Impression Fabrics

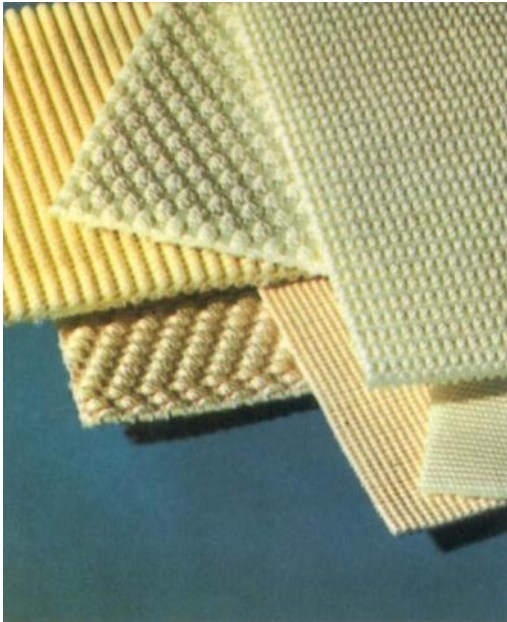


from **marathon**

IMPRESSION FABRICS
FOR THE PRODUCTION OF
ROUGH TOP BELTING

The method of manufacturing rough top rubber or PVC conveyor belting requires the application of a flexible mould or matrix to imprint a specific pattern onto the surface of the belting.

There are two methods of manufacturing this specialized type of conveyor belting, one using a press and the other using the Rotocure system. Both methods require the use of an impression fabric as the matrix. The impression fabric is woven in the form of a belt to the same dimensions of the rubber or PVC belting to be manufactured. The fabric is placed onto the face of the belting and pressed onto the uncured rubber. Following the application of heat, which vulcanises the rubber, the fabric and the belting are separated leaving the rough top surface finish.

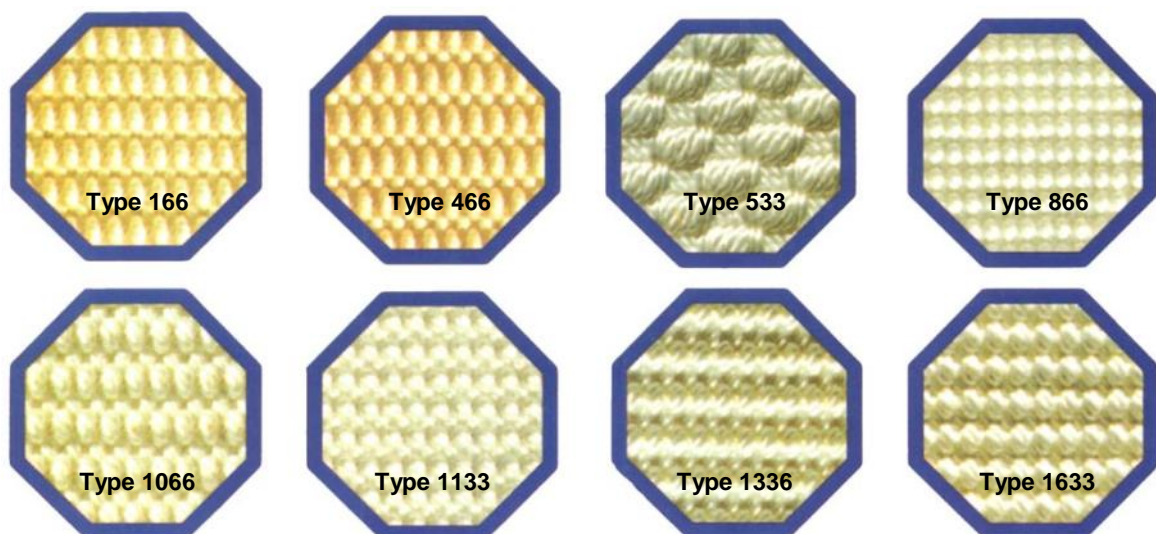


Marathon Belting Ltd have developed an extensive range of impression fabric profiles which are widely used in the production of belting in over 25 countries. Each profile has been developed to meet stringent customer requirements for specific applications.

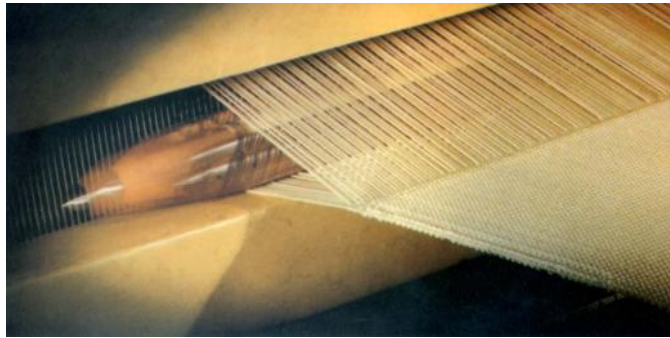
There is a wide variation in the sizes of impression fabrics specified by rubber belting manufacturers. Marathon have supplied lengths of fabric from as small as 10 metres and up to 400 metres; the normal length being on average between 100 metres and 150 metres. The width can vary from 1 metre to 2.2 metres to suit individual customer production processes.

The fabrics are used repeatedly and many slabs of belting can be produced before deterioration through wear and tear. It is not possible to be specific on the number of slabs that can be produced as each user has his own standards of quality to consider as to when a replacement matrix is required.

A selection from the range of conventional impression fabrics has been prepared, the most popular and widely used being Type 166. Almost all yarns used in the standard range are Nylon 66 with rayon being available as a non-standard alternative.

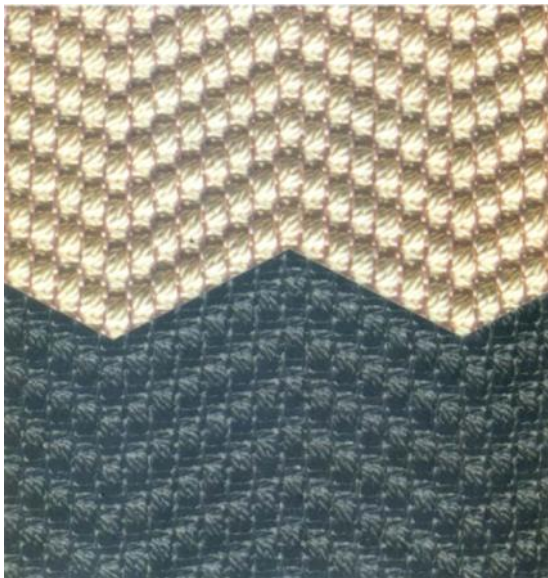


The undoubted success of Marathon fabrics in this arduous application is due to the close attention given to yarn preparation before weaving. The processes of uptwisting, doubling, cabling, and heat setting before weaving are combined to give a solid yet flexible matrix which will reproduce a positive and consistent profile with a minimum of compression, shrinkage, and deformation, throughout a long working life.



After weaving, close inspection of both sides of the fabric is carried out to ensure that it is knot free and fault free. The risk factor in weaving impression fabric is exceptionally higher than in most other fabrics as a single fault could result in the rejection of a complete roll.

Various styles of low profile fabrics and embossing cloths are also available for the production of belting for specific applications. Marathon are always pleased to develop new matrices to suit the individual requirements of their customers.



Special mention must be made of Type 1266 generally referred to as 'Quarry Top'. This profile has been developed for use in quarries and mines where inclined conveyors are prevalent. This characteristic chevron patterned surface has been designed to give increased durability over standard rough top types which are not recommended for this application.

Due to the specialized nature of their product Marathon have not appointed overseas distributors. Their sales team have visited most of the rubber and PVC belting manufacturers throughout the world and have developed close direct contact with their customers. The success of Marathon is due to their technical innovation and willingness to produce short lengths of any standard or non-standard impression fabric.

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