ABSTRACT

STUDY ON THE DECREASING OF MOISTURE CONTENT IN RUBBER SHEET USING THE PRESSING TOOLS

BY

Ardi Rokhman Saputra

Production of sheet in this research was started with coagulation using acetic acid. And then moisture content must be decreased by using two types of pressing tools. Different of pressing type is roughness surface of cylinder. This research aims to compare the performance both of the pressing tools types for reducing the moisture content of the rubber sheet, and know the characteristics of sheet drying using of solar dryer. The results showed decreasing moisture content is B (roughness surface) from 72.44% to 36.72%. While decreasing moisture content is A (flat surface) from 72.44 % to 52.83%. The drying time of sheet has been pressed with a pressing tool type B and drained for 5 hours with initial moisture content of 24.62% to 5.52% for 2 days (9 hours). While the long time of drying by pressing tool type A and drained for 5 hours with initial moisture content of 50.84% to 9.25% takes 4 days (26 hours). Pressing tool type B is better for decreased the moisture content compared with the sheet pressing tool type A.

Keywords: Sheet, surface roughness of pressing tool, moisture content, and drying