

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE**CIRCULAR KNITTING MACHINE****BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION**

A needle position detecting system of a circular knitting machine, including a needle cylinder carrying a plurality of needles, a driven gear fixedly mounted on the needle cylinder and driven to turn it, a drive gear meshed with the driven gear and driven to turn it, a motor drive controlled to turn the drive gear, and

an optical encoder connected to the drive gear and adapted to count the number of rotation of the drive gear and the needle cylinder and the respective positions of the needles.

The drawing accompanying the abstract when published is Figure 1A.

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