

PULP PAPER & LOGISTICS

VOLUME 11 NUMBER 56

September/October 2019

MIAC 2019: Lucca becomes the centre of the paper industry

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COMMENT

Welcome to the September-October issue of **Pulp Paper & Logistics** magazine.

This is our special pre-MIAC show issue for which it is pleasing to note that the distribution for both the digital and full pdf versions has now for the first time exceeded 21,500 named individuals around the world.

As we continue with the printed issue, the collaboration with Pulp-Paperworld.com further extends our non-duplicated reach to more than 27,500 individuals.

That makes Pulp Paper & Logistics one of the most effective ways of getting your message to active professionals in the global pulp and paper making industries.

I would also like to take this opportunity to thank readers for their feedback on the topics to be included in 2020. These are currently being incorporated into our issue schedule for next year, but before we reach that far ahead let's look forward to the MIAC show in Lucca, Italy where I hope to meet many of you.

Coming up is the November-December issue which will include a Logistics & Product Handling Update, Machine Clothing (including rolls, wires, felts, belts, ropes and blades) and Drying technology including Yankee design.

To arrange a meeting appointment at MIAC in Lucca please email me at pulppaperlogistics@virginmedia.com
 See you there.

Vince Maynard

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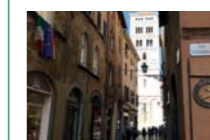
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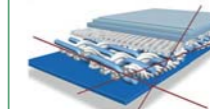
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PUBLISHER & EDITORIAL DIRECTOR

Vince Maynard
 Tralee, Hillcrest Road, Edenbridge, Kent,
 TN8 6JS, UK
 Tel: +44 (0) 1732 505724
 Mobile: +44 (0) 7747 002286
 Email: pulppaperlogistics@virginmedia.com

CONSULTANT EDITOR

David Young
 Tel: +44 (0) 1737 551687
 Mobile: +44 (0) 7785 796826

EDITORIAL ADVISOR

John Nutting
 Email: johnnutting47@gmail.com

REGIONAL REPRESENTATIVE

Einar Johansson
 Tel: 0046 8 540 255 15
 Mobile: 0046 70 234 80 85
 Email: einar.lennart@gmail.com

PRODUCTION

Anthony Wiffen
 ASTAC Business Publishing Ltd
 Tel: +44 (0) 1622 850063
 Mobile: +44 (0) 7557 280 769
 Email: anton_print_1@mac.com

PRINTER

Brown Knight and Truscott
 Tunbridge Wells,
 Kent, TN2 3BW
 United Kingdom
 Tel: +44 (0)1892 511678



**PULP PAPER
 & LOGISTICS**

Stora Enso pulls out of paper making in China

Stora Enso will be pulling out of paper making in China when it sells its controlling stake in the Dawang Mill later this year.

Based in Helsinki, the renewable materials specialist has agreed to divest its 60 per cent share of the mill to its joint-venture partner, Shandong Huatai Paper.

The joint-venture Stora Enso Huatai (Shandong) Paper Company operates the Dawang paper mill at Dongying in the Shandong province of China. The mill has an annual production capacity of 140,000 tonnes of super-calendered magazine paper and other publication paper grades based on recovered fibre.

The deal is expected to be completed by the end of 2019

and Stora Enso says it will not have any impact its operational earnings.

Cash from the sale will enable Stora Enso to cut its net debt by about €22 million. Annual global sales will be reduced by about €60m.

Kati ter Horst, who heads up Stora Enso's Paper division, said: "We have had a joint venture partnership with Huatai over the past ten years of operation and believe Huatai can develop Dawang Mill for the long-term benefit of Chinese paper customers."

The JV partner Shandong Huatai Paper Co is listed on the Shanghai Stock Exchange with sales of €1.89 billion in 2018. Its primary products include newsprint, coated paper and offset paper.

Stora Enso's interest in China will continue with its board mill at Beihai in Guangxi province which has yearly capacity for 150,000 tonnes of chemi-thermo-mechanical pulp and 390,000 tonnes of carton board products.

The paper maker also operates three production facilities under its China Packaging unit that yearly makes about 1 billion units of carton boxes, rigid boxes, corrugated boxes, paper bags and user manuals and moulded fibre. The mills are at Dongguan in Guangdong, southern China, Qian'an in Hebei, northern China, Jiashan in Zhejiang eastern China, and Changzhou, in Jiangsu, eastern China.

Stora Enso's yearly sales in 2018 were €10.5bn with operational income of €1.3bn.

Environmental gold medal for Metsä Fibre

Metsä Fibre has been awarded a gold medal in recognition of its recent corporate and social responsibility achievements. EcoVadis Gold rating was given for Metsä Fibre's work related to environment, labour and human rights, ethics, and sustainable procurement. Overall Metsä Fibre was said to be in the top 3 per cent of companies assessed by EcoVadis in the pulp, paper and paperboard industry.

"At Metsä Fibre, responsibility and sustainability are an integral part of everything we do, and strategically is a key area for us. One concrete example of our resource efficiency agenda is our unique bioproduct mill concept where we aim to utilise 100 per cent of wood raw material, and continuously convert side streams from pulp production into bioproducts that offer higher added value than before," said chief executive Ismo Nousiainen.

Recycled fine paper gap filled with extended range from Mondi

The shortage of recycled uncoated fine paper in Europe has been met by Mondi with an extension to its Nautilus range to provide a portfolio for professional print and office applications.

Leading distributors such as Antalis, Europapier and Igepa have partnered with Mondi to make the paper available to customers.

To meet market demand, Mondi's Neusiedler mill is said to have a good supply of fast-moving recycled paper grades and formats in stock to ensure quick delivery and long-term availability of Nautilus.

All Nautilus papers are part of Mondi's Green Range, are FSC certified and carry the EU Ecolabel. As a 100 per cent recycled paper, Nautilus Classic also features a Blue Angel certification.

The range is available in ten grades from 70 to 350 g/sqm and sheet formats for offset printing, as well as in SRA3, A3 and A4 sizes.

Johannes Klumpp, marketing & sales director for Mondi Uncoated Fine Paper, said: "With the new and improved Nautilus mill brand, we prove our commitment to the recycled paper market. When it

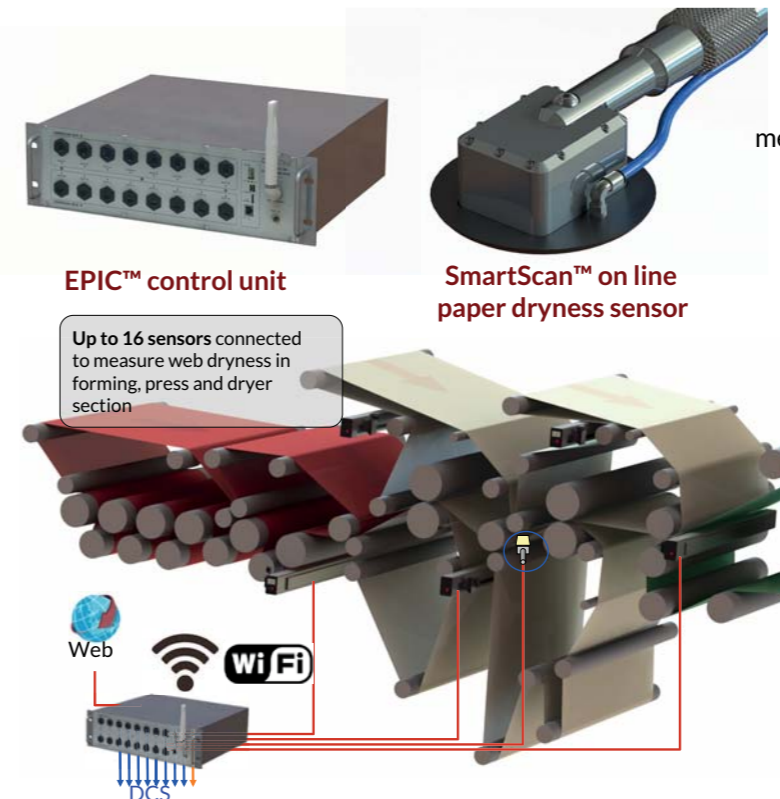
comes to consistent quality, service, delivery times and long-term availability, recycled papers now match the standard of premium papers made from virgin fibre."

Commenting on the distribution agreement, Xavier Jovet, group marketing & purchasing director for Antalis, said: "We are delighted with this new distribution agreement. We believe that Mondi has the right product and service to become the market leader in the recycled uncoated paper segment. They also have a good track record of establishing

strong brands in the market." Helmut Limbeck, chief executive of Europapier Group, also commented: "We have a longstanding business partnership with Mondi, which was an excellent foundation for this new business opportunity in the recycled paper market."

Elmar Schätzlein, managing director for Igepa group, added: "We were impressed by the speed and dedication Mondi displayed when it came to extending the Nautilus brand to a full recycled paper range including professional print. Combined with Igepa group's excellent customer service, most reliable logistics and delivery, we see a lot of potential in our cooperation."

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Smurfit Kappa named as one of Colombia's most inspiring companies

Paper maker Smurfit Kappa has been listed as one of the 25 most inspiring companies in Colombia.

The award from the National Businesses' Association (Asociación Nacional de Empresarios de Colombia) was in recognition for the work that Smurfit Kappa has done to promote and support the importance of recycling and to build effective recycling infrastructure in the South American country.

The packaging manufacturer supports 30 recycling organisations through



Proud: Alvaro Henao, chief executive of Smurfit Kappa Colombia

partnerships with a charitable foundation set up by the Grupo Familia multinational personal care brand and Wiego, a global body that focuses on creating livelihoods for the poor.

Since the project was founded

in 2014, more than 1,700 people working in recycling jobs, along with their families, have benefited from transformed working environments, training, education and career opportunities.

Support for the recycling

organisations has been given through workshops, the provision of raw materials and donations of machinery.

Alvaro Henao, chief executive of Smurfit Kappa Colombia, said: "We are proud to receive this award and be recognised for our commitment to the entrepreneurs who contribute to waste collection across Colombia."

"As the largest cardboard and paper recycler in Colombia we know that their role is fundamental for the environment, because currently only 17 per cent of the 12 million tonnes of solid waste produced in Colombia is recycled."

Heimbach and AstenJohnson abandon merger plans

Paper machine clothing (PMC) specialists Heimbach and AstenJohnson have pulled out of merger plans.

Both companies state that while they had a "high level of respect for each other and saw great potential to merge, the obstacles proved too great to overcome at this time".

Heimbach said it will continue to focus on its international PMC and technical textiles businesses while searching for future strategic growth opportunities.

Heimbach's managing director Peter Michels commented: "Although we are all disappointed that the PMC merger is not taking place now, we will be writing the next chapter in our more than 200-year history on our own. "Our innovative products,

outstanding quality and competent technical service provide the best conditions for this. In this way, we will remain a reliable partner for our paper industry customers and gain new ones."

AstenJohnson chief executive Kevin Frank added: "We regret to announce that the proposed transaction to merge the Heimbach and AstenJohnson PMC businesses has been called off."

Based at Charleston, South Carolina, USA, AstenJohnson said that it was committed and confident of delivering superior value to all its stakeholders and continues to focus on its growing PMC and Nonwovens business.

The UK's Competition and Markets Authority had cleared an application for the merger in June.

Paper pouches for guilt-free confectionery

British confectionary manufacturer Flower & White claims to be the first in the sector to move into plastic-free packaging with the launch of Meringue Bites using pouches from UK-based Sirane.

The Earthpouches are produced from paper with an aqueous-based coating to provide heat sealing.

Flower & White, run by husband-and-wife team Brian and Leanne Crowther, said it has beaten the likes of Mars and Nestlé to offer confectionary that's plastic free.

Leanne Crowther said customers wanted to make better choices in the wake of more awareness about the lasting effects of plastic.

"This isn't about riding on the bandwagon, this is about trying to move our sector forward so it can win the war on plastic," she said. "We know consumers



are rightly concerned and it's up to manufacturers like us to do something about it.

"We are proud to be the first company in the sector to adopt this new paper packaging but this is just the start, not the end, of our efforts."

Sirane, located in Telford in the west Midlands, is a diverse company built on the production of absorbency pads for food packaging, and acquired the Earthpouch technology a year ago.



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Pulping process specialist Kempulp is bought by ANDRITZ

Swedish company Kempulp, a specialist provider of process technologies for the chemical pulping industry, has been acquired by ANDRITZ.

The company designs and markets technologies used in chemical pulping, including pulp washing, oxygen delignification and bleaching technologies.

The acquisition includes all of Kempulp's intellectual property rights, technical expertise, tools, systems and inventory. The company supplies process solutions, equipment, upgrades, parts and services that complement ANDRITZ's existing offering for pulp producers. The terms of the deal were not



The Compact Press from Kempulp uses an internal geometry that creates a controlled pressure increase as a driving force for dewatering

revealed.

Based at Karlstad in Sweden, Kempulp has a number of well-

known products and technologies in its portfolio, including the Compact Press, DualOx, DualOmix,

DualSmix, DUFLOpump, DualD, DualDmix, DualZmix, DUFLOpump, and DynaDisc.

Joachim Schönbeck, board member at ANDRITZ responsible for pulp & paper capital systems, said: "Kempulp's products and process technologies will continue to be a strong player on the market, providing solutions that complement the ANDRITZ technologies and equipment for specific chemical pulping processes – both for new plants and upgrades to existing installations.

"As a result, Kempulp's process technologies and products will enable ANDRITZ to offer optimized solutions to the benefit of its customers."

More coffee cups destined for recycling at James Cropper

UK paper maker James Cropper has been selected as the recycling partner for a number of coffee cup recycling projects.

Winners of The Cup Fund organised by coffee chains Hubbud and Starbucks were announced at a launch event in London in September, and James Cropper will be involved as the recycling partner on four of the projects.

Each year, around seven million coffee cups will be collected by Bristol Waste Company, Forge Recycling, Better Bankside, Team London Bridge and Paper Round recycling schemes for shipping to Cumbria where James Cropper's



CupCycling facility is located.

The cups will be converted into packaging, paper and a range of stationery products – giving customers the chance to 'go green'.

Richard Burnett, market development manager at James Cropper, commented: "We are thrilled to have been selected as a partner on these innovative projects. Each project will have

a significant impact on how Britons recycle their coffee cups, by providing both education and recycling facilities to the public.

"We have recycled over 100 million coffee cups at our CupCycling facility already but have the capacity for up to 500 million per year; being part of these initiatives will enable us to give more used coffee cups a second life as premium paper and packaging products."

The winners of The Cup Fund will commence their projects from September 2019, with James Cropper ready to receive bales of used coffee cups immediately.

An estimated 2.5 to 10 billion disposable coffee cups are used each year in the UK according to a report sponsored by Bewley's Tea and Coffee UK Ltd.

Hemp stalks are being used by a US manufacturer to make paper

Colorado-based PureHemp Technology says that a Michigan paper mill is using hemp stalks grown and pulped in Colorado for conversion into rolls of hemp paper.

With delivery of the hemp paper rolls, the privately-owned firm says it has taken a major step to establish the infrastructure to create a business using hemp paper to make cards, boxes, card stock and packaging materials for customers in Colorado and beyond.

PureHemp, a vertically-integrated industrial hemp processor, says it has developed a new biorefining technology and operates its own mini hemp refinery that converts stalks into pulp and other usable co-products. Hemp pulp has been under production for three years for delivery to Boulder-based Bloomin' Paper where the pulp has



Hemp products are made into paper at a Michigan mill

been converted into hand-made paper used for business cards, packaging and poster board.

PureHemp claims to be the first company in the world to produce CBD tinctures from hemp flowers and then use hemp stalks to make boxes for its CBD-based products.

In July, 480 pounds of 100 per cent virgin hemp pulp shipped from PureHemp's based at Ft Lupton was used to make six thicknesses of paper. As a conservative first step, the hemp was blended with 40 per cent

virgin soft wood pulp and 40 per cent virgin hardwood pulp, creating a 20 per cent hemp paper blend. The six different weights of paper will be used to make a variety of boxes and card stock.

"During the past three years we've been making hemp paper from stalks on a small-scale," said Ed Lehrburger, chief executive of PureHemp.

"Plans are now under way to produce a 33 per cent blend of hemp paper followed by a 50 per cent blend, later in 2019. Every

pound of hemp pulp used to make paper products replaces one pound of tree pulp taken from forests. Hemp grows to its full size in about 120 days compared to trees that are harvested after seven to 30 years to make tree pulp.

"We're now officially open for business, providing hemp-based paper stock and packaging. Now's the time to establish the hemp processing infrastructure to utilise millions of pounds of hemp stalks grown in Colorado and around the world."

PureHemp uses countercurrent reactor (CCR) pulping technology. Using a self-funded CCR pilot plant, PureHemp has demonstrated its biorefining innovation that rapidly extracts the basic constituents of the stalks – the cellulose-rich pulp, lignin and xylose-rich sugars – to make a range of bio-based products for many industries.

Prepare for 'right sizing' in corrugated e-commerce packaging

The rise in demand for corrugated boxes from e-commerce could be hit by Amazon's desire to boost its environmental profile while further reducing operating costs and increasing customer convenience.

As figures for US containerboard mill and corrugated box output from the American Forest & Paper Association and the Fibre Box Association showed a 3.4



per cent drop in August, a study by the Freedonia Group into the \$13 billion global e-commerce

packaging market outlines the latest trends. Amazon and other global

e-commerce leaders such as JD.com in China are driving an industry-wide trend toward primary packaging formats that:

- can be reused by the customer or the shipper if it is returned
- reduces or eliminates need for void fill and protective packaging (such as right-sizing)
- reduces or eliminates need for secondary packaging, such as boxes
- uses less material overall (such as source reduction)
- uses more recyclable materials.

More information from Freedonia Group at www.freedoniagroup.com

Cardboard manufacturer extends contract with Bibby

British cardboard manufacturer Board24 has extended its contract with Bibby Distribution after the third-party logistics' team demonstrated outstanding reliability and commitment to efficiency.

Bibby Distribution's staff are based at Board24's Coalville and Preston depots, delivering up to 90 loads each day using 40 tractor units hooked up to high-cube trailers.

The business provides full traceability of its goods at all times as each vehicle is fitted with telematics, and the high-cube trailers maximise the amount of cardboard that can be transported on each journey.

Board24's managing director Richard McBride, says: "Our products need to be delivered at set times, so ensuring that



happens without any delays is essential. Bibby Distribution knows exactly how we work and always get the job done. The team continually demonstrates that they can help us keep our promises to customers, as they have been doing since 2010.

"The high-cube trailers maximise how much can be carried, and by having Bibby Distribution staff based on our sites, we have immediate access to support and our operations run more efficiently.

We work so closely together that any issues can be resolved in a matter of minutes before they become serious, and without affecting our overall service."

Board24 is a manufacturer of boxes, corrugated packaging and sheet board, with more than two decades' experience in the industry. The business is part of the Logson Group and a sister company to Jardin Corrugated – also a customer of Bibby Distribution.

As one of the top ten logistics providers in the UK, Bibby Distribution specialises in providing contract logistics, warehousing, distribution, systems integration and added value services to a wide range of customers.

It operates from 90 locations across the UK, employs 2,000 people and manages two million square feet of warehousing.

Liverpool-based Bibby Distribution is part of Bibby Line Group, a family-owned business providing its services for more than 200 years.

Bibby Line Group is a £1.4 billion business, operating in more than 20 countries, employing over 4,500 people in industries including retail, offshore, financial services, distribution, shipping, marine-based businesses, plant hire and woodland burials.

Seven sustainable shipping vessels to be chartered by UPM

Pulp and paper will be shipped by the UPM group in seven new state-of-the-art liquid-natural-gas fuelled vessels as part of a long-term charter deal with the Dutch Spliethoff Group.

The vessels will be chartered through Finnish Bore Ltd and Dutch Wijnne Barends, both affiliates of Spliethoff, and provide sustainable sea transportation for UPM in Europe, says the paper products and bioenergy group based in Finland.

Lauri Rikala, director of global break bulk shipping at UPM Logistics, commented: "This

arrangement is a consistent step in UPM's logistics strategy. It will safeguard a sustainable, competitive and reliable shipping solution for our businesses and customers in the long term."

Bore Ltd will build three RoLo vessels for transporting UPM's paper products and Wijnne Barends four LoLo vessels for transporting the company's pulp and other forest products. The vessels will be built in China and are scheduled to be delivered in 2021 and 2022. When taken into service, the vessels will employ approximately 60 maritime

transportation staff.

All vessels are time chartered by UPM and hence will be fully operated by the company. They will be ice-strengthened and meet the latest technological, operational and environmental standards.

"The vessels will be fuelled with liquid natural gas which results in a significant – approximately 25 per cent – reduction of carbon dioxide emissions compared with commonly used marine gas oil. In addition, nitrogen oxides and sulphur oxides emissions will decrease approximately 85 per

cent and 99 per cent, respectively. The emissions of soot particles will also decrease by 99 per cent," Rikala said.

Chief commercial officer of Spliethoff, Michael van den Heuvel added: "Since the establishment of Spliethoff in 1921, the company has been transporting forest products for our clients – it's in our DNA. "We are very pleased to be able to offer UPM these next generation sustainable vessels. Minimising our environmental footprint has long been a focal point for the Spliethoff Group and the reduction of emissions is a fundamental part of this. The new vessels running on LNG fit well in our continuous drive for greener operations."



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Pulp drying with cost and environmental benefits

A new pulp drying system from ANDRITZ combines selected areas of development into one complete, high-performance drying line. PPL reports

In designing its EvoDry pulp drying system, ANDRITZ has produced what it describes as a high-performing, low-maintenance, all-in-one drying line unlike any other, while also considering aspects relating to health, safety, and the environment.

The performance of the line is due to a combination of new technologies that work together alongside existing components.

The new features are designed to achieve greater reliability and flexibility, making an efficient and reliable drying line that produces top pulp quality.

To increase the performance of the entire drying process, the new concept includes:

- Patented EvoDry sheet dryer that increases evaporation capacity for higher performance
- Patented system of web position sensors and a self-

adjusting turning guide roll

- Patented broke detection system for fast and reliable restarts
- New closed-draw feature to reduce sheet breaks
- State-of-the-art features for fast, safe dryer cleaning

Health and safety concepts

Along with high operational functionality and performance, EvoDry has been designed with

health and safety in mind, as can be seen in the many automated features incorporated into the system.

The new design has focused on less direct operator contact with the components of the drying line and, consequently, less risk of accidents. This new system features a fully automatic hands-free tail threading system throughout the entire drying line, making it both faster and safer

and giving less opportunity for errors.

Additionally, the new felt changing system that is part of EvoDry is quick and easy to install and remove, thus providing another improvement to increase runnability and safety.

Environmental and energy efficiency

A significant factor in the design of EvoDry is the creation of a pulp drying system that helps to improve the environmental impact of various mill processes. This has been achieved by optimising newly-designed key equipment to reduce energy consumption and introducing new developments in energy-saving technologies, such as the boiler exhaust energy recovery

system or the newly designed combi-press.

In addition to energy use, another environmental concern for pulp drying lines is the need for large quantities of fresh water. This important issue has received much consideration in the design of the EvoDry system. The new pulp drying system can reduce the consumption of fresh water by reusing more of the internal process water. This brings a reduction in operating costs the mill's impact on the environment.

In creating a new, efficient, and reliable pulp drying line that is more environmentally-friendly, has improved health and safety features, is low maintenance, and has higher operational runnability, ANDRITZ has also

designed a system that has lower operating costs. The more efficient equipment, the lower energy requirements, and the ability to reuse water from other stages of the process all combine to reduce the overall expenses of running a drying line.

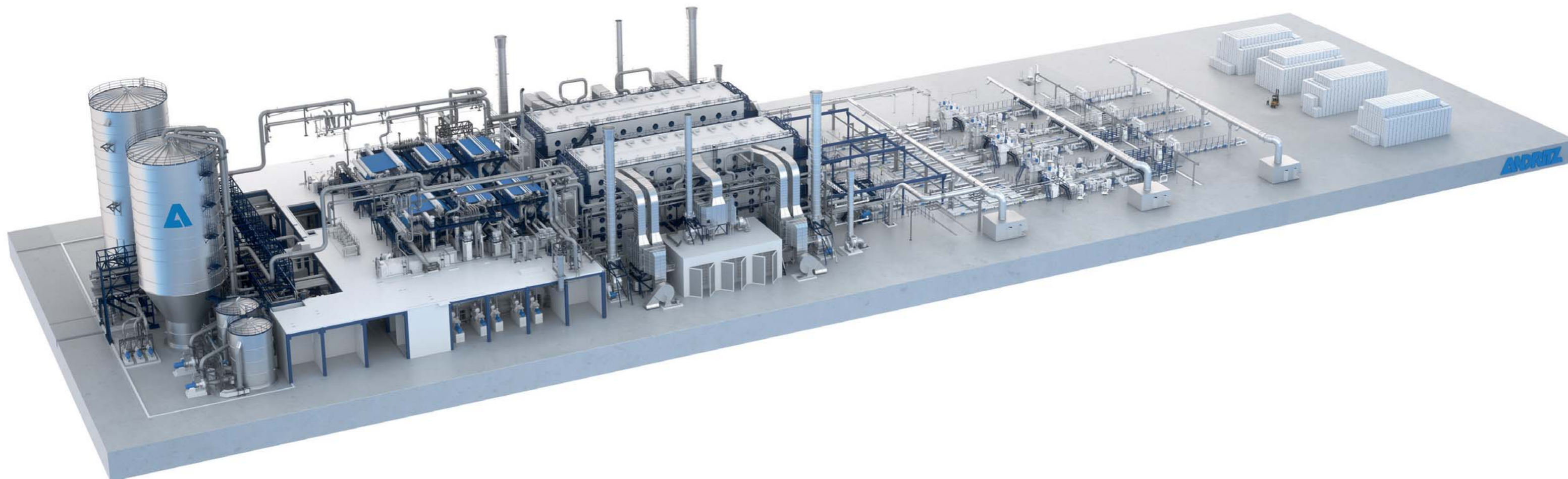
Industrial IoT solution

The EvoDry pulp drying system is an efficient and reliable drying line, and offers greater reliability and more flexibility than any previous drying systems. The introduction of a web-based solution called PRECIT (through the use of Metris – the ANDRITZ brand of Industrial Internet of Things) enables performance monitoring, data analysis, fault detection, and maintenance efficiency, and makes EvoDry one

of the most innovative all-in-one drying systems available.

With the EvoDry pulp drying system, ANDRITZ has optimised pulp drying performance by introducing key factors such as:

- Higher operational runnability
- Improved performance and reliability
- High-quality pulp
- Reduced operating costs
- Increased health and safety performance
- Improved environmental conditions
- Minimised downtime
- Industrial IoT solution
- Environmental and energy efficiency
- Health and safety concepts
- Highest operational reliability



Exploiting opportunities in demand-side energy management

Managing energy consumption by monitoring the markets can offer mill operators cost savings, but it requires an understanding of product as an energy source, as Jukka Kostianen* explains

The availability of renewable energy sources and the liberalisation of energy markets – particularly in Europe – means energy prices are increasingly defined by supply and demand, resulting in volatility.

This new reality represents both a challenge and an opportunity

for the pulp and paper industry. Employing increasingly sophisticated industrial demand-side energy management (iDSM) using digital tools gives mill operators an unprecedented level of control over when and how they purchase and use energy.

In Germany and Austria, for example, there are almost daily

basis spots when the energy price is negative and very high. Paper mills have the opportunity to increase profits by optimising energy usage according to costs.

Optimising operations also has the potential to change the mindset within mill management, encouraging them to abstain from entrenched working practices in favour of increased

flexibility when planning production where possible, resulting in more efficient overall energy use.

iDSM explained

Similar to the regular DSM model, which encourages consumers to balance supply and demand by modifying their energy consumption through methods

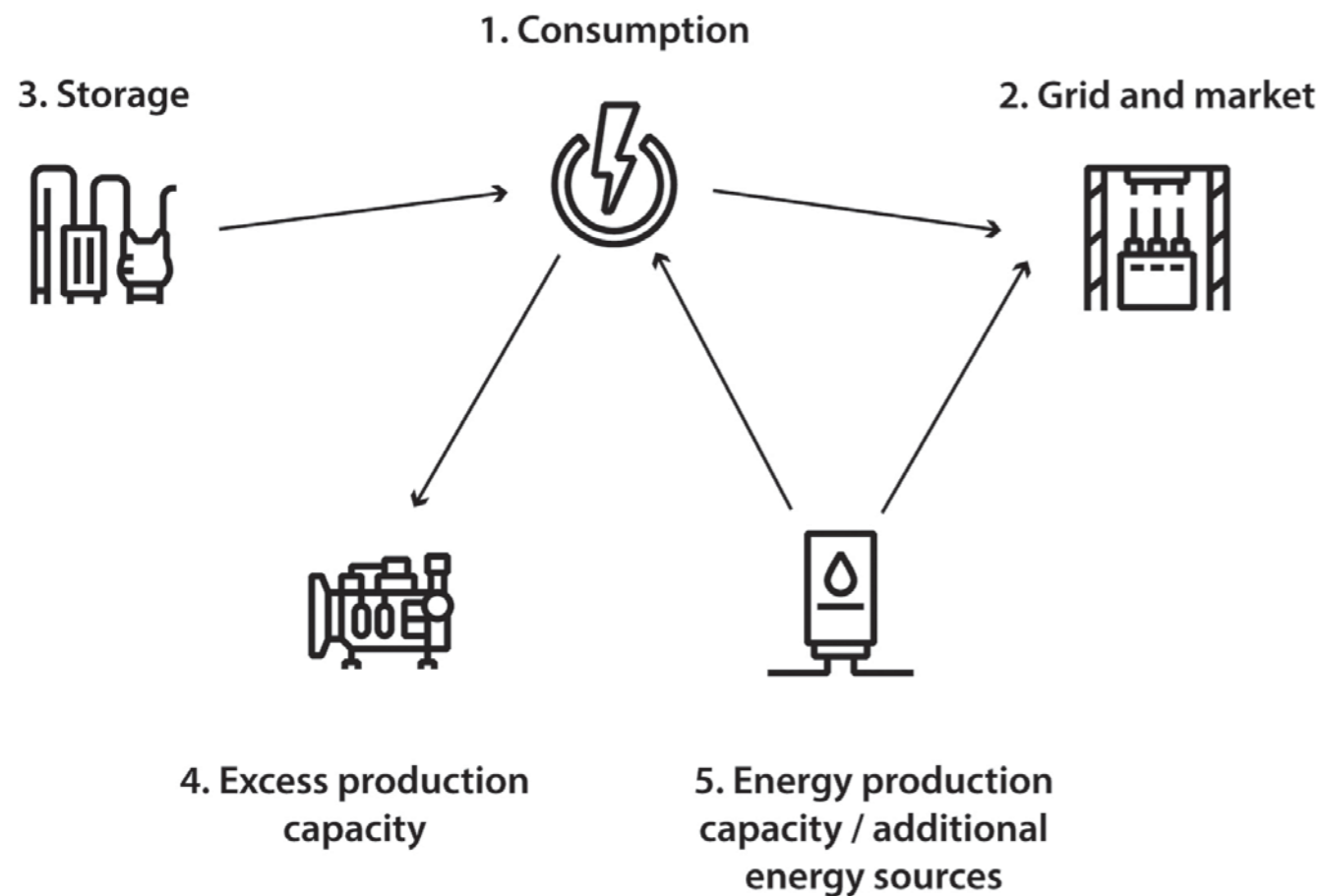


Figure 1: Some focus areas and considerations to fully optimise energy production and consumption using iDSM

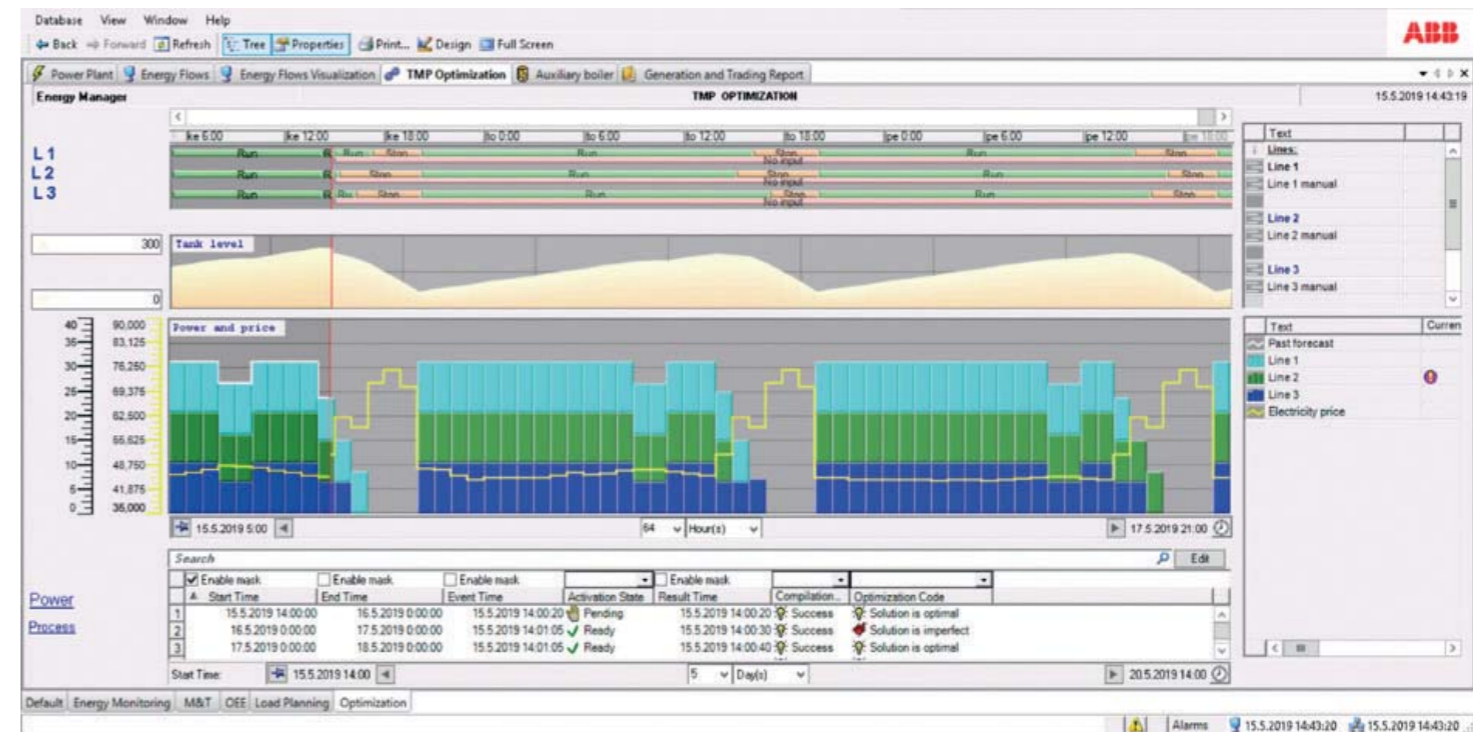


Figure 2: The ABB Ability Energy Manager dashboard

such as education and financial incentives, iDSM enables plant operators to utilise key assets when energy demand is small and supply is large.

There are three main ways in which iDSM creates value for the paper mill. Firstly, it facilitates the scheduling of production that is highly energy-intensive during off-peak hours when energy prices are lower, a principle known as load-shedding. A prerequisite to this approach is to have occasional excess production capacity in the operation, allowing some flexibility in scheduling. With this approach, the mill builds production reserves during off-peak hours, for example performing heavy refining of stock during these hours and holding the stock in storage tanks for later use during peak hours. In a sense, this becomes stored energy in the process.

Secondly, it helps mills to sell energy back to the grid when the mill is a net producer of energy and when energy prices are high. The plant must be connected

to the electricity grid to take advantage of price volatility on the spot market in this way.

Thirdly, it helps to automatically forecast energy demand, which allows mills to buy with more favourable pricing by purchasing on the day-ahead markets instead of the intraday markets. Contracts between the mill and the utilities must be structured to allow for this.

These methods not only reduce energy costs, but also increase the opportunity to use more renewable energy. Fossil-fuel-based energy produced during peak hours is the least efficient and most expensive. The portion of renewables is often higher when producing during off-peak hours, due to supply and demand dynamics. Figure 1 shows the sources of potential for optimisation.

Managing energy usage with iDSM

It is possible that companies might attempt to manage some

Optimising operations also has the potential to change the mindset within mill management, encouraging them to abstain from entrenched working practices in favour of increased flexibility when planning production where possible, resulting in more efficient overall energy use

portions of energy use manually by monitoring energy prices and coordinating production to align

when energy prices are lowest. This would depend on a mill's ability to implement buffers (like a pulp tank between a pulp line and a paper machine) and the flexibility to stop and start production swiftly, in line with energy price volatility.

However, this approach is difficult, if not impossible, because there are so many conditions that have to be monitored and optimised at the same time. At the Mayr-Melnhof Karton (MMK) cartonboard mill at Frohnleiten in Austria, for example, it has 800 such conditions, so manually collecting the required data would be impractical as typically this has to be done every 15 minutes.

Fortunately, software solutions exist to overcome these exacting challenges. ABB Energy Manager, for example, is a scalable, modular software solution that applies iDSM theories and uses real-time data from process monitoring, automation and production planning systems – coupled



Figure 3: Mayr-Melnhof Karton's mill at Frohnleiten in Germany

with information from energy providers – to help paper mills optimise energy use and supply. It enables the user to gather the required energy and process measurements from power plants and the mill, to apply advanced analytics, and to combine these with other data to create energy plans, forecasts and optimisation scenarios. The user can also continuously monitor energy consumption, costs, efficiency and other energy-related data. As a result, paper makers secure the best price for the energy they require. Energy Manager is based on ABB Ability, a unified, digital platform that extends from device to edge to cloud.

Looking specifically at the energy demand side of the pulp and paper industry, the system adjusts the pulp production plan to reduce output when the energy price is high and to drive for full production when the energy price is low. The system also alters the production plan in a way that optimises energy use, while still producing orders in full and on time.

The platform incorporates three

modules. The first calculates energy efficiencies and provides visual tools for monitoring and identifying in real time the areas where improvement is required. The second – energy load forecasting and planning – predicts energy consumption schedules that are sent to suppliers or used as a basis for energy supply planning. In the third module, the optimum use of energy is calculated to meet the consumption schedules at either minimum total cost or maximum total operation profit over a given time range.

The system can handle many different supply scenarios, which gives mills an excellent understanding of how and where they use their energy. Also, if a mill has an ISO 50001 certificate, the energy reporting part of the regulation is performed by the monitoring and targeting module of the ABB system.

Figure 2 shows the energy dashboard which provides management and operators with an overview on how they should run the mill in an optimised way based on calculations applied to the aggregated data.

Case study: Mayr-Melnhof Karton

Mayr-Melnhof Karton is the world's largest producer of coated recycled cartonboard. By using ABB Energy Manager to help shift energy-intensive process steps to times when electricity costs are low, the MMK Frohnleiten mill is making significant cost savings.

At MMK, prices on the energy spot market are calculated 24 hours ahead, every 15 minutes, permitting an optimum price to be achieved. Consume more and it will cost a premium; consume less and the energy has to be sold at a cheaper price than would be received from the spot market. That is where load forecasting helps.

Although MMK, like most mills, has limits to flexibility in production, this approach enabled the company to achieve 15 per cent gains for the periods during 2017 when Energy Manager could be used. This is likely to be a typical saving in situations where production is based in an open, liberalised energy market.

The energy manager software is not applied unless it is possible to deliver all the orders on time

and in full. Instead, any available surplus and storage capacity is used to achieve savings in other ways.

The benefits of iDSM also extend beyond specific pulp and paper mills to enterprise-wide systems that can have a positive impact on corporate performance management.

A change of mindset

There are opportunities in the pulp and paper sector to take full advantage of the proven cost and efficiency benefits offered by iDSM, but it may require mill management to employ flexibility when planning the production process and to reconsider legacy working practices that may result in inefficient use of energy.

It is a question of mindset, not only a software challenge. Success requires a change in culture and operations, which is never easy but certainly worthwhile, given the efficiency advantage and savings that have been achieved by the most progressive manufacturers already embracing the opportunity.

*Jukka Kostiaainen is global product manager at ABB

Lucca becomes the centre of the paper industry

If you are in the paper and tissue industries the place to be from 9-11 October is Lucca in Italy for the MIAC 2019 show

Around 6,200 visitors from the global paper and tissue industries are expected to attend the 26th MIAC show at Lucca in Italy in October.

They will be meeting almost 300 companies to learn about the latest technologies, equipment and services for the production of paper, cartonboard and converting tissue.

Lucca is recognised as the 'paper district' of Italy and boasts many of the largest paper makers and their suppliers in the industry. There are more than 140 mills and converters in the region, with 6,500 employees producing two million tons of paper and cartonboard worth around €3.5 billion. Lucca is also home to major companies that supply technologies, machinery and services to the paper industry sector, with 8,000 employees and sales of €2.6 billion.

Lucca is part of a strong paper industry in Italy which has 165 mills and 20,000 employees making nine million tons of paper and board worth €6.8 billion, making the country one of the four largest markets in Europe.

The MIAC show has exhibitors covering all sectors of the paper, cartonboard and tissue industry, in product and service categories such as:

- Machinery and plant for the production of paper and board
- Components and parts of paper machines
- Converting machines for tissue

- Instruments and systems for measurement, test, control and management
- Machinery and plant for water treatment
- Plant, machinery and electrical controls
- Raw materials, chemicals and additives
- Machinery and plant for drying, filtration and energy recovery
- Laboratory, diagnostics, logistics, services and plant optimisation

How to get to MIAC

MIAC is being held at the Lucca Fiere Exhibition Centre, Via della Chiesa XXXII 237, 55100 Lucca, Italy, but if you are driving there remember that the free parking is at Via Vitricciaia, Lucca.

The MIAC Conferences

During the three days of MIAC there will be a number of international conferences dedicated to the paper and tissue sector. Participation is free of charge and simultaneous translation is available. All will be held in the MIAC 2019 Conference Room



MIAC Tissue Conference

First session: 9 October, from 13.40 to 17.05

Optimising tissue paper production

Continuous optimisation and efficiency improvement, at any stage of the process, are a must to keep ahead of the competition in an increasingly challenging market, to adapt to new consumer's needs and to preserve the environment. Tissue paper production and converting plants need to perform at their best to meet this challenge. The latest innovative technologies to support the tissue producers in optimising their processes and increasing the quality of the products will be at the core of the MIAC Tissue Conference.

Second session: 10 October, from 09.40 to 12.50

Optimising tissue paper converting

Greater diversity in the conversion of tissue to meet consumer demands means that mills specialising in this activity must invest in innovative systems while minimising their impact on the environment.

Tissue paper production and converting plants need to perform at their best to face all this. The newest and more innovative technologies to support the tissue producers in optimising their processes and increasing the quality of the products will be at the core of the paper converting conference.



MIAC Energy – Assocarta Conference

10 October from 14.00 to 17.00

Energy efficiency in papermaking: win-win solutions to reduce costs and emissions

An old TV ad claimed: "Money saved is money earned". This adage is well impressed in the mind of the papermakers, at any level, and the efforts in the energy production and use optimisation are always a priority in the paper mills. During the seminar an updated overview on the regulatory framework and on the last experiences and technologies in energy production and energy savings in the paper mills will be provided.

MIAC Asocarta Awards

11 October, from 10.00 to 12.00

Prize for the innovation in the paper industry – first edition

MIAC and Assocarta have established an innovation award for paper mills that have introduced innovative elements in their manufacturing processes and/or products during 2019. There are four categories:

- Process innovation;
- Product innovation;
- Innovation for energy;
- Innovation for circular economy. ▶

MIAC exhibitor	booth no.	MIAC exhibitor	booth no.
9. September – Tissue Converting	77	Emtec Electronic	171
A-Safe Italia	162	Engraving Solutions	101
AB Energy	6	Euro & Promos FM SPA	112
A.Celli Pape	1	Euroincis	58
ATI Di Morganti	105	Eurotronix	152
Ace	175	EOC	35
Acquaflex	111	Evonik	148
Aikawa Fiber Technologies	86	F.lli Frediani	71
Air Project SRL	28	Fabio Perini	100
Officine Airaghi	179	Fan Separator	71
Albany International	122	Fastrap	112
Anotek Sales & Service	121	Fenra	86
AMS	97	Festo	95
Amylum Bulgaria	65	Fife – Tidland	21
Andritz	70	Filcon Europe	112
Angst+Pfister	95	Firefly	125
Anteng Precision	160	FIS Impianti	116
ATI Morganti	105	FMW Förderanlagen	86
Atlas Copco	127	Focke	19
Automotionware	95	Format	45B
Axchem Italia	108	Frank-PTI	71
Azmec	106	Futura	37
BFG Rappresentanze Industriali	111	Gambini	69
B&B Verpackungstechnik	132	Gardner Denver	12
Baosuo	57	Ghetti 3	26
Berna	75	Giuliani	112
Berthold Italia	125	Goebel IMS	39
Bianchi Industrial	46	Gogas Goch	112
BIM Kemi	174	Gu'an Anteng Precision	160
Binet Sul Liri	134	Guangdong Zhidesheng Technology	158
Bolzoni Italia	36	Habasit Italiana	95
Bonetti	52	Hannecard Paper	123
Böttcher Italiana	84	Henkel AG	95
BTG	113	Henkel Italia	46
BTG Eclepens	112	Hergen	151
C.G. Bretting Manufacturing	18	Horst Sprenger	71
Camozzi	127	IBS-PPG Paper Performance Group	71
Carrara Packings and Gaskets	95	Ichikawa Europe	65
Casa del Cuscinetto	95	ICM Makina	62
CCS – Claren	109	IGT Testing Systems	5
Cellwood Machinery	11	IKO Nippon Thompson	46
Centrax	181	IKS	60
Centre Technique du Papier	164	IM Converting	178
Centro Aria Compressa	127	IMS Technologies	39
Centro Qualità Carta – Lucense	50	Indexa Company	83
Club Tecnologica e Passione	73	Infinity Italia	43
Coincart	22	Inox B.F.	67
Coldwater Group	112	Intergen	71
Comertek	54	Intergen	71
Contitech Antriebssysteme	46	International Knife & Saw	60
CPS Company	124	Intralogika	63
Cristini	111	Italguinti	46
Cross Wrap	163	Italmatic Presse Stampi	99
CT&P	73	Italprogetti Engineering	3
CTP	88	Jaeger Cylinder Service	71
D. M. Progetti	144	Man Energy Solutions	71
Darkwave Thermo	46	Mare Dynamics	61
De Iulius Carlo & Alfonso	72	Mario Cotta – Zincometal Group	131
Deublin Italia	96	Martin Lohse	86
Di Marco	98	MEC Toscana	166
DM Pack	40	Mecwrap	47
Dropsa	46	Microline	103
Ecol Studio	76	Mingazzini	29
Ecoverde	65	Minimotor	95
EIL	129	Kemira	27
Eisenbau Krämer	150	Körber Digital	173
Electric 80	75	Krohne Italia	98
Elettromar	31	Kumera Corporation	71
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		Lanex	112
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		Lantech	41
		Lario Energy	53
		Linde Material Handling	34
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		Mecwrap	47
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		Mingazzini	29
		Minimotor	95
		Mink Italia	27
		MTC	100
		MTK SRL Dewatering System	140
		Mtorres Tissue	114
		Multipack	13
		MWN Niefern Maschinenfabrik	91
		Nalco	102
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		Nash – Gardner Denver	12
		Nema Automazione	32
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		Optibelt	95
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		Paul Wegner	86
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MIA 2019



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						Lantech	41	Nash – Gardner Denver	12	Hangzhou Pnshar Technology	157	Saueressig	8	Still	30	TKM	10
						Lario Energy	53	Nema Automazione	32	PPI Pumps	86	Schaeffler Italia	46	Sulzer Pumps Finland	71	TMC	97
						Linde Material Handling	34	Northern Engraving and Machine	104	Preferred Packaging Italy	40	Schäfer MWN	91	Svecom PE	111	Toscana Spazzole Industriale	24
						Lotus Alutech	145	NSK	46	Procemex	176	Schäferrolls	91	Enrico Tonioli	5	Toscotec	94
						Lotzer & Mulhenbruch	3	O.M.C. Collareda	79	Proxitalia Prodotti Chimici	149	SDF	132	Shanghai Tominaga Packing Machinery	49	Toyota Material Handling Italia	25
						Macdue	143	O.M.T. SRL	68	PTA Group	112	Sedis	95	Tasowheel Systems	112	TSI	24
						Macfex	9	Ocme	64	Pulsar Engineering	74	SEEI	170	Tau Machines	117	Tubicom	78
						Man Energy Solutions	71	Omet	107	Ragazzini	112	SEI Systemi	137	TEC.MEC	4	UMV Coating Systems	112
						Mare Dynamics	61	Optibelt	95	RAI-Tilleries	147	Senning Verpackungenmaschinen	17	Technidyne Corp	17	Ungricht	na
						Mario Cotta – Zincometal Group	131	Oradoc	138	RCM Revisione Costruzione Macchine	56	Serv-O-Tec	20	Techno Paper	86	Unimatec Prägesysteme	139
						Martin Lohse	86	OT Lucca	107	Recard	120	Shangdong Xinhe	159	Technoflow	98	Vakuo	112
						MEC Toscana	166	Overmade	42	Renold	46	Shenyuan Chemical	156	Technowrapp	63	Valmet	85
						Mecwrap	47	P.L. Di Lazzari	45	Renova	115	Sicma Saga	15	Techpap-CTP	164	VE.Car	34
						Microline	103	P.T.S.	112	Rexnord	95	Sicma	87	Tecnicart	3	Vega Italia	14
						Mingazzini	29	Parason Machinery	112	RIF SPA – RIF Rol Cover	80	Simac Tech	51	Tecno Aqua	82	Villforth Siebtechnik	110
						Minimotor	95	Paul Wegner	86	Robuschi	12	Sintesi Impianti	182	Tecno Paper	82	Voith Paper	16
						Mink Italia	27	PCMC Italia	104	Röchling Leripa	2	SKF Industrie	105	Tecno Ferrarini	3	Weingrill	92
						MTC	100	P&C Progetti Consulenze	146	Rolco Europe	81	Solar Turbines Switzerland	59	Teknofluor	45	Wefapress Beck	86
						MTK SRL Dewatering System	140	HTL Perma Italia	46	Runtech Systems	12	Soilenis Italia	65	The Timken Company	46	Winkler+Dunnebiel	104
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						MWN Niefern Maschinenfabrik	91	Plusline	119	Sadas	136	ST Macchine	118	TIP 95	141	Zhejiang Onepaper Smart Equipment	161

New opportunities in tissue production

Press felts that unite the benefits of non-woven and multi-axis technologies have been launched by Heimbach to provide tailor-made designs. PPL reports

Even at the beginning of Atrojet's development, Heimbach product managers were sure: it had the potential to usher in a new era in press felt technology.

"We promised paper manufacturers that we would develop a press felt that creates completely new opportunities," remembers Jochen Pirig, strategic product manager at Heimbach.

This has been accomplished, as Atrojet is the first felt offered worldwide that unites the advantages of Heimbach's most significant press felt design groups: the non-woven design group Atrocross and the multi-

axial design group Atromaxx who both belong to the modern felt designs, so called advanced technology bases (ATB).

Non-woven Atrocross and multi-axial Atromaxx press felts are offering comprehensive product ranges in their individual design group to meet the requirements of press felt application.

Each design has its distinct advantages: such as short break in time and high nip dewatering capacity of Atrocross or the great flexibility of base weave combinations of Atromaxx to meet individual and particular requirements which is important for customised well-engineered press felt application.

In addition to these two modern press-felt design groups the classically woven, respectively laminated base weave felt designs, belong to the Heimbach assortment too.

Even though the existing product spectrum is sophisticated, Heimbach keeps on improving its existing product lines and developing new products.

Atrojet is one of the latest developments which is an innovative press felt design combining the advantages of multi-axial and non-woven technology.

With the multi-axial non-woven technology, the product managers can meet the

particular requirements of press felt positions even better. The specific quality of Atrojet is the structure of the base inside, which is, facing the paper side, and consists of a unique non-woven layer. That layer of yarns is made of machine direction yarns only, which results in great strength, evenness and smoothness of the base facing the paper side. The machine direction (MD) yarn structure is arranged in diagonal direction which is the characteristic multi-axial angle improving collapse resistance by increasing crossing points of all yarns.

Broad flexibility is given by the fact that the non-woven paper side layer can consist of

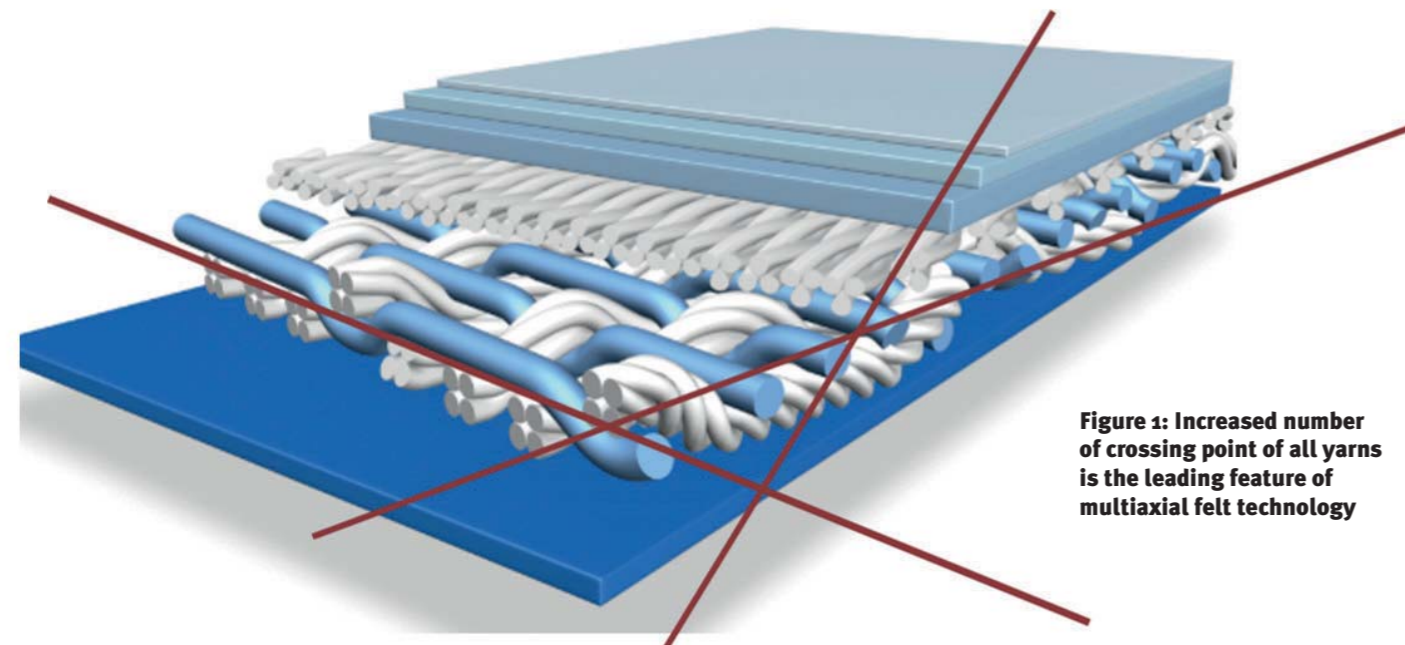
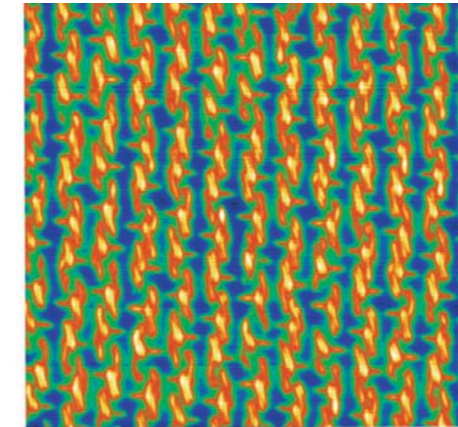
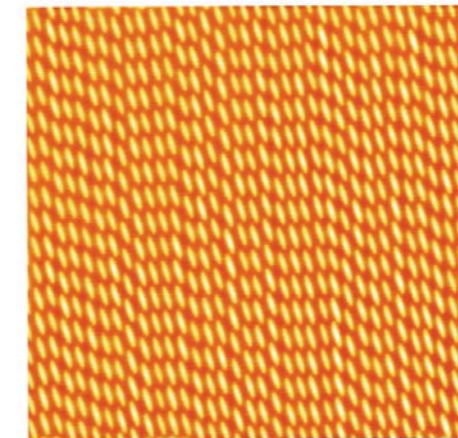


Figure 1: Increased number of crossing point of all yarns is the leading feature of multi-axial felt technology



Conventional base - 41.1 % contact surface



Atrojet base - 96.4 % contact surface

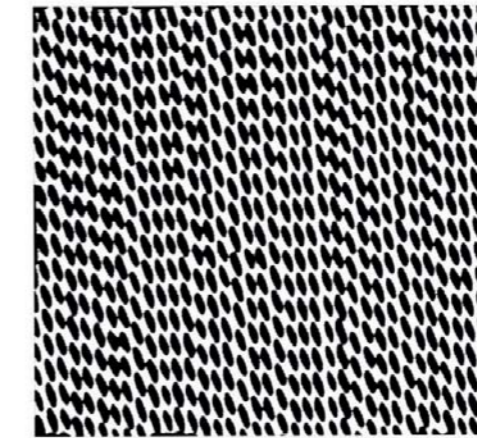
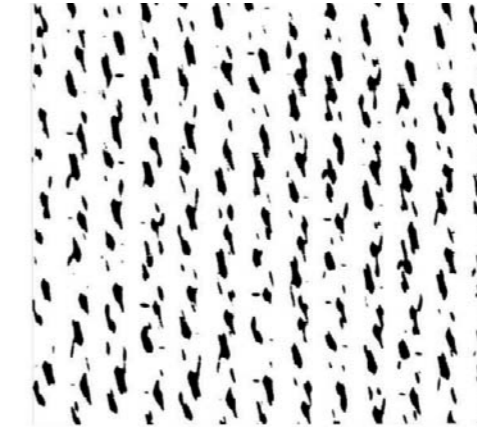


Figure 2: With its uniform machine direction yarn structure Atrojet has far greater surface contact than conventional bases. This leads to more even pressure transmission at the press nip resulting in very steady dewatering and even CD profiles

different ply twist yarns as well as different yarn diameters and flexible yarn count.

The evenness and uniformity from inside the felt provides smooth felt surfaces through high contact area. The homogeneous and high contact area of Atrojet base is superior among press felt technologies. Homogeneous compact felts are important features for tissue felt application regarding even pressure transmission at the press nip which is key for even dewatering and even CD profiles of the paper. The roll side base of Atrojet felts is made of multi-axial arranged components and are selected as per individual requests concerning void volume, mechanical strength, and in the context of the individual requirements of the position, e.g. one or two nip positions or shoe press position, uhle boxes and vacuum rolls involved.

A typical tissue machine could present the performance of a press felt in the proper light.

Mileage of more than 100,000 km while passing about six

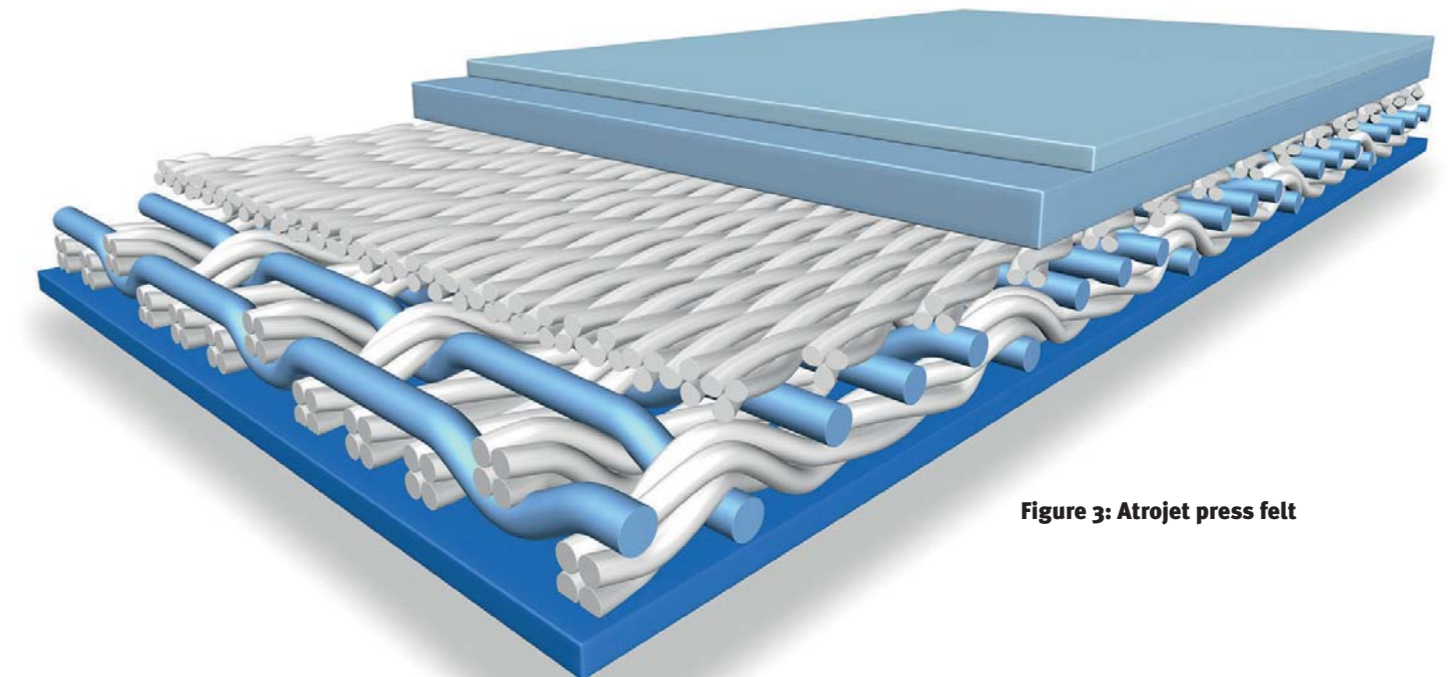
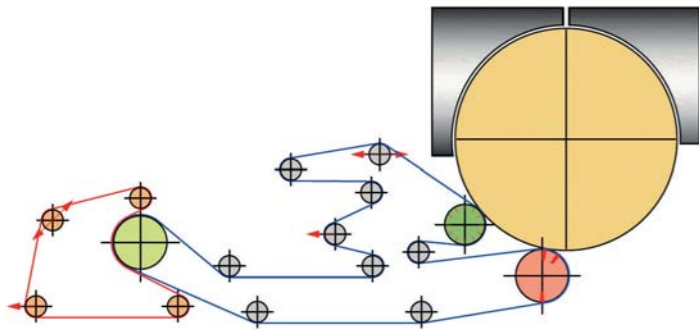
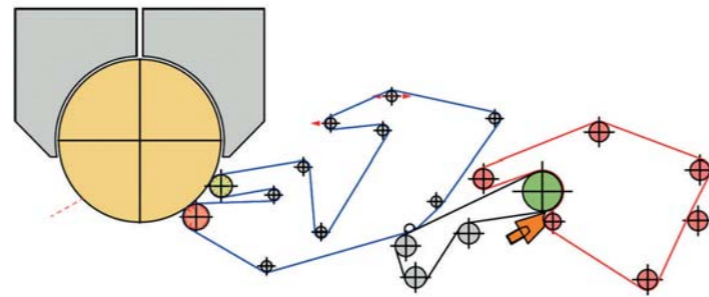


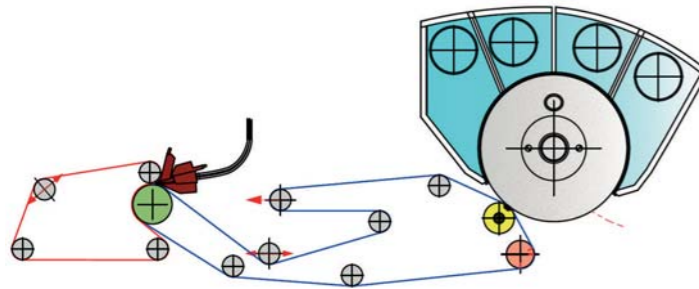
Figure 3: Atrojet press felt



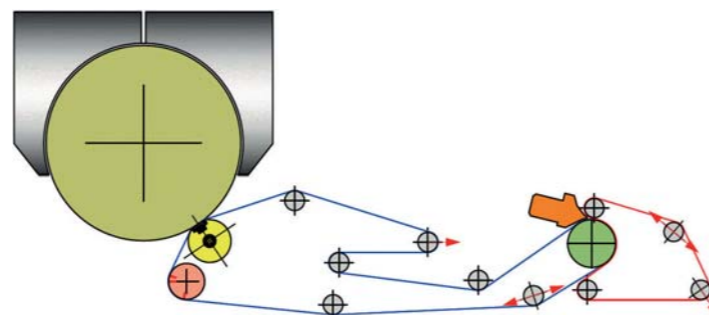
Configuration: single width, crescent former with Uhle roll and blind drilled press
Speed: 1,500 m/min, paper grade: Tissue, 16-46 g per sq m



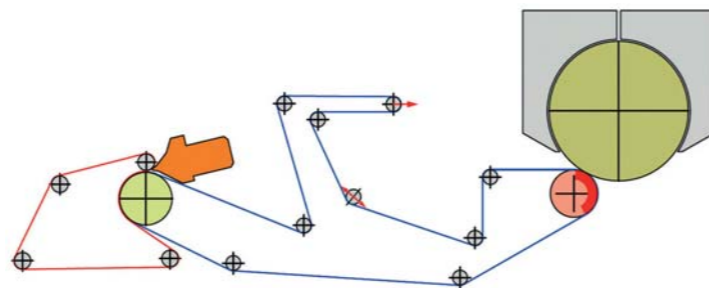
Configuration: double width, crescent former with Uhle roll and blind drilled press
Speed: 1,530 m/min, paper grade: Tissue, 12-21 g per sq m



Configuration: double width, crescent former with shoe press
Speed: 1,950 m/min, paper grade: Tissue, 12-35 g per sq m



Configuration: single width, crescent former with shoe press
Speed: 1,800 m/min, paper grade: Tissue, 12-40 g per sq m



Configuration: single width, crescent former with Uhle roll
Speed 1,800 m/min, paper grade: Tissue, 16-30 g per sq m

million nip cycles and handling more than 50,000 cubic metres of water are normal requirements for a tissue felt. In addition, the level of performance is expected to be at steady high level all along the service life of a felt. Modern press felt designs from Heimbach are high-tech products which meet these requirements. In the case when process parameters are unvarying the felt design can be fine-tuned to its maximum performance under standard conditions.

examples of varying process parameters are paper grade changes which include machine speed and weight changes but also affect usage of different furnish compositions such as virgin pulp or recycled fibres as well as usage of wet strength resin or dye and fixative.

Production planning is always aiming for as smooth as possible transition of process parameters during machine clothing lifetime. But these days flexibility can be key too, just to think of just-in-time deliveries, so sudden process changes may do occur. The press felt has to tolerate these changing conditions. In this case, the Atrojet design

flexibility offers advantages to adapt to those changing conditions well.

Thanks to the homogeneous and strong inner structure, which also contributes to high fibre batt anchorage, Atrojet has proven its robustness towards harsh high pressure shower cleaning which

can prevent felt clogging such as when changing from virgin pulp to DIP and/or producing non wet strength to wet strength grades. Atrojet has been proven itself in the field to be able to take up even long-term laminar HP shower at pressures of more than 30 bar.



enessco: effective one shot deinking stickies control and OCC wax reduction chemicals



NOW RUNNING IN APPLICATIONS AROUND THE WORLD!

Eliminate the high cost of wax, stickies and contaminates problems.

Enesco has proved itself to:

- 3% to 10% increased production
- Reduced dirt / sticky counts / wax spots
- Reduced antiskid usage
- Elimination of TDU's (Thermal Dispersion Units)
- Increased yield by up to 2%
- 30 to 70% downtime reduction (breaks, washups, etc.)
- Replacement of strength additives & deposit control chemistry

Enesco works every time!!! This environmentally friendly patented chemistry modifies contaminants to be more efficiently removed from the incoming recycle furnish as well as preventing cycle-up in the mill's internal white water loop; thus reducing system contaminant loading and subsequent PM system deposition. **It's that simple!**

Brown grades, Tissue, or DeInked/recycled Pulp

Visit our web site at www.enessco.com to see actual results of mills using Enesco, as well at TAPPI conference papers, and customer testimonials.

We are looking for distributors and agents around the world, join one of today's leaders, Enesco International contact steve@enessco.com today.

Space efficient shoe-blade gap former launched by Voith

A new design of shoe-blade gap former for the fabrication of packaging papers has been revealed by Voith.

Said to be cost- and space-efficient, the DuoFormer CBh is aimed at providing paper makers with flexibility and a quick return on investment.

The first example has been installed at Smurfit Kappa's Roermond mill with "excellent" first results, says Voith.

After undergoing extensive testing at Voith's pilot facilities in Heidenheim, the new former proved itself on the PM1 line at Roermond in The Netherlands.

Wouter Lap, managing director of Smurfit Kappa Roermond Papier, commented: "We chose Voith to supply this shoe-blade gap former for Roermond PM1 because of the high quality and technology level of their equipment and their people. Based on our past experiences with Voith delivering successful projects, we felt good about investing in their technology, because it pays off in the long term."



When space is at a premium – Voith's new shoe-blade gap former

"Once again, the decision for Voith proved to be the right one. We had a great ramp-up curve from stock on wire to saleable quality within only one day after the rebuild that changed the entire forming section into an innovative DuoFormer CBh concept. We have seen a significant increase in the quality of our packaging papers and a production boost up 20 per cent since the startup. Overall, we are very pleased with the results."

In a release, Voith added: "Paper

makers who are either looking for a new former with a very good quality-performance ratio or are faced with the challenge of having to replace their existing former to gain productivity benefit from the DuoFormer CBh. Due to its compact design, it is ideal for rebuilds where space is at a premium."

DuoFormer CBh's dewatering elements are designed to achieve the best possible combination of dewatering capacity and paper strength with minimum effort.

Using a full ceramic slotted impingement shoe cover design and a high vacuum suction box (HiVac) instead of a suction couch roll, the DuoFormer CBh ensures the highest dry content and lower maintenance costs.

The machine can be applied in a wide operation window, allowing for sustainable and reliable papermaking up to a maximum speed of 1,600 metres per minute. The drainage section's capacity is precisely designed for desired production rates.



Wouter Lap, managing director of Smurfit Kappa Roermond Papier: the right decision



Environmentally friendly flexo print system to be launched

Italy's A.Celli Nonwovens is planning to launch a range of flexographic printing presses.

The Iridium range is designed to meet the demands for highly efficient production and quality.

The printing system features a heavily constructed frame, good ergonomics, web speeds of up to 800 metres per minute, an energy saving package, high quality reproduction on all substrates, an integrated inking and washing

system, the latest integrated electronics controls, the highest level of versatility, and in-line slitting.

Iridium uses exclusive technologies aimed at minimising energy consumption and prints on substrates such as paper, cardboard and Kraft with water-based inks.

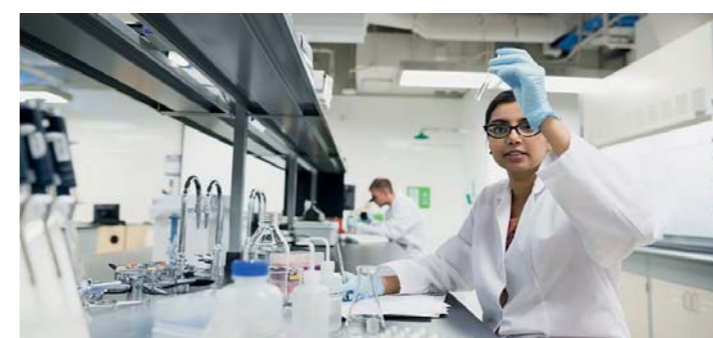
The printing system is being launched at A.Celli's facility in Porcari, near Lucca in Italy between 8-11 October.



Advanced lubricating oil with longer life

A 'breakthrough' synthetic gear and bearing circulating oil for pulp and paper mills has been unveiled by ExxonMobil.

Testing shows that Mobil SHC Elite delivers double the life of traditional synthetic products and up to 12 times the life of mineral oils. It can also help protect equipment operating at temperatures up to 150 deg C in intermittent service making it ideally suited for a range of paper industry applications, such as helping to protect dryer and calender drives, as well as kiln and trunnion bearings.



The advanced synthetic lubricant is specifically formulated to deliver excellent wear protection and oxidation resistance without any of the compatibility challenges often associated with glycol-based

products used in high temperature applications. In addition, SHC Elite is also said to have also demonstrated an enhanced torque ratio, enabling it to deliver a 3.6 per cent energy

efficiency improvement when compared with conventional mineral oils.

"Protecting heavily loaded paper manufacturing equipment from high in-service temperatures can be a major challenge for mill operators," said Emre Noyan, industrial marketing manager at ExxonMobil.

"Mobil SHC Elite's extended oil life, wide temperature range performance and energy efficiency improvement can help operators increase uptime and cut costs – giving them a competitive edge."

Tool that makes in-situ boiler tube welding more accurate

An alignment fixture that makes the welding of boiler tubes in paper mills and other facilities with power generation has been launched by US-based Esco Tool.

The Hog Tie Boiler Tube Weld Alignment Clamp Kit includes

everything necessary to achieve accurate horizontal and vertical gap spacing for producing high-integrity boiler tube joint welds.

Simple to use, one side of the clamp has two through-holes and the other has threaded inserts

which accept two bolts that draw them together; exposing the tube ends for tack welding before removal to finish the weld. Kits come in seven sizes for tubes with outside diameters from 31.8mm to 82.55mm and include an impact



wrench and socket, four 12.7mm bolts, two spare through-hole inserts, two threaded inserts, and a metal case.

Ash content added to optical consistency measurement

An improved optical consistency transmitter has been developed by Valmet for recycled pulp manufacturing applications, as well as general stock preparation applications in paper, tissue, and board.

The Optical Consistency Measurement (Valmet OC2R) shares the total consistency measurement method utilised in Valmet's original Optical Consistency transmitter with the added capability of ash content being available as a second measured value.

Particularly in low-consistency measurements, Valmet's optical transmitters are frequently the only measurement technique to provide



reliable results. OC2R is said to offer easy and low-cost installation with a measuring probe that makes

insertion and removal possible without requiring special tools or a process stop.

For mechanical and chemical pulp, as well as for recycled fibre furnishes, OC2R is said to be the best choice for control applications, from re-pulping and screening through to the machine chest.

"The addition of the ash measurement to total consistency opens new possibilities for recipe management in pulp blending, better broke handling, and reducing machine chest furnish variability. In recycled fibre processing, the benefits of the two measurements include better end product quality with improved strength and optical properties," said Heikki Föhr, product manager for Valmet Optical Consistency Measurement in the automation business line at Valmet.

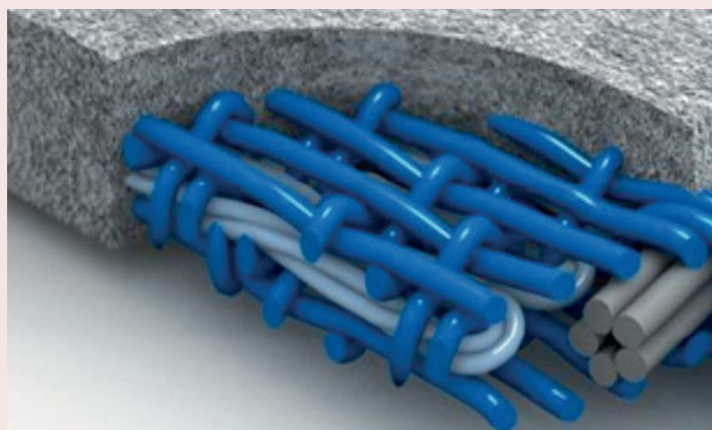
New-generation felt with all the benefits of endless designs

A 'new-generation' press felt with a patented single-seam design has been launched by ANDRITZ.

StrataPress has an integrated seam that makes installation safer and faster, while more efficient water removal reduces energy consumption. It is also available with QS technology for superior sheet smoothness. Enhanced seam flap integrity offers longer life.

The felt is specifically engineered for the most demanding locations in paperboard and packaging, graphical, and pulp machines.

"With StrataPress SX, for the first time in our industry,



customers can now enjoy the convenience and safety of seam felts along with the superior machine performance previously only available from premium-class endless press felts. And with

its unique compressibility and nip dampening characteristics, StrataPress SX provides that superior dewatering performance even in the hardest press nip applications, and with reduced

operating costs," says Bill Butterfield, chief technology officer at ANDRITZ Fabrics and Rolls.

Three distinct warp systems are used in StrataPress SX so that it is suitable for the best performance with graphical, board and packaging, and pulp grades.

Also available is the Quick Saturation (QS) feature in which hydrophilic components embedded in the base fabric structure ensure optimised water management. This is said to provide improved start-up behaviour, enhanced profiles and better NIP dewatering throughout the felt's lifetime.

Polyurethane roll cover launched by Voith

A high-performance roll cover made from polyurethane (PU) has been launched by Voith.

To positively influence paper characteristics like printability, coating and starch are applied to the paper in the coating and sizing section using applicator units. Voith's SupremeFilm roll cover is said to work well in the Voith Speed Sizer AT, and is also suitable for challenging applications in

film presses produced by other manufacturers.

"For years, PU roll covers have been successful high-end solutions for the press section," explains Ralf Moser, global product manager for the finishing section at Voith. "We are now exploiting the excellent qualities of this material, which we have adapted specifically to the requirements of the film press."

SupremeFilm is said to offer a homogeneous and constant film transfer and retains its surface



roughness throughout its entire service life. This is due to a filler material that ensures ideal application for paper grades with high quality specifications. The PU material is also highly abrasion-resistant, which results in longer grinding intervals and consistent profile 2-sigma values.

Sappi's Ehingen paper mill was one of the first customers to use the new roll cover in a film press.

"We aim to be constantly evolving and continually making our production more efficient. To enable this, new technologies

were necessary. This was also the reason why we opted to use a promising new development with Voith," says mill manager Dietmar Muser. "And this paid off, as the already very good results got even better. SupremeFilm allowed us to keep the 2-sigma profiles constant over an unprecedented installation period. This means that we achieved our main goal of producing perfect paper quality. In addition, we benefited from reduced maintenance costs and a longer run time between roll changes."



Sappi Ehingen mill manager Dietmar Muser is "convinced" of the value of SupremeFilm

Tool that more accurately measures paper bale quality

Dealers in the recovered paper (RCP) industry are the target for BaleVision, a quality assessment tool that provides comprehensive data so that buyers can maximise supplier performance and sellers earn a fair price for their product.

Until now, the industry has had limited options for measuring RCP quality. Conventional measurement methodologies

— such as ocular inspections and bale breaking — can be costly, labour intensive and highly subjective. Furthermore, any data collected is often unreliable and provides very little information for business decision-making and process optimisation.

BaleVision overcomes these limitations with a device for effective quality measurement

and a system for data analysis and visualisation. The quality assessment tool analyses the bale from the inside out, collecting detailed data on fibre content, moisture, plastic, ash and other bale contaminants.

The tool has been developed by merQbiz, which has partnered with the manufacturer, PTS, to be the exclusive distributor in North

America.

"BaleVision is an industry-first solution that gives sellers insights into the real value of their paper and enables mills to proactively optimise procurement and operational processes," said John Fox, chief executive of merQbiz. "There's nothing like it in the industry that can deliver this level of value."

Productivity improvements for PKV's PM4 machine at Varel

German paper and board manufacturer Papier- und Kartonfabrik Varel (PKV) is having its PM4 machine rebuilt by Voith to increase its output by 15 per cent, improve runnability and reduce energy consumption.

PKV has been using the PM4 to produce packaging papers in a wide range of basis weights, from 120 to 280 grams per square metre. As part of the rebuild, the web width at the pope roller will be increased from 5.25m to 5.45m which will necessitate a number of adjustments to upstream components. The Voith team will increase the widths of the first dryer group, the existing headboxes, the wire and press sections and the Fourdrinier wire. Key items on PKV's objectives included the improvement of the dewatering capacity to raise the dry content downstream of the Tandem NipcoFlex press by at least one per cent.

Voith says that an essential prerequisite to achieving the desired effects was the integration of the latest Papermaking 4.0



technologies.

"In this context, the OnCumulus platform is absolute crucial, as it enables fast, reliable and secure access to data from local machines and systems in the cloud and makes them available for efficient use," says Voith. "Other modules from the Voith OnCare product range like OnEfficiency.Strength or OnEfficiency.Dewatering are used to monitor paper production at PKV. All modules and components are networked with one another."

OnEfficiency.Strength uses statistical models and virtual sensors to reduce strength fluctuations in machine direction.

As a result, fibre use and starch use are optimised. Continuous measurements and automatic adjustments to parameters ensure fewer fluctuations, which in turn minimises broke, reduces deviations in production output and improves paper quality during grade changes.

Systematic regulation of the former vacuum by the OnEfficiency.Dewatering module helps stabilise the dry content upstream of the press. This saves energy, while the Papermaking 4.0 technology ensures consistently high ply bond strength.

To ensure the requested one

per cent improvement in dry content, Voith installed a Tandem NipcoFlex system designed in this case for web widths of up to 5.7m. Its design enables optimum dewatering for the entire basis weight range of the PM4. As a result, PKV can further improve the strength and surface quality of its corrugated baseboard made from secondary and virgin fibres. A closed web run in combination with separation suction boxes allows production speeds of up to 1,200 metres per minute, providing the increase in production capacity requested by customer.

Voith helps improves efficiencies at Freudenberg non-woven plant

Specialist textile manufacturer Freudenberg Performance Materials has engaged Voith to improve the energy efficiency of an existing air system at its non-woven production facility at Weinheim in Germany.

The contract covers the

programming and retrofitting of the control unit and air ducts with the necessary hardware and software, including the digital data exchange between the control unit and Freudenberg's own formulation management system.

"The retrofit makes it possible

to realise significant energy savings during operation and reduce carbon dioxide, and therefore lower the production costs associated with air conditioning. The deciding factors that resulted in the contract included the relatively

short ROIs for the energy saving investments, the flexibility offered in the definition of the digital interfaces, and the expert advice provided," says Oswin Schader, electrical engineering chief at Freudenberg Performance Materials.

EPCM assignment at Star Project in Brazil awarded to Pöyry

Brazil's Bracell, which earlier this year rebranded the Bahia Specialty Cellulose and Lwarcel Celulose businesses under its new name, has awarded the Engineering, Procurement, Construction, Management (EPCM) assignment to develop the balance of plant for its huge Star Project to Finland-based Pöyry.

The services include interconnections between all process areas, turbo generators and steam distribution systems, the water cooling centre and other complementary systems.

The Star Project at Lençóis Paulista in São Paulo state, involves increasing current pulp production capacity from 250,000 tons to 1.5 million tons per year. The new mill will be a flexible line, designed primarily to produce dissolving pulp to supply internal integrated demand.

Pöyry has been involved

with the Star Project since the beginning and was responsible for conceptual study, environmental licensing support, basic engineering, and detail engineering for the site infrastructure and access road duplication.

Bracell announced the rebranding shortly after it commenced work earlier this year on Project Star.

"We are changing the face of the cellulose industry, so we will naturally evolve our brand," said Marcelo Leite, managing director of Bracell Bahia Specialty Cellulose, who has managed the company's operations in Bahia since 2016.

"The Bracell operations in Bahia and São Paulo are at the heart of the cellulose chain, producing high quality raw materials which are the key ingredients used to create a range of items we use every day, around the world. Bracell's materials are

used in a range of products, from textiles, baby wipes and eyeglass frames to soft ice-cream and pharmaceuticals, and industrial products such as high-performance tire cords."

By the time of its completion, Project Star is expected to represent the largest private investment in the state of São Paulo in the last 20 years.

Key features of the expansion are:

- Over a two- to three-year period, Project Star will employ up to 7,500 workers during the peak of deployment with a fixed average of 3,500 workers; upon completion, the operation phase will employ up to 2,100 direct workers on a permanent basis in the mill and forestry;
- The investment will be concentrated in Lençóis Paulista and Macatuba;
- The expansion investment is expected to create employment opportunities in Lençóis Paulista

and Macatuba, and in nearby Agudos, Areiópolis Borebi, Bauru, Pederneiras, São Manuel, Barra Bonita, Jau and Igarapu do Tietê, and throughout the state of São Paulo.

● The bio-refinery incorporates circular economy and closed loop approaches to production; this approach controls material inputs to maximise recycling and recovery of materials, minimise waste whilst greatly reducing the environmental footprint; specifically, this results in low water consumption, low emission and no fossil fuels.

By the time Star Project is completed in 2021, Bracell will have annual production capacity of 2.0 million tons of dissolving pulp, and will employ 7,300 direct and indirect employees.

The value of the EPCM order was not disclosed and will be booked in Pöyry's Process Industries Division's order stock for the third quarter of 2019.

Rebuild for the dryer section of PM1 at Gulf Paper

Gulf Paper Manufacturing has selected Toscotec for the rebuild of the dryer section of its PM1 at its Mina Abdullah paper mill in Kuwait. The paper machine has a reel trim of 2,550 mm and produces fluting, test liner and white top grades from 100 to 200 gsm using 100 per cent recycled fibres. Start-up is planned for the last quarter of 2019.

Toscotec will supply 24 TT SteelDryers, with a maximum operating steam pressure of 10 bar and a design speed of 800 mpm. The dryer section's driving

system with obsolete gears will be replaced by a silent drive system. The scope also includes the lubrication unit for the new dryer section and it will be especially designed for the high-temperature working environment of the mill. The supply is on a turnkey basis, including the erection, commissioning and start-up.

The target of the rebuild is to boost the drying capacity, thanks to the TT SteelDryers. The dryer section's length will remain unchanged.

Enrico Fazio, Toscotec's P&B Head of Sales, commented,

"This new project consolidates our presence in the Middle East region, where we have delivered over 100 TT SteelDryers since the mid-1990s. We are very happy to start this cooperation with Gulf Paper Manufacturing, who is a very well established producer and renowned company in the Middle East. I am confident that the rebuild will meet their production targets, thanks to TT SteelDryer's advanced technology."

Gulf Paper's manufacturing projects & development manager Ghaleb Al-Hadhrami said: "We

had known each other for many years, but didn't get the chance to cooperate. This is our first project together, and we hope it will be the first of many in the years to come.

"We were impressed by the remarkable reference list of TT SteelDryers and other equipment. We got to know the people and the company, including its ability to manage complex turnkey projects. This is why we decided to select Toscotec for this important rebuild, where we expect to exceed our targets."

Rebuilt board machine at PJSC Kyiv started up

The rebuilt BM1 machine PJSC Kyiv Cardboard and Paper Mill at its site in Obukhiv, Ukraine has been started up by ANDRITZ.

The rebuild of the packaging paper machine covered the upgrade of the press and calender sections, including extensions to the existing automation system.

To improve the machine's capacity and the surface quality of the paper, ANDRITZ relocated the existing press from the second to the third press position and installed a new PrimePress X shoe press in the second position. Due to its special shoe design, the PrimePress X enables gentle dewatering and reduced energy consumption. In the calender section, a new PrimeCal Hard hard-nip calender was installed to provide a consistent CD caliper profile, bulk control, and excellent surface finish.

The BM1 has a design speed of 800 metres per minute and a working width of 4.2m. Using



recycled paper, the line produces white top liner, white lined chipboard, and testliner in a range of 125–420 gsm. ANDRITZ reports that the start-up of

the rebuilt BM1 ran smoothly according to schedule and achieved the promised guarantee values for dryness, bulk and smoothness right away.

PJSC Kyiv Cardboard and Paper Mill, part of the Austrian Pulp Mill Holding, is one of the largest European cardboard and paper producers.

Digital control system ordered for Gulf Ply's new mill

Gulf Ply Paper Company has ordered a distributed control system (DCS) and quality control system (QCS) for its new paper mill in Dammam, Saudi Arabia from ABB.

Based on ABB's Ability System 800xA, the project includes a Pulp & Paper Library, providing

a flexible, consistent and comprehensive means of controlling and supervising manufacturing processes when the new mill becomes operational in October 2019.

"Our installation will help Gulf Ply to improve efficiency and ease of operation throughout

the new mill with a solution that takes into account the specific needs and process requirements for a greenfield site," said Ahmed Fathy, regional pulp and paper manager for ABB. "We look forward to enabling a successful start-up for Gulf Ply's new mill as well as helping Gulf Ply optimise

operations in the future."

Gulf Ply Co for Paper Manufacturing Ltd is part of the Saudi-based Mohammed Al Ojaimi Group, which was founded in 1976 to service the electric power transmission and distribution industry for private sector and civil turnkey projects.

Approach flow systems ordered for Spremberg mill

Hamburger Rieger GmbH has ordered three paper machine approach flow systems and broke screening for its new greenfield PM2 line at Spremberg in Germany from ANDRITZ with start-up scheduled for mid-2020.

The paper machine, with a capacity of 500,000 tons per year, will produce both brown and white top test liner. The PMA systems for the top and back layers will be equipped with Andritz ShortFlow Deaeration systems, comprising



deaerators, the corresponding vacuum pumps, as well as ModuScreen HBE screens for stock and dilution water screening. The

patented ShortFlow Deaeration system enables effective air removal with partial deaeration. In comparison with conventional

deaeration concepts on the market, ShortFlow Deaeration has an extremely small footprint.

The third PMA system will supply the back layer headbox with white water for cross-profile control. A two-stage broke screening system completes the scope of supply.

Hamburger Rieger is part of the Hamburger Containerboard Division of the Austrian Prinzhorn Group. Producing two million tons in seven plants, Hamburger Containerboard is one of the leading producers of high-quality corrugated board in Europe.

Dewatering press for Metsä Board's Joutseno mill in Finland

Metsä Board's Joutseno mill in eastern Finland has ordered a dewatering press from Valmet with start-up planned for October 2020.

The TwinRoll VPE 1245 press will be used for bleached chemi-thermomechanical pulp

production. The mill has capacity for 330,000 tons a year which is used for Metsä Board's own folding boxboard production.

Toni Tahvanainen, mill manager at Joutseno, said: "Metsä Board is investing in improving the energy efficiency of its Joutseno

chemi-mechanical pulp mill. This investment increases the dry matter content of the pulp going to drying and saves energy for drying. Natural gas consumption will be reduced by 20 per cent."

Lari Lammi, senior process manager for pulp and energy

business at Valmet, said: "Metsä Board decided to place this order with Valmet based on our good references for TwinRoll presses. It is an important milestone for Valmet to install the largest VPE press type in to a bleached chemi-thermomechanical mill for the first time in Finland. The press will enable Metsä Board to increase and stabilise the pulp consistency to the flash drying, thus reducing impact to the environment."

More cooperation between Voith and Sun Paper in China

Sun Paper in China has ordered an 11th paper machine from Voith.

The new order is for PM39, a graphic paper machine, along with major components for PM40, an MG paper machine.

Both machines will be installed at Sun Paper's Yanzhou facility, where PM21, 24, 29, 36 and 37 are also located. With a width of 10.5 m and a design speed of 1,800 m/min, PM39 will have an annual capacity of 450,000

metric tons. The equipment for PM40 includes a MasterJet Pro FB headbox with ModuleJet, a complete press section with a Single NipcoFlex press and an EcoCal Soft calender.

Earlier collaboration between Sun and Voith has resulted in:

- Both PM36 and PM37 starting up ahead of schedule
- PM37 setting a new record for packaging machines with 1 hour 57 minutes for stock on wire to paper reel.

Guangdong Ying, deputy general manager and chief engineer at Sun Paper, commented: "Voith is the leading company in the papermaking industry, and its XcelLine paper machines have been supplied for many outstanding projects globally. At the same time, Sun Paper has contributed greatly to the development of the Chinese paper industry. In joint cooperation with Voith, our PM36 and PM37 had very successful

start-ups. We like cooperating with Voith."

Shandong Sun Paper has six major product lines, including premium coated packaging paperboard, high-class art paper, high-class cultural and office paper, specialty fibre dissolving pulp, household paper, and industrial paper. Key brands include Golden Sun (a leading brand in China), Huaxia Sun, Brilliant Sun, Weier, Lecopy, Koolprint and Sun Elements.

Reject and sludge handling kit and stock preparation ordered for Palm's new mill at Aalen

Papierfabrik Palm has ordered the complete reject treatment and sludge handling system for its new paper mill at Aalen in Germany from ANDRITZ. A stock preparation system has also been ordered from Voith. Start-up is scheduled for the third quarter of 2021.

The complete reject treatment system supplied by ANDRITZ will include two Universal Rotary Shears UC1300 and one Universal Shredder FRX2000. The system will be able to handle light rejects and pulper rags. These pulper rags will be processed without any manual intervention as they will be shredded directly at their point of origin beneath the pulper for transporting on conveyor belts. The centrepiece of the sludge

handling system is a Sludge Screw Press SCS, designed for high throughput, which will dewater the sludge very efficiently.

Palm already has several ANDRITZ sludge handling systems in operation in other mills.

Voith will be supplying the stock preparation line for the project and has designed one of the largest and most advanced BlueLine systems worldwide. As well as the entire stock preparation unit from feed-in of the recovered paper to the finished stock, the scope of supply also includes the complete design of the line and its measuring, control and instrumentation systems. Voith had already provided Papierfabrik Palm with support during the conceptual and approval phase for the new build project.



The stock preparation unit will produce 2,200 metric tons of stock per day. A precondition for the high quality of the product is an extremely clean furnish. At the same time, the company

placed particular emphasis on achieving a sustainable, environmentally compatible paper production process.

The design of the stock preparation line is based on the EcoProcess developed by Voith to enable an energy-optimised machine configuration. The EcoProcess combines a strict counterflow principle with smart water cycle separation. In conjunction with water management across all systems, this results in a controlled discharge of dissolved and colloidal impurities with low water consumption.

Also included in the Voith order are an IntegraScreen, which ensures consistent flow and pressure conditions around the screen, which results in high contaminant separation efficiencies; IntensaPulper, which has a combination of a special vat geometry and the asymmetric arrangement of the rotor, the

internal flow pattern of the IntensaPulper converts the flow energy into pulping performance.

The HiClean HCL5-I cleaner is another addition to the range of energy-efficient components in the stock preparation line. Smooth interior surfaces and a flow-optimised head piece enable maximum separation efficiencies in this technology developed by Voith.

Palm, with its headquarters at Aalen, is one of the leading paper makers in Europe. The group is divided into Papierfabrik Palm, consisting of five paper mills for paper production and capacity for 2.2 million tons a year, the Palm Packaging Group with 28 plants for the production of corrugated board with capacity for 700,000 tons a year, and Palm Recycling, consisting of two recycling companies. All paper and corrugated board products are made of 100 per cent recycled fibres from waste paper. Sales are about €1.6 billion a year.

Boiler diagnostics system for Sun Paper in China

To optimise the availability and operation of a new recovery boiler for a mill at Sun Paper in China, a diagnostics system is being supplied by Valmet.

The installation comprises a Furnace IR Camera System giving superior image quality and depth of view, enabling observation and analysis at full load. The system provides real-time ability to identify and correct problems, resulting in higher boiler availability, reduced risk of failure, improved heat transfer efficiency, and lower maintenance costs.

The value of the diagnostics

New tissue line in Algeria is start of MENA region expansion

A new tissue making line at Africaine Paper Mills (APM) in Algeria has been started up by ANDRITZ.

The PrimeLineCompact has a design speed of 2,100 metres per min, a working width of 2.85m and produces tissue for high-quality facial wipes as well as toilet and towel paper grades.

The machine is equipped with the latest PrimePress XT Evo shoe press, which is said to provide an energy-efficient design, improved dewatering, and less need for thermal drying. The line's 16-foot diameter PrimeDry Steel Yankee provides a high drying capacity.

The stock preparation system includes a FibreSolve FSV pulper and TwinFlo double-disc refiners as well as ModuScreen HBE headbox screens for the approach flow system. Fibre



recovery and broke handling were also supplied.

"Start-up of the mill was a great success, and the collaboration with ANDRITZ was very good. It is the first tissue machine for APM, and we are proud to announce the first paper on reel. For us, good paper quality combined with energy-efficiency

is of utmost importance. The combination of a steel Yankee and a shoe press enables efficient drying with substantial energy savings," said Ziad Haffar, general manager of APM.

Expansion plans at APM include the building of paper mills in countries within the Middle East & North Africa (MENA) region.



system, which be installed before the end of 2019, will not be disclosed.

Fei Da, project manager of Shandong Sun Paper Industry

Joint Stock Co, commented: "Valmet is an important partner for Shandong Sun Paper. We trust their people, technology and solutions. We believe their

combustion diagnostics and monitoring system will help to optimise our recovery boiler operation."

Chenglin Si, Valmet's sales manager for automation in China, added: "We are very glad that we can now provide a wider range of offering to our pulp and paper customers. This high-tech combustion diagnostics meets well our customers' needs, helps them to improve efficiency and safety, and provides possibilities to extend to advanced closed loop control to decrease the emissions of recovery boiler."



Record start up for Recard at Sweden's Klippans Bruk

Sweden's Klippans Bruk AB has increased its capacity for coloured and white high quality tissue by 30,000 tonnes up with the start-up of its PM11 line.

Recard supplied the crescent former tissue machine with a maximum operating speed of 1,700 metres per minute and a reel trim of 3,200 mm providing a gross capacity of 110 tons per day. Auxiliary systems serving the machine include a duo-system hood, steam and condensate system, vacuum system, mist removal system and dust suction system.

The project also included a stock preparation system for 100 per



The Recard team and the first jumbo reel during the start up at Klippans Bruk

cent pre-dried virgin pulp, broke line, approach flow system, fibre recovery system water distribution, and a slitting rewinder with three unwind stands.

"This is the 138th start-up for us," said Recard's managing director Riccardo Campo. "But the excitement and satisfaction for women and men of Recard

seeing the first jumbo reel made by our tissue machine is always unique. The plant was built with a turnkey contract signed with Klippans Bruk, an historic paper mill that blends well with the tradition of Recard to build unique machinery as each component is designed and built with artisan care to achieve the performance required by the customer."

Klippans Bruk AB has a history in paper making going back to 1573 when astronomer Tycho Brahe's uncle started producing paper near the monastery at Herrevadskloster. In 1832 Sweden's first paper making line was installed at the Klippan Mill.

Bresky to be new chief executive at Stora Enso

Annica Bresky will be the new president and chief executive of Stora Enso from 1 December. Until then, Stora Enso's current chief executive Karl-Henrik Sundström will continue in his position.

Bresky, 44, serves as head of Stora Enso's consumer board division. She first worked for the company from 2001 as development engineer and production superintendent at the paper maker's Kvarnsveden Mill before heading up BillerudKorsnäs AB and later Iggesund Paperboard AB before returning to Stora Enso in 2017.

"We are very happy to welcome Annica Bresky into her new position," said Jorma Eloranta, chair of Stora Enso's board. "Annica brings extensive experience of our industry and has a solid business background. She has a proven track record of driving growth and operational excellence and has a strong focus on customers and innovations. She is well equipped to lead the transformation of our sustainable renewable materials company."

Bresky commented: "I am very honoured to have this opportunity. I am looking forward to continuing to build the future of Stora Enso together with our



Stora Enso's new chief executive Annica Bresky

competent teams across the company. We are well positioned to grow with our customers and support their business with sustainable and innovative solutions. Together with my Stora Enso colleagues, our customers

and our partners all over the world, we will accelerate our efforts as a front runner in combatting global warming."

Sundström, who joined Stora Enso in 2012 as its financial chief and took on the role as divisional head of the paper and wood products businesses in 2013, was promoted to chief executive in August 2014.

"Karl-Henrik has been the driving force in developing Stora Enso into an industry leader in sustainability and innovation. The board of directors highly appreciates his valuable contributions during his years with the company," Jorma Eloranta concluded.

New Americas sales chief for Mitsubishi's corrugated machinery division

The corrugating machinery division of Mitsubishi Heavy Industries America (MHIA) has hired a new senior sales manager for North America.

Patrick Ranson is leading the sales effort for the North American market, comprising the United States, Canada, and Mexico. The 27-year corrugated industry

veteran, who joined MHIA in July, is working closely with Yasushi Kitahara, MHIA's sales director, and regional sales managers John Bacot, Greg Kukla and David Moulder.

Ranson's appointment completes MHIA's recent crop of promotions and staff acquisitions in the company's engineering, customer service, parts and sales areas, furthering the company's ability to deliver on its commitment to grow its industry-best customer support.

A qualified mechanical engineer, Ranson joins MHIA from Pratt Industries, where he was general manager of its Allentown, Pennsylvania, facility after serving as its plant manager. He previously worked in increasingly responsible positions for a range of leading corrugated companies.

"It's my pleasure to welcome aboard Pat Ranson," said Masaaki Matsumoto, general manager of MHIA's corrugating machinery division, which is based in Hunt Valley, Maryland. "



Patrick Ranson

Sales appointment promises sales growth for Cepac

Corrugated packaging manufacturer Cepac Darlington has appointed Mark Kirby as business development manager for the south of England.

Kirby joins the business' UK sales team from printed carton manufacturer East Kent Cartons and brings more than 22 years' experience in sales and business development to the role. His expert knowledge of speciality corrugated products, including graphics and design and their application across a range of applications industries is said to be an excellent fit for Cepac.

Attracted by the opportunity to make a significant contribution to Cepac's future growth, Kirby commented: "The business has a strong vision for the future and I'm looking forward to leading business development in the South.

"Cepac has a great reputation for creating innovative packaging



Mark Kirby

solutions and the continued investment in pioneering technology demonstrates the commitment to future growth."

Ken Smith, business development director at Cepac, said: "Mark brings a wealth of experience and knowledge to our growing sales team and will help drive our sales strategy forward. This new appointment will allow us to strengthen our offering and focus for rapid development of the Cepac business."

Cepac provides bespoke state-of-the-art corrugated packaging across a variety of sectors, with industries such as ecommerce and drinks identified by the company as key development opportunities.

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