Massive capacity added at Propapier in Germany

Propapier’s massive PM2 line at Eisenhüttenstadt in Germany was brought on stream successfully in March. The Metso-built line has capacity to produce 650,000 tonnes of testliner and fluting grades annually in the basis weight range of 70-130 g/m² out of 100 per cent recycled fibre, running at up to 1,500 m/min.

The 10.85m-wide PM2 features state-of-the-art paper making and automation technology supplied by Metso, from the stock preparation plant to the OptiConcept paper machine. A two-year cooperation agreement will support the systematic optimization of the production and quality of the line.

Götz Herald, mill manager at Propapier PM2 GmbH said: “Thanks to the excellent commissioning work during the last few weeks we were able to successfully start the production of saleable Wellenstoff (corrugating medium) with a basis weight of 90 g/m² at the speed of 1,250 m/min on the planned start-up date of March 15. A world-class mill at the highest technical level has been built in Eisenhüttenstadt.”

Propapier PM2 GmbH is part of Progroup AG, which offers products and services for the corrugated board-converting industry. After the start-up of PM2, the annual production of Progroup AG’s two paper mills is 1 million tonnes of containerboard.

More collaboration between ABB and Henan Investment Group

Automation and drive systems to control and optimize the performance of a new paper machine at the Chinese paper production facility of Bayyan Paper have been ordered from ABB. Owned by Henan Investment Group, the factory is 900 km south west of Beijing. When operational in April 2011, the paper machine will have a capacity of 136,000 tons.

The project is Phase II of a coater and offset paper project of Zhuomian Bayyan Paper Company, and part of a $247 million investment to expand capacity.

The Voith paper machine being optimised by ABB has design speed of 1,500 m/min and a width of 5.28 m. It mainly produces copy paper and offset paper with weights between 60 and 120 g/m². Daily production could be as high as 800 tons giving an annual production of more than 200,000 tons. With more complicated technology and functions compared with other paper machines in similar projects, ABB’s automation solution will ensure that the machine will operate as efficiently as possible.

ABB and Henan Investment Group have collaborated on a number of paper projects over the past ten years, including similar automation projects for Puyang Longfeng, Jiaozuo Ruilong, as well as Phase I for Bayyan Papers in 2005. All of these projects employ ABB’s integrated process automation control technologies, including electrification, automation, control systems, drive systems, mill type motors pulp line control systems, and related services and support.

“In 2009, ABB’s paper machine drive system for the Puyang Longfeng Papers project won the Excellent Product Award from the China Instrument and Control Society; this is the most well-recognized award in China’s academic and automation community. Now, Henan Investment Group has chosen ABB as it partner again,” said Lin Shuming, general manager of ABB Pulp and Paper North Asia “This is definitely a recognition of ABB’s technology, system planning, product quality, engineering capabilities and after-sale services, as well as the results that we deliver to our customers.”