



Hans Müller,
President and CEO
Voith Sulzer Paper Technology

Dear Customer, dear Reader,

We have pleasure in introducing you to Issue No. 10 of our popular twogether Paper Technology Journal for the pulp and paper industry. The positive feedback we continue to receive from around the world encourages us to keep up the high standard of articles published in this truly international communications tool.

We are fully aware that the consolidation trend among our customers has not ceased and this continues to have a damping effect on worldwide order placement for complete new production lines, particularly in the graphic papers section. On the other hand, demand for rebuilds aimed at product quality improvements, especially for finishing equipment, remains buoyant. Our Board and Packaging Paper operations also show a healthy level of activity, pointing to a record booking level for the current business year. Similarly, we can see positive trends in demand for our stock preparation product lines.

In the meantime, our leading position in shoe press technology has been further substantiated with the order for the 200th NipcoFlex Shoe Press since market introduction of this innovative product.

The second calendar generation of our Janus Concept line – Mark II –, has been successfully introduced to the paper industry and the performance of our Janus technology in Port Hawkesbury, Canada, has been stabilized, providing a significant contribution to the record-breaking production levels for SC-A grades on PM 2 at this mill.

Successful integration of the Scapa Plc roll covering line into our Service Division confirms the merits of this decision to add to the overall competence of our system supplier approach. Our customers likewise benefit from the close link between Voith Fabrics (now incorporating the complete range of Scapa's fabrics activities) and Voith Sulzer's development of new paper machine processes and components.

In short, we see an exciting time ahead of us and we have full confidence in the continuing fine performance of the industry we serve.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Hans Müller". The signature is fluid and cursive, written in a professional style.

Hans Müller
on behalf of the Voith Sulzer Paper Technology Team