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Key to the future

Where would the world be without paper? Items such as magazine papers, newspapers, toilet paper, books, just to name a few, would be unthinkable without it. Paper production developed rapidly and constantly takes up new challenges. Just take a look at the development of machine speed and width. The fastest machines in the industry operate at nearly 2,000 meters per minute and are more than 10 meters wide!

Despite its dynamic growth, the paper industry has been suffering from unsatisfactory earnings and high cost pressure. Old and unprofitable production lines have to be shut down and up-to-date units have to cope with increasing production costs. Papermakers, and we also, know that the costs of operating must be reduced, but what is the key to make this happen?

The solution to this challenge is the key to the future for us. Both the capital costs and the operating costs of our customers must be lowered. We can achieve this by standardizing the entire production process and the

modules. Standardization is the prerequisite to excellent start-up curves, expressed by increased tonnage.

To standardize both process and modules, we, Voith Paper, created the One Platform Concept as well as the completion and execution based on the Process Line Package. With capabilities such as these we are able to offer our customer a single-source solution, reducing interfaces thereby reducing risks and supporting our customer in consistently producing high-quality paper.

We give our customers the opportunity to streamline mill maintenance. Voith Industrial Services together with Voith Paper is here the competent partner, using all synergy effects and, therefore, stabilizing the production line efficiency on a high level.

Fiber and raw material costs are a major concern for papermakers as they represent a significant amount of the total cost. We have developed solutions such as fiber loading to reduce these costs.

The paper industry ranks among the five most energy-intensive branches.

We, together with our Voith Paper divisions, are doing our part to develop solutions to reduce these costs.

To find the perfect key for all these concerns, we have to focus on innovations. This is exactly what we have done with the creation of our Paper Technology Center (PTC) in Heidenheim. Everything that has an influence on quality, process efficiency and paper quality in papermaking is here available for research.

For the first time, we can research the entire paper production process – from fiber to paper. Here, our customers will have the possibility of developing and experimenting with completely new machine concepts. This research center is the dream of every papermaker and opens so far unknown opportunities!

The Paper Technology Center is our key to the future. We have it in our hands, and we will use it for a more successful business of our customers!

H. P. Sollinger

on behalf of the Voith Paper Team