Klabin celebrates PM 9 first anniversary

A masterpiece has been delivered

With a yearly production capacity of 350,000 tons, Klabin today has the largest virgin fiber board machine in Brazil. The PM 9 is specifically developed to produce Liquid Packaging Board (LPB), Folding Box Board (FBB) and Carrier Board. The machine was installed in the Monte Alegre mill in Telêmaco Borba (federal state of Paraná) and is already in full operation.

Almost 400 days have passed since Brazil's major producer and exporter of paper and cardboard completed one of the most important projects undertaken by the company in that country – the MA-1100 – and started up its core component, the PM 9. 'MA' stands for Monte Alegre and '1100' for the 1.1 million tons capacity of the paper mill. Project planning began around 2003. Voith Paper experts initially suggested a few alternatives to improve LPB production, such as rebuilding the PM 4 and PM 6, which, after several studies, proved not to be the best solution. As Klabin has been a long-term supplier to Tetra Pak in a 25-year partnership, the realization of the MA-1100 project was seen as necessary in order to support the foreseen growing market demand, as only few companies around the world have the technology to supply LPB.

A tight space and a tight schedule

One of the major challenges of the MA-1100 project was to find space in the Monte Alegre mill. The site is

One of the several groups visiting the paper machine during the opening ceremony.

The red cable car hovers above Rio Tibagi. Employees have an incomparable view to the Monte Alegre.

Official opening. Council of Administration of Klabin, Mr. Roberto Requião (Governor of the state of Paraná) and Mr. Miguel Jorge (Minister of Development, Industry and Exterior Trade Department for Brazil).

located between the Harmonia and Tibagi rivers, and the mill is built on a steep hill, which made it very difficult to find space for a 250-meter-long paper machine and its building. The solution was to move the sheeting plant and to build the new machine room on that site. About 60,000 truckloads of material had to be moved to the site.

This was not the only challenge: achieving the agreed deadline was crucial for Klabin and Voith. Acquisition of the PM 9 was approved by Klabin on April 21st, 2006, and Voith had the mission to build the machine and start it up within 17 months.

In order to speed up the process, Voith invested in pre-engineering and research before the project acceptance, defining all the items that were required for the sucess of the project before the official start. The Process Line Package acquired by Klabin from Voith was also of great help. Voith became responsible for all technical parts of the project, from the civil construction supervision to the start-up itself, involving 40 direct suppliers and almost 400 indirect vendors. Voith Paper Brazil set up a project management "war room" in the company's headquarters in São Paulo, where weekly meetings were held to monitor and control the situation in all areas involved.

On October 15th, 2007, Klabin and Voith started up the PM 9 exactly at 8 pm, producing its first paper parent reel, which was celebrated at the mill and also throughout the company in Brazil. The machine is now operating at full production. Klabin's engineers believe that soon the PM 9 will surpass the level of production foreseen for it.

Contact

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Customer Comment

Francisco C. Razzolini
Project, Industrial Technology & Purchasing Director

"We at Klabin felt really comfortable with the final design that we achieved for the PM 9 with the help of Voith's professionals. With the trials we did and all the references we searched, we felt very confident of Voith's qualifications to build this particular machine. They have a large presence in Brazil, with a large, qualified body of technicians. Voith delivered a masterpiece."

Infobox

With the Process Line Package (PLP), Klabin acquired the complete stock preparation system, the approach flow system, board machine, winder, roll transport and wrapping systems, ancillary equipment, the electrical equipment as well as installation and start-up.