



The Ultimate Synergy – Voith Fabrics, Voith Paper and the Customer

Extreme conditions demand extreme fabrics was the theme for Voith Fabrics' first-ever International Customer Seminar, held March 10-12th in Cologne, Germany. The event showcased the ultimate synergy – Voith Fabrics, Voith Paper and the global papermaker – and brought together over 70 Graphics customers from 15 countries to discuss the latest Voith Fabrics innovations in paper machine clothing technology.



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The event began on the evening of Wednesday, March 10th, when Dr. Peter Huber, SVP Europe/Asia, warmly welcomed over 100 guests to the Voith Fabrics Graphic Papers International Customer Seminar. After Dr. Huber's welcome, the guests moved upstairs to the top floor of the Dorint Kongress Hotel to

enjoy a lovely dinner and a spectacular view of the Kölner Dom.

Thursday morning began with Voith Paper Technology CEO and Member of the Voith Corporate Board of Management, Hans Müller, providing the welcome and setting the tone for the entire day of presen-





tations. An impressive series of technical papers and reports followed.

The first section of presentations, the forming section, was led by Jorma Järvinen, Application Leader/Forming for Voith Fabrics. Järvinen introduced the latest breakthroughs in forming fabric technology, the PrintForm H Series fabrics. The PrintForm H Series have been designed to provide papermakers with better printability, improved sheet quality, excellent runnability and reduced sheet two-sidedness. The PrintForm H Series includes: PrintForm HA, PrintForm HC and PrintForm HT.

Papermakers were then given a presentation on the VP Duo Gap Former from Cordula Mraz, Technology Engineer/Forming for Voith Paper. The presentation highlighted the Voith Paper former family (including the DuoFormer TQ, TQv and TQm) as well as recent rebuilds and experiences.

Part 2 of the day's presentations was led by Hans Ragvald, Voith Fabrics' Application Engineer/Press. Ragvald reviewed the benefits of Voith Fabrics' Four-Stage Platform for pressing, which provides solutions with stage one Vector® tri-axial designs and stage two PrintFlex P. PrintFlex P is Voith Fabrics' latest press innovation to hit the market. It offers improved press dewatering, increased sheet smoothness, greater wear resistance and

has proven to provide better print quality and a reduced level of missing dots.

Thomas Augscheller, Product Manager/Press for Voith Paper, and Dr. Jens Müller, Head of Center of Competence NipcoFlex and QualiFlex, followed with presentations covering economical paper production with modern press concepts and innovations in press sleeve technology for shoe presses.

Following lunch was the third and final section of presentations, the dryer section. Rolf Sieger, Voith Fabrics' Sales and Product Manager/Dryers, reviewed the PrintTech family of dryer products – PrintTech QS, PrintTech QC and PrintTech M. These new generation dryer fabrics are proving to show superior web control, high drying capacity, easy installation, high seam strength and increased abrasion resistance for improved fabric life.

Dominik Mai, Technology Engineer/Drying for Voith Paper, followed up the dryer fabrics presentation by reviewing the latest in TopDuoRun concepts – developments in the single-tier dryer section that can change the appearance and performance of future paper machines.

Each segment of presentations was accompanied by a customer case study – showcasing the value-added solutions achieved by teaming Voith Paper, as well

as other machines including Metso, with Voith Fabrics. Dr. Josef Hafellner, SCA Laakirchen; Mr. David Procter, Stora Enso Port Hawkesbury; and Christian Schürmann, Sachsen Paper, presented and discussed their mill's experience working with Voith Fabrics.

An exciting evening followed in the oldest beer cellars in Cologne, the "Gir Kellar". A typical Kölner-style buffet was served as customers and Voithians enjoyed music from a live band.

The following day was dedicated to touring the latest in high-tech machinery, Hürth PM 1 at Rhein Papier. Dr. Hans-Peter Sollinger, Member of Voith Corporate Board of Management, provided the welcome and highlighted the benefits of the synergy between Voith Paper and Voith Fabrics. Dirk Schwarze, Operating Manager, Hürth PM 1 provided the introduction to the tour and led over 100 guests through the high-class facility.

The successful two days in Cologne were a result of an ultimate synergy between Voith Fabrics, Voith Paper and the customer. Through verbal follow up, the sales managers have reported customers were impressed with the teamwork shown throughout the presentations and dialogues from Voith Paper Technology. Showcasing of the latest Voith Fabrics innovations reminded all who attended that extreme conditions demand extreme fabrics.