

Amcor Cartonboard – Australasia Petrie Mill invests in the future



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Amcor Cartonboard Australasia invested US\$ 40 million to replace the Wet End of their board machine at Petrie Mill with a state-of-the-art Multifourdrinier forming section. The objective of this upgrade was to improve quality and to offer their customers the best board they can possibly make.

Rebuilding for the Future

Amcor Cartonboard's Petrie Mill is a member of a major international packaging company and is the only coated cartonboard producer in Australia. Its primary market is Australasia and Asia. Although Amcor is the major supplier to the Australasian greyback market, the intention of the upgrade is to increase the market share of the whiteback market and open new avenues for the premium end of the market such as pharmaceuticals, cosmetics, confectionery and high quality printing.

Improving quality and keeping pace with market demands and progress have always been major motivating factors in the Amcor Cartonboard philosophy. The firm go-ahead for the wet end project was given by the Amcor Board in October 2002 and Voith Paper São Paulo was chosen as the major supplier.

The Wet End Components

The Multifourdrinier forming section supplied by Voith Paper is the concept used by majority of the leading Cartonboard

Technical Data

Paper grades	4-ply white lined chipboard
Basis weight	240-467 g/m ²
Wire width	4,060 mm
Untrimmed width	3,550 mm
Max. operating speed	500 m/min
Design speed	600 m/min

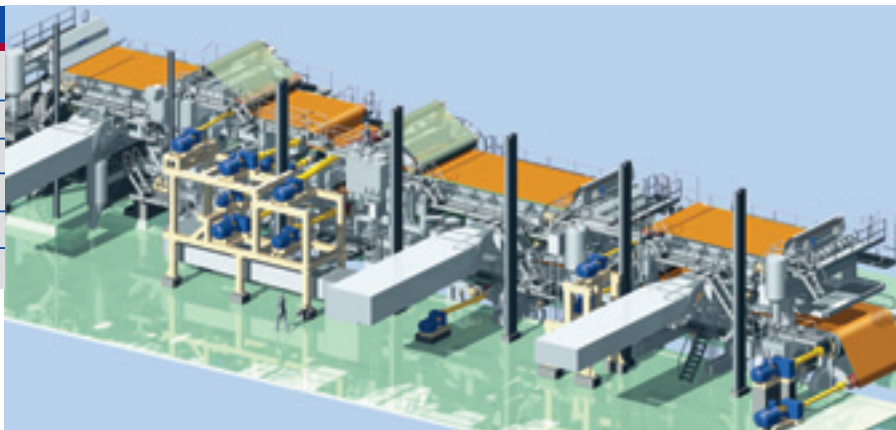


Fig. 1: Wet End components.

Fig. 2: Petrie Mill: Wet end of the BM.



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manufactures around the world. It comprises a fourdrinier for each of the four plies resulting in a top product quality. Each fourdrinier has a headbox type MasterJet F/B. The Middle Ply headbox features the dilution control through a ModuleJet system that permits excellent basis weight control. The Middle Ply and Under Top Ply forming section each have a DuoFormer DC installed enabling optimum formation with a higher basis weight split. With a length of more than 40 meters, it is one of the longest wet ends ever manufactured by Voith Paper.

Because of the upgrade, the approach flow system was also slight modified to be compatible with the new Wet End. It was necessary to rebuild the screening systems. The upgrade mainly involved the installation of MultiScreen pressure screens, fine slotted screens on all four plies that remove impurities, a Mini-Sorter for handling the rejects from the middle ply and twin impeller fan pumps.

The Project

Project results on each individual project phase really exceeded expectations. The perfect planning and interaction between Amcor and Voith started during the sales phase and contract phase with the discussion of an optimization plan that also included machine sections beyond Voith Paper’s scope of supply.

Voith Paper provided an extensive training program to the Petrie Mill. The training included an interactive 3D module, class room and on site training sections.

The perfect interaction between Amcor, Voith Paper and the contractor during the erection and commissioning led to a very smooth and safe start-up on April 12, 2004 and the results were nothing but outstanding.

Due to the common goal of all parties involved, excellent results were achieved very shortly after start-up and the preliminary machine acceptance document was issued less than 4 weeks later, on May 07, 2004.

In order to achieve the project’s premium Cartonboard quality goal, machine sections like press, dryer, calender, coater etc were analyzed. A team of specialists from Voith Paper and Voith Fabrics visited Petrie to check the machine and make suggestions for improvements.

A consultant for coater chemistry joined the team for the optimization of the exiting coater.

Voith Paper would like to thank all persons that contributed to the outstanding results of this project and looks forward to a long and strong partnership with Amcor group.



Bob Scard

**Project Manager
Amcor
Cartonboard**

Dick Lock

**Production Manager
Amcor
Cartonboard**

“Dealing with Voith Brazil has been nothing but a positive experience. Their expertise and professionalism is second to none”, Bob Scard, Petrie Project Manager, stated. According to the Petrie team, the Voith engineers listened to Petrie’s problems and suggestions. “Voith has a flexible and open-minded team of experts and they tailor each machine to the specific requirements of their customers. Also, being an international company, most of the Voith people speak fluent English and the language posed no problems”, Dick Lock explained. Every stage, from design to construction, pre-assembly, packing for shipment and start-up of the wet end has gone smoothly so far and there are no obvious reasons why this project should not conclude without any major problems. Amcor Cartonboard has nothing but praise for Voith Brazil. “It was a pleasure dealing with them”, Bob Scard added.