

Krkonoske Papirny – first SpeedSizer in the Czech Republic



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After extensive project activity and intensive rebuild preparations both on the part of Krkonoske Papirny (KRPA) and Voith Paper with the consortium partner ABB Cellier (rebuild of color kitchen), the time had come at last: The active phase of installation and start-up of the rebuild on and around PM 6 in Hostinné was finished with the “preliminary take-over-protocol” and finally successfully concluded with the signing of the “final acceptance-protocol” on 27 January 2005.



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After proof had already been provided for the troublefree production of writing paper and the required test run for “grease-proof paper” (suitable for food-wrapping purposes), the last contractual acceptance test run for CF paper was successfully carried out on 26 January 2005.

This success was the result of intensive cooperation between KRPA and Voith Paper. All phases of the rebuild project were marked by mutual trust and clear orientation toward goals.

KRPA is a company that is now in private hands. A total of four production facilities operate in the Czech Republic and in Slovakia. Three paper machines, two fairly small coating machines and a series of other paper processing machines operate at the headquarters in Hostinné. It is located at the foot of the Riesengebirge, with the upper reaches of the River Elbe meandering through the premises.

In Hostinné, KRPA produces graphic, greaseproof and CF paper grades (coated

front) in a basis weight range of 30 to 80 g/m². These grades are finish-processed for the final consumer in the company’s own finishing department and printing shop. This form of vertical diversification ensures KRPA, above all, close contact with the final customer.

PM 6 was installed in 1984, with the main supply coming from the Soviet Union. Within the past 20 years a number of modernization measures have been taken on PM 6. In the course of these, Voith supplied a new approach flow system and a new headbox in 1996.

To continue to be competitive in the global marketplace in the future, KRPA decided in 2003 to replace the old size press with a modern film press of the SpeedSizer type. This decision to invest demonstrated KRPA’s entrepreneurial vision.

The overall concept, which Voith Paper was able to carry through in the course of the negotiations in the face of exten-

Fig. 1: Start-up team.

Fig. 2: Upper course of the River Elbe in Hostinné.

Fig. 3: The new SpeedSizer.



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sive competition, is based on the following scope of supply and services: SpeedSizer, web run, Airturn, hot-air dryer, basic engineering/overall concept air system + steam and condensate system, the respective associated control modules, rebuild of the coating color kitchen (including agitator mixing tank, digester for Meypro film coating and workstation for SpeedSizer, including the integration

of automation into the existing ABB DCS). Installation and start-up supervision as well as the training of the operating personnel by Voith Paper and its consortium partners rounded off the package. Spare and wear parts were additionally included in the scope of supply.

The following goals were associated with the rebuild measures:

To increase the production capacity of PM 6 by 20%, to provide for on-line application of the CF layer for the production of duplicating papers and to significantly expand the range by greaseproof papers (KH Pack) with the possibility of applying different application fluids to the top side and bottom side. It was also intended to achieve savings in the metering rates of the application fluids.

In particular the possibility of now being able to produce CF paper on-line in the paper machine and no longer, as up to now, to run over the air knives at a separate coating machine makes for a considerable improvement in the utilization of the entire paper mill. It saves re-reeling and the capacity of the air knives freed can be utilized for other coating tasks, resulting in another increase in effectivity of the entire plant.

With the results achieved up to now the demanding goals of the project can be met or even exceeded.

