

## Voith Paper acquires dewatering product line from Kvaerner



**Yet another important acquisition of enormous strategic significance has been completed within the Voith Paper Fiber Systems Division almost simultaneously with the take-over of Finckh, – the purchase of the Recycling and Dewatering Division of Kvaerner Pulp and Paper, Norway.**

With effect from November 30th, 2001, all previous activities as well as the complete know-how and in particular all employees have been taken over by Voith Paper. The Centre of Product for dewatering is now Voith Paper AS in Lier, Norway, where approximately half of the 60 employees are located. The others are employed at the locations in Charlotte (USA) and Laval (Canada) and have been integrated into the organizational structure of Voith Paper Fiber Systems in North America.

This acquisition complements the Voith product range, especially in dewatering, where Kvaerner is the world's leader for screw presses and disk filters for the pulp and paper industry. Voith Paper has thus extended its product range with equipment of high strategic importance, and at exactly the right time, now that the co-operation with Andritz will come to an end. The desired co-operation with Kvaerner FiberLine will, if not immedi-



*From left to right: Dag Ivar Caspersen, Manager, Sales and Project Management; Pål Bendiksen, Manager, Product Development; Lars Smedsrud, Product Manager, Dispersers; Morten Haga, Product Manager, Screw Presses; Even Gulowsen, Manager, Finance and Administration; Terje Fjellkleiv, Product Manager, Disk Filters.*



*Picture top left: Two disk filters in a newsprint mill.*

*Picture below: Christen Grønvold-Hansen, Managing Director, Voith Paper AS, in front of two screw presses in a kraftliner mill in Sweden.*

ately, certainly be of importance in the medium term. As a process supplier, we need to extend our knowledge of the characteristics of virgin fibres. In addition, both partners see interesting synergies for their products. Timing was the decisive factor for the acquisition of Kvaerner Recycling and Dewatering. From now on, Voith Paper offers a competitive product line for thickening, dewatering and fiber recovery. We can now concentrate our know-how and fully dedicate our efforts to the ongoing development of a proven product line.

After all the uncertainties the employees of Kvaerner have had to endure over the past few years, and even more so in the past months, we could feel how relieved the Kvaerner team was when the future co-operation with Voith was signed and sealed. In the meantime, we have got to know our new colleagues and find it a pleasure to work with such friendly and uncomplicated people.