



Hans Müller,
Voith Paper

Dear Customer, dear Reader,

The past year 2001 has been a rewarding one for all divisions within the Voith Group of Companies that supply to the pulp and paper industry.

Bookings and sales were at an all time high with a correspondingly good financial performance.

We do not anticipate the same order intake performance for the current business year, although our strong performance in China seems to compensate to some degree for the slowing demand in most of the other geographic regions.

Consolidation continues unabated among our customers. Likewise we, Voith Paper, have continued to complement our product platform with the acquisitions of Kvaerner Recycling and Finckh, both becoming members of the Fiber Systems Division.

Jagenberg Papiertechnik in Neuss, Germany, Enfield, USA and Basagoitia, Spain will enhance our position in both paper machine divisions, graphic and board and packaging, as well as in the finishing and service divisions.

In addition to the acquisitions just mentioned, we have converted long lasting license relationships with IHI, Japan and Larsen Toubro in India into joint ventures. Both ventures will solidify our footholds in these two most important markets.

With these new members, and in conjunction with Voith Fabrics, we are now in the position to offer the most comprehensive process know-how and the technology and products for every demand in the paper and board industry.

As China continues to develop into a major producer of pulp and paper, we have committed to building a state-of-the-art service center in Shanghai for roll services and roll covers, as well as for a mechanical service center in Huatai, Shangdong Province.

Last but not least, we have added roll cover capabilities in our service center in Düren, Germany.

This issue of twogether No. 13 clearly demonstrates our wide range of activities. This is depicted by the article on the Ultrastar machine of Sappi Gratkorn, Austria, representing the world's largest unit for the production of coated free sheet or the highly cost-effective newsprint machine of Inland Empire in the USA.

With our growing sensitivity towards providing elements and components for the enhancement of productivity, we are successfully deploying products such as the forming fabric Horizon™ or press felts such as the Vector™. In this issue you will read about many more products of low investment demands, but high and quick returns.

We recognize and appreciate that all these achievements could only be attained with your continued confidence and support of Voith Paper and Voith Fabrics.

Thanks for all this and enjoy reading our twogether No. 13!

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Hans Müller". The signature is fluid and cursive.

Hans Müller

On behalf of the Voith Team Supplying the Pulp and Paper Industry