

Media Release

Voith Paper

Mailing address:
J.M. Voith SE & Co. KG
Global Communications Voith Paper
St. Poeltener Strasse 43
89522 Heidenheim, Germany
Tel. +49 7321 37-2209
www.voith.com

Successful start-up of Asia Symbol's Rugao board machine 13

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- Asia Symbol's Rugao BM 13 starts up successfully and will produce one million tons of high-quality white folding boxboard per year
- The full line was supplied by Voith and is characterized by excellent performance in terms of product quality, production efficiency, and operating and maintenance costs
- Project reflects important partnership between Voith and Asia Symbol and reinforces the strategic alliance of both companies in the paper industry

RUGAO, CHINA / HEIDENHEIM, GERMANY. At the end of October, Voith successfully started up Asia Symbol's BM 13 at Rugao, 180 km north of Shanghai, China. The state-of-the-art machine is 8.16 m wide with a design speed of 1,400 m/min and an annual capacity of around one million tons. It mainly produces high-quality white folding boxboard in the basis weight range of 170 to 400 gsm.

“Voith has always been a reliable partner for us. Thanks to Voith's full-line package, the Rugao BM 13 achieves excellent results in terms of product quality, production efficiency, and operating and maintenance costs, which further strengthens our competitive advantage in the market,” says Eric Xu, General Manager Rugao BM 13 of Asia Symbol.

“I thank both teams for the successful start-up! Asia Symbol is a partner that always sets new goals to achieve excellence. We look forward to deepening our business relationship in the future,” says Carlos Lin, Senior Vice President Order Execution and Operations, Voith Paper Asia.

The full-line solution supplied by Voith for the Rugao BM 13 includes a wide portfolio of state-of-the-art solutions, from BlueLine stock preparation and intelligent XcelLine paper machine to two VariFlex Performance winders with a fully automated Flying Splice reel change. For the plant,

Voith and Asia Symbol placed a special focus on sustainable and efficient solutions. In addition to the resource-saving Triple NipcoFlex press, an energy-efficient EcoHood dryer hood, ropeless transfer in the dryer section and contactless qDry Pro drying with the HelioX infrared emitters are installed. Voith also supplied a comprehensive wear parts package and a wide range of automation solutions, including the OnControl MCS, DCS, Drive Control, OnQuality MD/CD Control and the OnCare Health condition monitoring system.

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Successful project despite challenges

Despite a tight timeframe, complex tasks and challenging conditions due to the global pandemic, the project was successfully implemented. The project team benefited from mutual trust based on many years of successful cooperation. The Voith and Asia Symbol team worked cross-nationally with the local teams and enabled a smooth execution of the project through very close and committed cooperation from planning to implementation.

The commissioning of Rugao BM 13 now strengthens Asia Symbol's market position and reinforces its supply chain. The line supports Asia Symbol's goal of reducing CO₂ emissions from paper production and promoting the joint development of local upstream and downstream industries. The start-up has laid a solid foundation for future cooperation and development between the two parties, which aim to further deepen their collaboration in the fields of technological innovation and sustainable development.

About Asia Symbol

Asia Symbol is a world leading producer of pulp and paper under the RGE Group. Its main products are BHKP, NBKP, DP, liquid packaging board, high grade ivory board and uncoated wood-free printing and office paper. The products are sold at home and abroad. Asia Symbol is committed to sustainable development and the exploration of long-term renewable resources for paper production to facilitate regional economic development and the welfare of the local community. The company's principle is to operate in a manner that creates value for the community, the country, the climate, the customer and the company.

About the Voith Group

The Voith Group is a global technology company. With its broad portfolio of systems, products, services and digital applications, Voith sets standards in the markets of energy, paper, raw materials and transport & automotive.

Founded in 1867, Voith today has around 21,000 employees and earns 4.9 billion euros in sales. It has locations in more than 60 countries and is one of Europe's major family-owned companies.

The Group Division Voith Paper is part of the Voith Group. As the full-line supplier to the paper industry, it provides the largest range of technologies, services and products on the market, and offers paper manufacturers integrated solutions from one source. The company's continuous stream of innovations facilitates resource-conserving production and helps customers minimize their carbon footprint. With its comprehensive automation products and leading digitalization solutions from the Papermaking 4.0 portfolio, Voith offers its customers state-of-the-art digital technologies to improve plant availability and efficiency for all sections of the production process.

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Rugao BM 13 will produce one million tons of high-quality white folding boxboard per year.

Contact

Naomi Keitel
Manager Global Communications Voith Paper
Tel. +49 7321 37 2209
Naomi.Keitel@Voith.com

LinkedIn

<https://www.linkedin.com/company/voithgroup>
<https://www.linkedin.com/company/voith-hydro>
<https://www.linkedin.com/company/voith-paper>
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