

Media Release

Voith Paper

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Voith Paper celebrates 10 years of BlueLine stock preparation technologies

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- Market leader in stock preparation
- Products stand for low energy consumption, low maintenance costs, reduced water consumption and fiber loss, high runability and safety
- Voith continues to research and develop innovative solutions to further improve efficiency and resource savings in stock preparation

HEIDENHEIM, GERMANY. Voith's stock preparation solutions are used by paper manufacturers all over the world. Since 2014, the full-line supplier's innovative BlueLine technologies have represented an exemplary level of sustainability, cost savings and futureproofing. The resource-saving, low-maintenance BlueLine product range has established itself in the industry as the gold standard for robust and efficient stock preparation systems and now comprises over 20 product families. Worldwide, BlueLine systems produce suspension for 40.4 million tons of paper, with more than 85 large BlueLine OCC systems in operation. This makes Voith the market leader in stock preparation.

Clear focus on resource efficiency and user-friendliness

“Essentially, 2014 marked the culmination of a series of profound innovations – and the jump-start to a new era in stock preparation,” reports Steffen Bassmann, Director Products Fiber Systems at Voith Paper. The more than 20 innovative product families are designed in such a way that they can be used to equip all standard system sizes and variants on the market. All components stand for proven Voith quality with low costs for energy, fiber, water and maintenance as well as improved runability and occupational safety. The optimized solutions can achieve efficiency increases of between 20 and 30 percent, which go hand in hand with considerable cost savings and more environmentally friendly processes.

“We provide robust machinery, highly automated processes and expert services that save fiber, water and energy,” says Bassman. “And we continue to do this on a scale that nobody thought possible before 2014.”

Global references confirm success

Modern Karton, Turkey's largest manufacturer of cardboard and packaging paper, was one of the first customers to install BlueLine products. “We are proud to be among the pioneers in using BlueLine innovations, which gives us significant benefits in increased fiber yield and remarkably reduced energy consumption,” reports Ersin Şahin, Production Director at Modern Karton. “These outstanding results are supporting us in taking our operations up to the next level of performance and process stability. Especially impressive is the capability of the Voith stock preparation system to handle high reject rates in raw material, up to 15 percent, with the Voith BluePulp LC pulping system. This means we have expanded alternatives in choosing raw materials,” says Şahin. The company confirmed its trust in Voith with the installation of a high-speed paper machine with BlueLine stock preparation last year, which produces 2,400 tons of recycled corrugated base paper every day and underlined further its commitment to innovation with the installation of one of the first smart InfibraFiner DG Refiner for PM 3.

Voith has also supplied numerous BlueLine stock preparation systems to the Chinese paper industry in recent years. In 2017, for example, OCC stock preparation systems were supplied to the Chinese paper manufacturer Shanying Suzhou Paper for its two paper machines PM 21 and PM 22. Huaqiao Fenghuang also equipped its PM 6, which produces 2,200 tons of paper per day, with the latest BlueLine machines. Production Manager Jia Tinghe reports: “Voith has provided us with excellent support and services. In the future, we look forward to our cooperation continuing to achieve greater success.”

At the German corrugated base paper manufacturer Schoellershammer in Düren, an OCC stock preparation system for 800 tons of paper per day was installed on PM 6 in 2016. An average OCC plant would require over 120 kWh of electricity per ton to operate. At Schoellershammer, this value is around 60 kWh/t. Armin Vetter, Managing Director Production and Technology at Schoellershammer, is convinced: “Thanks to the BlueLine stock preparation system and the XcellLine paper machine, we have achieved high energy efficiency and can produce packaging papers in a resource-saving way. Our trust in Voith has paid off, we are extremely satisfied with the solutions.”

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In 2019, the German paper mill Palm in Aalen also ordered a stock preparation system from Voith for its PM 5 with a production volume of 2,200 tons per day. Five hundred tons are supplied by an innovative pulping concept that reduces energy consumption by over 30 percent compared to conventional pulping systems. "Thanks to Voith's tailor-made concept, expertise and professional support, we were able to achieve and even exceed the performance targets within a very short time. In the area of sustainability, the technology takes a top position and is a good tool to further increase our resource efficiency and achieve our goals," summarizes Stephan Gruber, Chief Technology Officer, Palm.

In the United States, more than 10 OCC systems with a production volume of around 16,910 tons per day in various sizes have been sold since the BlueLine was launched. Among them is the U.S. paper manufacturer Pratt Industries in Henderson, Kentucky, which last year commissioned Voith to supply a BlueLine stock preparation system for its paper machine for 1,450 tons of paper per day. Other notable projects in the U.S. include the delivery of an OCC stock preparation system to the paper manufacturer Green Bay Packaging, where Voith, with its many years of experience as a full-line supplier, successfully designed and installed the complete production line consisting of a BlueLine stock preparation and paper machine. "We're saving considerable amounts of fiber, energy and water with the help of Voith's innovative technologies," says Matt Szymanski, Vice President of Mill Operations at Green Bay Packaging. "Voith's solutions have proven to be a game-changer, setting new benchmarks for sustainability and efficiency in our operations."

Voith will continue to expand its BlueLine stock preparation portfolio in the future. The focus will continue to be on resource conservation and, in particular, system automation. The aim is to provide solutions for even more efficient, profitable and safer paper production and to further minimize environmental impact.

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, the company today has around 22,000 employees, sales of € 5.5 billion and locations in over 60 countries worldwide and is thus one of the larger family-owned companies in Europe.

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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 holistic solutions from one source. The company's continuous stream of innovations facilitates resource-conserving production and helps customers minimize their carbon footprint. With its leading automation products and 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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VOITH

10 Years BlueLine Fiber Systems



Voith's BlueLine products have been contributing to resource-efficient and reliable stock preparation for 10 years.

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