

## Media Release

Voith Paper

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### Asia Symbol's BM 13 successfully reaches Final Acceptance just 11 months after start-up

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- The Rugao BM 13 achieved its Final Acceptance Certificate in just 11 months of operation.
- The maximum design speed was reached in just eight months.
- The project is a testament to the strong and trusting partnership between Voith and Asia Symbol.

**RUGAO, CHINA/HEIDENHEIM.** The Rugao BM 13 has achieved its Final Acceptance Certificate (FAC) in an impressive 11 months of start-up. This milestone not only demonstrates the impressive performance of Voith but also the strength of the partnership with Asia Symbol and the high efficiency of Voith's full-line approach.

The machine has a wire width of 8,900 mm and a design speed of 1,400 m/min. Currently, Rugao BM 13 is the longest paper machine in China, spanning a total length of 516 meters from the headbox to the winders. It now reliably produces high-quality white folding boxboard and reached its maximum design speed of 1,400 m/min in only eight months. For products in the 300 to 400 gsm range, production has already exceeded design capacity.

The Rugao BM 13 has also set an impressive nine-day record without paper breaks and maintains a high production rate of 98 percent, further enhancing Asia Symbol's competitive edge in the market. The exceptional performance of the Rugao BM 13 has been crucial to achieving FAC in just 11 months.

"Achieving FAC in just 11 months demonstrates the professionalism of Voith's full-line approach, which further strengthens our competitive advantage in high-quality folding boxboard production," comments Jigang

Xia, Operations Director at Asia Symbol. "We are very grateful for the full support and collaboration of the Voith team."

Rugao BM 13 is equipped with a full-line solution from Voith, including the advanced BlueLine stock preparation, the intelligent XcellLine, and two VariFlex Performance winders with fully automated Flying Splice reel change. The solution also integrates sustainable and efficient technologies such as the EcoHood dryer hood, the resource-saving Triple NipcoFlex press, ropeless threading in the dryer section, and contactless qDry Pro drying with HelioX infrared emitters. Voith also provided a comprehensive automation package, including the OnControl MCS, DCS, Drive Control, OnQuality MD/CD Control, and the OnCare.Health condition monitoring system.

The Rugao BM 13 has four full-ranged material handling lines all provided by Meri, covering from unit loading to dewatered bale feeding. The material handling system consists of a UDM dewatering machine, a DSU destacker, a DVIR single bale dewatering machine, an MD metal detector, chain conveyors and a slat conveyor. Meri also provided a high level of automation control system and feeding monitoring system.

"I am proud of the outstanding success we have achieved in signing the FAC of Rugao BM 13 only 11 months after start-up," says Rene Bauer, Project Manager at Voith Paper Heidenheim. "I am convinced that this was only possible due to the close and cooperative partnership between the two Voith teams and Asia Symbol."

"The success of the Rugao BM 13 project stems from the strong, cooperative relationship between Voith and Asia Symbol teams," says Xiaodong Gong, Senior Project Manager at Voith Paper China. "With timely, open communication and a focus on effective problem-solving, both sides worked pragmatically and professionally, creating a mutual understanding that has been key to smooth project advancement and ongoing optimization."

The successful and timely completion of the Rugao BM 13 project sets a new standard for reliability and quality in the sustainable papermaking industry, showcasing the expertise and teamwork between Voith and Asia Symbol.

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## About Asia Symbol

Asia Symbol is a leading global producer of pulp and paper under the umbrella of the RGE Group. Its main products are bleached hardwood kraft pulp, northern bleached softwood kraft, dissolving pulp and cartonboard packaging for liquid food products as well as high-quality coated primary fiber cartonboard and uncoated wood-free printing and office paper. The products are sold at home and abroad.

Asia Symbol is committed to sustainability and development of long-term renewable resources for paper production to promote regional economic development and the well-being of the local community. The company's principle is to operate in a way that creates value for the community, land, climate, customer and 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. Founded in 1867, Voith today has around 22,000 employees, sales of € 5.2 billion and locations in over 60 countries worldwide and thus is one of the larger family-owned companies in Europe.

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 a single source. The company's continuous stream of innovations facilitates resource-conserving production and supports customers in significantly reducing 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 the availability and efficiency of their systems in all sections of the production process.

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