

ABB's Multivariable Cross Direction (MCD)

New advanced control a huge success for pulp & paper customers

Dundalk, Ireland, March 24, 2009 – ABB, the pioneer of the Quality Control industry receives quick customer acceptance of their new Multivariable Cross Direction (MCD) Control package. In a short period of time there has been over 10 paper machine installations and considerable customer interest.

ABB's Multivariable Cross Direction (MCD) Control is built upon many years of technology leadership in the area of advanced MD & CD controls. The MCD application simultaneously optimizes and balances multiple paper quality CD profiles, while coordinating the contributions of multiple sets of CD actuators within their optimal operational limits.

Key benefits of ABB's Multivariable Cross Direction Control include:

- Minimizing energy consumption when the increased application of an actuator carries a penalty of increased energy demand; for example, the coordination of a rewet shower and a steambox can result in reducing the consumption of both steam and water.
- Achieving the optimum balance between competing quality objectives; for example, the application of both slice actuators and dilution actuators on a machine to balance the objectives of a uniform weight profile and a uniform fiber orientation profile.
- Reducing expensive coating additives (used to improve gloss) and improve reel building by optimizing MD and CD gloss, moisture and caliper, simultaneously on a supercalender.
- Faster recovery from process upsets by reducing the machine-direction variation that results from independent control of multiple actuator sets.
- MCD achieves these goals by coordinating multiple sets of CD actuators used for controlling multiple profiles of sheet properties. It delivers the most effective results by empowering operators to set the best balance among the objectives using a simple and intuitive operator interface.

ABB (www.abb.com) is a leader in power and automation technologies that enable utility and industry customers to improve their performance while lowering environmental impact. The ABB Group of companies operates in around 100 countries and employs about 120,000 people.

For help with any of the technical terms in this release, please go to www.abb.com/glossary

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