

For your business and technology editors

ABB QCS Introduces New Optical Caliper Sensor

Finally papermakers can measure and control caliper even on the most demanding paper grades.

Dundalk, Ireland, 14th May, 2009 – ABB, the pioneer in Quality Control System introduces its ground-breaking new Optical Caliper sensor. ABB has developed the sensor based on revolutionary optical technology to measure caliper online with unrivaled accuracy and stability.

Accurate caliper measurement and control are critical for defining paper quality and achieving customer satisfaction. Traditionally this has been achieved through the use of dual-sided contacting caliper sensors, but some paper applications pose severe challenges for contacting caliper measurement technology. For this reason, paper makers have been asking for a new type of caliper measurement, which overcomes the weaknesses associated with contacting caliper.

ABB has introduced a new optical on-line measurement that measures caliper without two-sided contact of the sheet, and without laser triangulation and the inherent inaccuracies that arise from penetration of the laser light into the sheet surface. The new sensor uses a different optical approach which provides greatly improved measurement accuracy and stability. The sensor is ideal for applications where the sliding skis of traditional caliper sensors gives rise to problems. The new Optical Caliper Sensor is based on a confocal displacement measurement technique. The same technology has made recent advances in microscopy, thin-film research and semiconductor manufacturing.

This new sensor, the latest in ABB's 50-year history of pioneering on-line paper quality measurements, finally provides papermakers with the precision tool to measure and control caliper even for some quite demanding paper grades.

The new ABB Optical Caliper sensor will be on display at the forthcoming Zellcheming Expo in Wiesbaden, Germany 23rd – 25th June 2009. To find out more, contact your local ABB Account Manager and visit www.abb.com/pulpandpaper

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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