

Service

New decision support system based on Zellcheming standards

ABB has good news to report: what is known as the Decision Support System DSS800 was installed only recently at the Stora Enso production facility in Imatra, Finland. One of the biggest modernisation projects in the CPM systems field (Collaborative Production Management) in the paper and pulp industry is involved here.

The order placed by Stora Enso covered production tracking and planning, the real-time management of quality, process data, material and costs and a number of other functions, not least of all including the Decision Support System DSS800.

A number of the 150 employees that work for ABB at its CPM centre of excellence in Helsinki spent almost three years developing the innovative product. German engineers will certainly be delighted about one special feature of the system: DSS800 is based on the standards in the Zellcheming leaflet 3/2004. "We considered a whole series of different standards, but this solution simply represented the best and most comprehensive way to describe the efficiency of a paper machine", says Jukka Kostiainen, the Product Manager responsible for the DSS800 project.

The Stora Enso mill in Imatra was an obvious choice as the test site for DSS800, because the entire facility was already equipped with ABB systems. "We already cooperated closely during the development phase", says Kostiainen. "Apart from this, the facility was ideal



Jukka Kostiainen, CPM product manager (left), and Risto Vuopala, CPM sales manager Europe

from the point of view of the complexity and versatility of the production operations, combined in addition with the large data volumes and production figures." The mill in Imatra, 250 kilometres east of Helsinki, has two production units, Kaukopää and Tainionkoski, which have about 2,200 employees together. All in all, the company produces a million tonnes of board and various paper grades per year.

So the first production lines there started to operate with the new CPM system (including DSS800) last September and the entire facility was already using it in December. The system it replaced had been extended regularly over a period of 25 years. DSS800 is replacing the reporting via the old systems as well as the universal databases of the SAS platform. This means that reporting has been standardised for all the production lines

at the facility, as a result of which evaluation of the information about the entire process can be carried out in a considerably more flexible and transparent way.

It is available to all the employees too. Because Decision Support System 800 can be reached by an interface to the mill CPM system or intranet. All the staff, from simple unskilled workers to the Mill Manager, are therefore able to access precise and up-to-the-minute reports. "The users are very satisfied with this new reporting quality", says Jukka Kostiainen. "You can switch smoothly between different displays and can move to deeper, more informative layers at the click of a mouse." Output, capacity utilisation, production figures and budgets can be converted immediately into analyses of quality categories, daily levels, reasons for waste or downtime or a list of breakdowns.

"This enables new overall insights to be gained into what is going on in production, with the ability to investigate every single reason for a deviation immediately and directly", says Kostiainen. New prospects for further optimisation of the process are opening up as a result, which may in turn pay off in operational improvements and thus in the bottom line.

In view of its positive experiences to date, Stora Enso Imatra has at any rate already decided to use DSS800 as the basic platform for the ongoing development and expansion of analytical reporting at the facility. **S. Haase**

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