

SAVCOR WEDGE™ IMPROVES PRODUCTIVITY IN AN ULTRA-MODERN CORRUGATED BOARD MILL

Savcor Wedge™ helped to improve the productivity of Propapier's ultra-modern corrugated board base paper mill PM2 in Eisenhüttenstadt, Germany. The project represents a significant technological achievement for Savcor.

Propapier, a subsidiary of the German Progroup AG, produces high-quality corrugated board base paper exclusively on the basis of waste paper. The company has two mills, PM1 in Burg and PM2 in Eisenhüttenstadt. With its annual production capacity of 700 000 tons, PM2 is the biggest corrugated board mill in the world.

For the first time, Propapier was introduced to Wedge™ Process Diagnostics System in 2009 when the PM2 mill in Eisenhüttenstadt was still under construction.

– Savcor co-operates closely with a consulting company Pöyry, who uses Wedge™ in their consulting. Pöyry participated in the planning process of the PM2 mill and they arranged a meeting between us and Propapier, says **Ilkka Rautiainen**, Savcor Vice President, Business Development.

– After the mill was completed and equipped with the most modern automation technology in the world, Propapier

expressed its interest in further process optimization with Wedge™. We restarted the discussions resulting in a six month Wedge™ trial period contract in the summer 2013.

During the trial period, Wedge™ applications were developed to suit Propapier's needs. According to the customer service principles of Savcor, everything was done in a very close co-operation with Propapier.

– PM2 had a certain process area the company wanted to improve. During the trial period, Savcor team worked relentlessly to create Wedge™ applications addressing this particular area, describes Rautiainen.

The trial period was successful and Savcor managed to find the solutions needed to improve PM2 manufacturing process efficiency. Propapier placed the order for a perpetual Wedge™ license at the beginning of 2014.

– For Savcor, the most remarkable element in this project was the fact that the PM2 mill represents the most modern and best automation technology in the world. Still, Wedge™ was able to add technology to improve the profitability and productivity of PM2. Both for Propapier as a leading edge board maker and for Savcor as a unique software provider, this is truly a great joint achievement, says Rautiainen.



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Today no process specialist or operator would perform their daily tasks without Wedge™

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Process Side Engineer, Propapier

– Wedge™ brought two major benefits for Propapier PM2. The first and the biggest benefit is the increased process transparency and reliability: the system ensures that the unknown factors can be detected rapidly. Through this, Propapier achieved the second benefit – process improvement which resulted in two new world production records, says **Götz Herold**, Head of Paper Division, Progroup.

– In Propapier PM2, Wedge™ is used by two user groups: process specialists and operators. The process specialists are highly skilled in the use of the system and they perform the majority of the process analysis. The operators, on the other hand, use Wedge™ as a helpful tool in finding the right settings for the machines they operate.

Propapier's Process Side Engineer **Uwe Müller** says that Wedge™ is a powerful tool, which requires highly skilled users to maximize its benefits.

– It took some time to become acquainted with the system, but after a while the key users and the operators got familiar with it. Now everyone knows how to utilize it, and today no process specialist or operator would perform their daily tasks without Wedge™.

Propapier's representatives are highly satisfied with Savcor's dedicated customer service.

– The co-operation with Savcor was fluent and every task was performed on a quick schedule. This is a good example of the way how a fruitful co-operation between two companies can work.

– We are very pleased with Savcor's dedication in improving the processes of PM2 and solving the early stage problems detected at the beginning of the project. Due to this, in addition to the results of the project as a whole, we will continue the co-operation with Savor also in the future, summarize Herold and Müller.

