



# Over the Wire

## MANUFACTURERS

**Ahlstrom-Munksjö** received an EcoVadis Gold rating for the company's sustainability management and performance for the fourth consecutive year.

**BillerudKorsnäs** has introduced a new high strength kraftliner, Pure Performance, for corrugated packaging.

**Empire Recycled Fiber** has a mill in development in Fairless Hills, PA, on the site of a decommissioned steel mill complex. The mill is anticipated to bring in 505,000 tpy of recovered fiber from nearby regions.

**Hood Container of Louisiana LLC** will invest more than US\$50 million to improve efficiency and expand capacity at its paper mill in West Feliciana Parish, LA.

**Klinge Paper & Packaging Group** has signed an agreement to purchase Klabin's kraftliner paper mill in Nova Campina (Brazil).

### Mondi:

- has completed startup on the new, state-of-the-art paper sack converting machine at its Nyíregyháza site in Hungary.
- has commissioned a crude tall oil plant at its Syktyvkar pulp and paper mill.

**Sappi North America** is permanently shutting down PM 9 and most of the energy complex at its Westbrook mill, laying off dozens of employees.

**Södra** plans to further expand its Värö mill. In 2016, Värö was completely rebuilt to

become one of the world's most modern and largest softwood pulp mills with a capacity of 700,000 tpy.

## SUPPLIERS

**AkzoNobel** and Alucha are collaborating on technology that turns paper sludge into resources for making paint. Alucha won the partnership in AkzoNobel's "Paint the Future" global startup challenge.

### Andritz:

- has received an order from Vinda Personal Care Co., Ltd. to supply a stock preparation system to feed the four tissue machines at its mill in Yangjiang, Guangdong, China.
- has successfully started up the first of two OCC lines supplied to Shandong Wamat Paper Co. in China.

**IBS Austria GmbH** has acquired an 80 percent share in Horst Sprenger GmbH Spezialwerkzeuge. As a metering systems specialist, Horst Sprenger's product line complements the existing portfolio of products for the paper, board, and pulp industry.

**PMP** announced the sale of a full tissue solution—including a PCMC Amica consumer rewinder line, a STAX Prima wrapper, a STAX RCP-15 case-packer, and connecting conveyors—to Select Products Holdings LLC.

**Solenis LLC** completed the acquisition of 100 percent of the outstanding shares of Poliquímicos, S.A. de C.V., which makes specialized chemical solutions for water-intensive industries, including pulp and paper markets in Mexico.

### Valmet:

- will supply the world's largest BCTMP line to Guangxi Sun Paper Co. Ltd.'s new Beihai mill in China. Start-up is scheduled for the fourth quarter of 2021.
- will supply a new off-machine coating machine to Oji Papéis Especiais in Piracicaba, Brazil, which will increase the mill's thermal paper production capacity.
- will supply wash press technology to Phoenix Pulp & Paper Public Company Ltd.'s hardwood bleached pulp plant at the Nam Pong mill in Khon Kaen (Thailand).
- will supply pulp production upgrade technology to PT. Tanjungenim Lestari Pulp and Paper, Indonesia. The delivery includes

## PEERS and IBBC Go Virtual

TAPPI's popular Pulping, Engineering, Environmental, Recycling and Sustainability (PEERS) and International Bioenergy and Bioproducts Conferences (IBBC) are going virtual in November. This change creates an opportunity for many industry professionals to attend and take advantage of the high-quality technical sessions, research, and keynote addresses without leaving their mill or office.

As co-located conferences, PEERS and IBBC offer attendees a comprehensive technical program focused on critical operational issues in two distinct areas of expertise. The entire program of peer-reviewed sessions will be presented on a user-friendly platform and has been developed by industry professionals. Details are being finalized and will be posted at [TAPPIPEERS.org](http://TAPPIPEERS.org) and [TAPPI-IBBC.org](http://TAPPI-IBBC.org).

an upgraded continuous cooking system and two sets of new automatic baling equipment.

**Voith** has introduced a new measuring method to detect stickies, in collaboration with the research and service institute Papiertechnische Stiftung (PTS) Heidenau in Germany. The measuring method uses a near-infrared (NIR) camera.

## PEOPLE

**Dr. Marina Crnoja-Cosic** has been appointed head of new business development at the viscose specialty fiber manufacturer Kelheim Fibres. She will also serve as a member of Kelheim's Management Board. Crnoja-Cosic is a chemist with long-time experience in fiber and application development as well as in business development.

**Christoph Michalski** has been appointed president and CEO of BillerudKorsnäs; he succeeds Lennart Holm, who has been acting president and CEO since November, 2019.

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