

## NIP29 in Seattle:

# Is Print Sustainability a European Matter?



Thomas Boland, Professor at the University of Texas in El Paso (left), receives a publication award from Alan Hodgson, President of the Society for Imaging Science and Technology (IS&T)

Sustainability seems to be a European matter – at least in the USA. The program of the shrunk “Environmental Sustainability” session at this year’s NIP29 conference in Seattle had five speakers, three of them from Germany: Matthias Hausmann of CEWE Color who gave an overview on “Sustainability of Printing Techniques: Potentials and Incomparable Aspects”, followed by Axel Fischer of INGEDE who presented “The New EU Ecolabel for Printed Products and its Requirements for Deinkability”. Thermally activated semiconductors to eliminate VOCs in printers were introduced by Y. Tsukada from Shinshu University in Ueda, Japan. Then Alexander Schiller of Fogra in Munich presented the results of his recent study on the “Deinking of Inkjet Inks”. Finally, Wenjia Zhang of Hewlett Packard presented some results of “Laboratory Scale Two-Loop Deinking Trials” that were conducted at HP Labs together with Manoj Bhattacharyya who had in the meantime left the company.

How responsible is a printer manufacturer once a machine has been sold? Matthias Hausmann reported about CEWE’s effort to improve the sustainability especially of their Indigo presses, e. g. in terms of oil recycling. “Whereas advantages in quality, efficiency and minimum cost of ownership are well communicated, the full picture on the

sustainability aspects of a printing technology is learned during operation”, Hausmann says. “Only recently have sustainability aspects been addressed more prominently by printing technology providers, often for the purpose of gaining competitive advantage.” This should be not enough, he pleads for “overcoming the boundaries of companies” to further improve the environmental impact of their products.

Alexander Schiller presented tests showing good deinkability for 70 % of the prints with pigment-based inkjet inks and in contrast, only 20 % of dye-based inkjet. “All dyes”, Schiller says, “however, were capable of being bleached by common reductive bleaching agents”. Wenjia Zhang showed HP’s two-loop trials with inclusion of a low-speed high shear kneading step in between two flotation steps. They tried to evaluate the deinkability of MOW (mixed office waste) and mixtures of MOW with various amounts of digital print products (where liquid electrophotographic (LEP) prints were used as an example of digital print products). An observation presented that could not be explained during the discussion was a general increase of the brightness of the pulp during the kneading (dispersing) step.

Axel Fischer

## CALENDAR OF EVENTS

26–28 Nov 2013

European Paper Week  
Brussels, Belgium

15 Jan 2014

INGEDE Project 141 13  
“DIP Characterization”  
Munich, Germany

5 Feb 2014

INGEDE Working group  
“Digital Printing”  
Munich, Germany

12 Feb 2014

INGEDE Symposium  
Munich, Germany

13 Feb 2014

INGEDE Communication Platform  
Munich, Germany

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## INGEDE Working Groups met in Austria at Laakirchen Papier

14 professionals from four different countries met for the working group “Paper for Recycling” and „Deinking Process“ at Laakirchen Papier, Austria from 4–6 Nov 2013. The groups were hosted by Dietmar Grüneis and Marcus Negele.

The programme started in the afternoon of 04 Nov with a presentation of the Laakirchen mill and of the “new” owner Heinzl Grop. Alain Lascar and François Rui of Kādant continued with the subject of ash control and (partly) removal which the group had discussed with Andritz and Voith at the previous meeting. This subject will continue by looking at mill concepts for ash control including sensors and their maintenance.

The second focus of this meeting was on water loop concepts. Juan Pablo Pertega of Holmen Paper Madrid showed the mill’s concept of being completely independent of fresh water – see also article below. The next meeting of the WG Deinking Process will be on 20 and 21 May 2014 at Kübler & Niethammer in Kriebstein.

Following the meeting of the WG – in

the early afternoon on 05 Nov, Marcus Negele conducted a joint mill tour for the participants of both WGs. After return to the conference room, the WG Paper for Recycling started its programme.



*The members of the working groups on their mill tour*

Key topics have been the results of the Annual Questionnaire, the draft of a new INGEDE method to identify printing technologies, a comparison on sorting plants and last but not least the important and fruitful experience exchange among the participants about the latest findings at the entry inspection of paper for recycling.

Due to a delayed reporting by some mills the results of the Annual Questionnaire 2012 could be presented only now. Unfortunately the content of impurities are slightly inclining. On the other hand the moisture is in average on a constant, uncritical level.

To identify critical print products a guideline was created which will support the inspectors in their important and responsible daily work. Print products with a bad deinkability or which a converted in a way which hinders the recyclability can be detected more easily in future.

Sorting technology is still an important issue for the paper mills as well as the recyclers. Therefore the group will continue to compare some sorting plants by key figures. Fitting to this task the group got again the possibility to visit a modern sorting plant in the nearby city of Linz. Thanks to Rauch Recycling for this great opportunity.

The next meetings of the WG Paper for Recycling will take place on 26–27 March and 11–12 November 2014. Thanks are given to Laakirchen Papier for their excellent hospitality.

*Manfred Geistbeck, Andreas Faul*

## PTS Environment Symposium 2013

From 6–7 November the annual PTS Environment Symposium took place. The lecture and subsequently discussions focused on energy, effluent and eco labels. A presentation by Almut Reichart from the German Federal Environment Agency dealt with the new criteria of the Blue Angel for paper products as of the year 2014. Also two INGEDE member companies presented themselves at the Symposium. Erik van Hoof (Senior Process Engineer of Van Houtum B.V.) reported on the implementation of the Cradle to Cradle prin-

ciple in his company. Holmen Paper gave a presentation on “Use of reclaimed water in a newspaper mill”. The symposium was completed by a visit of the water treatment plant in Gut Großlappen and a dinner in Munich.



*Control room of the water treatment plant Gut Großlappen*

*Christian Trieb*