Greater transparency for sustainable and flexible paper production

The fiber industry is undergoing a fundamental transformation. Increasing digitalization has led to a decreasing demand for conventional graphical products, while the demand for sustainable packaging and personal hygiene products is growing thanks to the e-commerce boom and a change in demographics worldwide. At the same time, more and more companies rely on the integration of renewable energy sources and biomass rather than petrochemical-based materials in order to reduce their environmental footprint. All materials based on fossil fuels are set to be replaced in the future by equivalent renewables, which requires more flexibility, new production processes, and greater transparency within production plants. This transformation can be achieved by closely interlinking digital systems with processes, drive technology, power distribution and automation.
At Hannover Messe 2018, the Fiber Industry showcase from Siemens will be demonstrating how production using renewables can already be optimized with the Sipaper hardware and software portfolio. At the Siemens booth (D35 in Hall 9), visitors will have the opportunity to experience digitalization of the entire value chain in the fiber industry using a concrete example. The Swedish company Stora Enso uses innovative biomaterial as environmentally friendly packaging material for beverages and other foodstuffs. At the trade fair, visitors will be able to follow the manufacturing process through interactive exhibits. Siemens will be showcasing the symbiosis achievable between optimized control loops, drive monitoring and operation, analysis of machine-generated data, as well as servicing and maintenance management with Comos MRO. These examples clearly demonstrate the benefits already on offer to today’s fiber industry through digitalization. In a bid to secure its competitive standing, Siemens is working to shape the digital transformation in association with companies of all sizes with involvement in both greenfield and brownfield projects – in line with this year’s trade fair slogan “Digital Enterprise – Implement now!”

Digitalization is exerting a particularly positive impact on flexibility, availability, productivity and transparency in the fiber industry. Siemens will be demonstrating this at the show with its Comos plant engineering software, which provides a seamless information flow of all relevant data throughout the entire lifecycle of the plant. Also featured at the booth will be the Siemens SIMIT simulation software, which allows developers to determine right from the planning and engineering phase whether automation is plausible and likely to run smoothly. This paves the way for virtual commissioning of the plant, which can also be used for operator training purposes, reducing significantly the time required for actual commissioning and increasing availability as an indication of a smooth production process. During operation, machine and plant builders can offer remote maintenance services on the common Remote Service Platform (cRSP) in order to avoid unplanned downtime in the plant.

Thanks to the “From Integrated Engineering to Integrated Operations” solution approach from Siemens, the digital model of the plant continues to grow using the data created during operation. Data analysis during the production phase brings
about considerable benefits: The percentage to which control loops are optimized is frequently unsatisfactory, leaving considerable potential for improvement. Using Control Performance Analytics (CPA), the process industry is able to move a major step closer to achieving the optimum. The future connection to MindSphere, the cloud-based, open IoT operating system, opens up more analysis possibilities for additional transparency in the entire plant, resulting in increased availability and productivity. With this in mind, Siemens will also be showcasing its Sipaper Drive Performance Analytics, the MindApp for continuous optimization of the drive train. A demo version at the show will allow visitors to discover the diverse possibilities offered by the XHQ management information system, which uses dashboards drawing on data from wide-ranging sources to provide a clearly arranged visualization of any required KPIs, and displays them on desktop computers, smartphones and tablets.

Completing the Siemens fiber industry showcase at Hannover Messe will be the Digital Fiber Ecosystem, a community of companies, institutions, and universities from all sectors of industry that are networked on the MindSphere cloud and are working to develop solutions for the fiber industry. The growing complexity of this industry and the increasing competitive pressures can be more easily managed by open, locally independent, and flexible forms of collaboration rather than by individual companies. Siemens is inviting all companies regardless of their size to help achieve this goal and become part of the Digital Fiber Ecosystem.

More information on Siemens at the Hannover Messe 2018 is available at www.siemens.com/presse/hm18 and www.siemens.de/hannovermesse

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Siemens AG (Berlin and Munich) is a global technology powerhouse that has stood for engineering excellence, innovation, quality, reliability and internationality for 170 years. The company is active around the globe, focusing on the areas of electrification, automation and digitalization. One of the world’s largest producers of energy-efficient, resource-saving technologies, Siemens is a leading supplier of efficient power generation and power transmission solutions and a pioneer in infrastructure solutions as well as automation, drive and software solutions for industry. With its publicly listed subsidiary Siemens Healthineers AG, the company is also a leading provider of medical imaging equipment – such as computed tomography and magnetic resonance imaging systems – and a leader in laboratory diagnostics as well as clinical IT. In fiscal 2017, which ended on September 30, 2017, Siemens generated revenue of €83.0 billion and net income of €6.2 billion. At the end of September 2017, the company had around 377,000 employees worldwide. Further information is available on the Internet at www.siemens.com.