

Media Release

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Voith optimizes air system at Freudenberg Performance Materials

- New software and hardware solutions achieve energy savings and CO₂ reductions
- Visualization of air balance
- Reduction of production costs with same level of performance

HEIDENHEIM/WEINHEIM. Freudenberg Performance Materials, the specialist for technical textiles which is based in Weinheim, Germany, awarded Voith the order to make the existing air system at its non-woven production facility more energy efficient. The scope of the contract covers the programming and retrofitting of the control unit and air ducts with the necessary hardware and software, including the digital data exchange between the control unit and Freudenberg's own formulation management system.

Voith developed a demand-regulated adjustment of air volumes and conditions using innovative sensors and actuators. Based on the formulation of the fiber mix, the energy input is also reduced through the targeted control of air volumes in the individual air ducts.

The retrofit makes it possible to realize significant energy savings during operation and reduce CO₂, and therefore lower the production costs associated with air conditioning.

The deciding factors that resulted in the contract included the relatively short ROIs for the energy saving investments, the flexibility offered in the definition of the digital interfaces, and the expert advice provided, says Oswin Schader, Electrical Engineering Freudenberg Performance Materials.

The benefit of the investment is that electricity consumption is reduced while the extraction capacity of the dedusting system is maintained by means of constant pressure in the duct and piping system. The surplus intake air and minimum fresh air supply to the shop floor are ensured and therefore an inflow of extraneous air is prevented. The visualization of the air balance is a practical tool for plant operators and is included in the scope of supply.

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About Freudenberg

Freudenberg Performance Materials is a leading global manufacturer of innovative technical textiles offering differentiated value propositions to a broad range of markets and applications such as Apparel, Automotive, Construction, Energy, Filter media, Healthcare, Hygiene, Building Interiors, Shoe and Leather goods as well as Specialties. In 2018, the company generates sales of more than €920 million and has 23 manufacturing sites in 13 countries and more than 3.600 associates. Freudenberg Performance Materials attaches great importance to social and ecological responsibility.



Caption: Voith Air Systems Control Unit Exhaust Air

About the Voith Group

The Voith Group is a global technology company. With its broad portfolio of systems, products, services and digital applications, Voith sets standards in the markets of energy, oil & gas, paper, raw materials and transport & automotive. Founded in 1867, the company today has more than 19,000 employees, sales of € 4.2 billion and locations in over 60 countries worldwide and is thus one of the larger family-owned companies in Europe.

The Group Division Voith Paper is part of the Voith Group. As the full-line supplier to the paper industry, it provides the largest range of technologies, services, components and products on the market and offers paper manufacturers solutions from one single source. The company's continuous stream of innovations takes papermaking to the next level and facilitates resource-conserving production. With its Servolution concept, Voith offers its customers tailored service solutions for all sections of the production process. Voith Papermaking 4.0 ensures that equipment is optimally connected, while the secure use of generated data enables paper manufacturers to improve plant availability and efficiency.

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