

# Media Release

Voith Group

Voith US Inc.  
Regional Group Communications  
North America  
760 East Berlin Road  
York, Pa. 17408-8701  
[www.voith.com](http://www.voith.com)

## Republic Paperboard Company LLC and Voith innovate curtain coater process to launch Republic's coated Gypsum Linerboard production

- Voith supplied Republic Paperboard with a DF Coat curtain coater system, a stock preparation upgrade, new dryer cans, new reel and a new coater kitchen as part of a rebuild.

**LAWTON, Okla./APPLETON, Wis.** (Feb. 22, 2021) – Republic Paperboard recently installed and commissioned a new curtain coater system, which was built by Voith and will allow Republic to produce coated Gypsum Linerboard for the first time.

To achieve its goal to produce coated Gypsum Linerboard, the mill needed a new DF Coat curtain coater system that could efficiently apply a specialty finish. Voith's solution for Republic is a new innovation that, instead of using expensive white fiber to get the needed color and finish, now uses a fiber base and applies a coating for color and finish.

"The opportunity to expand our business and produce coated Gypsum Linerboard more efficiently is a big win for Republic," said Ray Howard, President, Republic Paperboard. "By partnering with Voith for the development of this new process, we secured the expertise we needed to make it happen."

Coated Gypsum Linerboard is appealing to the construction industry since it can be very costly to get the right color and finish onto wallboard. With the new DF Coat curtain coater process, the mill uses a fiber base while applying color to it.

The effort by Voith and Republic to develop the curtain coating innovation was part of a larger rebuild project at the mill. Voith also supplied a stock preparation upgrade, new dryer cans, the coater system itself, a new reel and a new coater kitchen. Also part of the package was a winder rebuild. Further, a special bypass section was supplied that allowed the mill to produce uncoated sheet. These elements were primarily installed earlier in the spring of 2020, with final coater start-up taking place throughout the summer of 2020.

"This project demonstrates how Voith can really help our customers develop and grow their business," said David Buchanan, President, Voith Paper North America. "We have the knowledge, expertise and capabilities to help their plans come to fruition."

To learn more about Voith's paper industry innovations, visit <http://voith.com/corp-en/industry-solutions/papermaking/research-and-development.html>.

## 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 20,000 employees, sales of \$4.7 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 and products on the market and offers paper manufacturers holistic solutions from a single source. The company's continuous stream of innovations facilitates resource-conserving production and helps customers minimize their carbon footprint. With its leading automation products and digitalization solutions from the Papermaking 4.0 portfolio, Voith offers its customers state-of-the-art digital technologies to improve plant availability and efficiency for all sections of the production process.



**Photo Caption:** Voith's DynaLayer curtain coater.



**Photo Caption:** The new product, Pigment coated gypsum board, produced using the new curtain coater system, which was built by Voith.

## Contact

Sheryl Zapcic

Director, Regional Group Communications, North America

717-792-7247

[Sheryl.Zapcic@Voith.com](mailto:Sheryl.Zapcic@Voith.com)

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