Additional Q&A

Three questions for Gerhard Schiefer, Vice President of Global ANDRITZ Automation

What was the inspiration behind development of the Metris UX Platform?
Metris UX was developed for today's real world and tomorrow's ideal world. The real world recognizes that you already have sensors, field devices, PLCs, and a DCS in place and you can not afford to scrap them.
The ideal world opens the gateway to the new or improved functionality your mill needs that is totally vendor-independent. Metris UX plugs and plays in an open platform environment very easily.

What enables it to do this?
Metris UX can do this because of its software-based structure. In designing it, we were able to look forward instead of back at all the compatibility issues with legacy systems installed over the past 20 years.
We started afresh by choosing from the latest, most powerful and proven IT solutions.

What feedback have you had so far?
Extremely positive. Customers are screaming for supplier standards and open platforms – to tear down the legacy walls and make it easy to plug and play. There is a clear need in the pulp, paper and power industries for vendor-independent automation solutions that will help mills/plants to foresee digitally. ANDRITZ Automation is delivering these solutions from a single source.

Metris X

A key part of the Metrix UX Platform is Metris X – the distributed control system developed by ANDRITZ to simplify operational complexity, lower project risk and improve plant performance. It integrates seamlessly with the platform's other apps available for production management and real-time plant simulation, condition monitoring, process optimization and life cycle management.

HOW DOES METRIS X WORK?
For classic plant automation applications, Metris X can be activated by simply adding two optional apps to the Metris UX Platform. This gives customers the freedom to select their preferred input/output module (I/O) and edge device supplier or, in brownfield renewable projects, the existing I/O modules that can be reused by Metris X.

"We took the opportunity to develop a new DCS virtually from scratch, free of legacy systems," says Hermann Obermair, Senior Vice President at ANDRITZ Automation.

"Our DCS runs on any hardware, making us independent of large manufacturers and opening new doors for local sourcing in global business."