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what you can measure."*

**Johanna Newcomb**  
Vice President Automation and Digitalization,  
Smart Series, ANDRITZ



#### IMPROVEMENT BY MEASUREMENT

"You can only improve what you can measure," sums up Johanna Newcomb, Vice President Automation and Digitalization – Smart Series, ANDRITZ. "Intelligent instruments capture the status of a process, allow the setting of meaningful benchmarks and data for further control and optimization."

"Sustainability is a major winner with the Smart Series and is a subject close to my heart," adds Newcomb. "Reduced energy consumption (from refining, for example), minimized carbon footprint, improved process efficiency – all are logical consequences of a process optimized through turning data from smart instrumentation into knowledge. Safety is another critical aspect of sustainability that is also addressed through autonomy, by distancing operators from potentially hazardous tasks through robotics and mechatronics."

#### UNIQUE CHALLENGES

"The wide range and constant variability of fiber sources for pulp and paper mills presents a unique challenge," adds Keuschnigg-Zingl. "There are also side streams, such as methanol and biofuel, becoming more and more important for our customers. So, it is important that at ANDRITZ we are more than an integrator: we own and actively develop the

products within the Smart Series portfolio that make a difference for our customers to run their operation in an efficient and sustainable way."

The latest examples are NAF control valves, which brought process flow control into the portfolio in May 2024, Procemex, which added machine vision capabilities in June 2024, and the latest in August, PulpEye an innovative analyzer and measurement technology company, their products contribute to stabilized and higher pulp quality, process efficiency and reduced energy consumption in pulp production.

Smart Series typifies the benefits of the ONE ANDRITZ approach. ANDRITZ's experience and knowledge in process, service, and automation puts it in a position of strength to take the entire value stream's efficiency to a new level with Smart Series, enabling process and plant autonomy. It's not just about delivering a smart product but sustaining and enhancing the benefits which that product provides over time, not only in a single process area but to support our customers to automate and digitalize their entire production value chain.

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# VIB: A STRONG PLAYER IN THE PAPER INDUSTRY

## ANDRITZ VIB IS ENJOYING A LOT OF SUCCESS AND REMAINS THE LARGEST WORLDWIDE SUPPLIER OF PRECISION MOISTURIZING APPLICATIONS FOR PACKAGING AND SPECIALTY PAPERS.

On the one hand, the company is proud of an enviable track record of servicing work. It not only services its global installed base of well over 1,500 spray and steam units, but it also regularly services units that were originally installed by its competitors.

ANDRITZ VIB's continuing strong track record also includes sales of new units. Every new ANDRITZ paper machine as well as every major upgrade or grade conversion project comprises one or more VIB systems. Upgrading to state-of-the-art equipment is also an important part of VIB's business. Dramatic technological improvements in fine mist control enable mills to replace old steam boxes with innovative, energy-efficient water applicators.

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## ANDRITZ VIB – SOLUTIONS OVERVIEW

Improving the moisture properties of your paper/board sheet is one of the most effective and economical ways of saving fibers and energy, as well as maximizing quality. That is what ANDRITZ VIB is dedicated to, across its main business areas – VIB SprayTech and VIB SteamTech.

VIB SprayTech includes the speciality applications that range from moisture profile and smoothness control to pre-calender moisture increase. Applying cones of super-fine droplets to the sheet, either on-line or off-line, this technology is suited to newsprint, supercalendered and fine paper, décor paper, packaging, and board grades. Precise application of water helps mills to achieve their paper quality targets, and this technology can raise moisture content from as little as 1% to as much as 25%.

VIB SteamTech, MoistureTech, SmoothTech, GlossTech, and CurlTech involve steam profilers suitable for the entire machine, from the forming section to the final nip. Solutions are tailored to meet specified efficiency and quality targets, including increased dryness exiting the press section, higher production volumes, uniform caliper and CD moisture profiles (i.e., reduced streaking), improved sheet strength, runability, and machine uptime, with less dryer picking. VIB SteamTech solutions also have a track record of reducing fiber, steam, and energy consumption, thus leading to CO<sub>2</sub> reduction and a quick return on investment.