

BIM Pitchguard™

Effective, talc-free extractives management for sustainable pulp production



Why talc-free extractives management?

In pulp production, extractives management needs to support consistent quality, good runnability, responsible use of raw materials, and high standards of occupational health and safety. Potential health risks and increasing regulatory pressure associated with talc are creating a growing need for alternative solutions.

BIM Pitchguard™ provides an alternative approach that enables extractives to be analysed, managed and optimised throughout the entire production process, all the way to the finished pulp. The solution aims to maintain or improve process performance while also enhancing the sustainability of production.

A mill-specific BIM Pitchguard™ solution

The solution is based on organic, water-soluble surfactants that manage extractives without the use of talc. The chemical programme is tailored to the mill's process conditions, raw materials and identified pitch-related challenges.

"The products selected for the specific application are easy to use, do not remain in the pulp and comply with food safety requirements," says Hannu Hämäläinen.

Sustainability and implementation

Eliminating talc reduces the use of mineral-based raw materials, improves material efficiency and helps mills anticipate occupational health and regulatory issues associated with talc. The aim is to achieve these benefits without compromising the performance of extractives management.

Implementation begins with an assessment of the current situation, followed by laboratory evaluations and mill trials. The trials are planned to avoid disruption to production, and the results are evaluated using agreed process and quality indicators.

"The implementation period depends on the complexity of the process. In simpler applications, the solution can be implemented within a few weeks, whereas optimisation may continue for longer in more challenging systems," Hämäläinen explains.

Following implementation, performance is monitored and the chemical programme is further developed based on measurement results and operational experience.

Our approach combines chemistry, process expertise and data-driven monitoring. It includes the following steps:

- assessing the current process conditions, extractives and critical accumulation points
- defining a mill-specific chemical programme and dosing points
- conducting controlled mill trials, monitoring results and continuously optimising the solution
- using BIMPics and BIM Bridge tools to support monitoring and decision-making
- maintaining close collaboration between mill personnel and BIM experts.

BIM Pitchguard™ provides a practical route towards talc-free pitch control, combining tailored chemistry with process expertise and continuous optimisation. The goal is simple: reliable pitch control that meets the needs of both the mill and its process.



Hannu Hämäläinen, Pulp Segment Team Leader, BIM group.

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"It is important to us that the customer receives support throughout the entire process, from the initial assessment and implementation to the continuous development of the solution. Close collaboration with mills, combined with targeted research and development, helps us quickly identify solutions that are genuinely suited to each customer's specific process conditions."

- Hannu Hämäläinen

