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## SYNERGY AWARD

OpTest Equipment Inc., together with Paprican and the University of British Columbia, has been chosen as the "1998 University-Industry Synergy R&D Partnership Award Winner". This prestigious award is presented jointly by the Conference Board of Canada and the Natural Sciences and Engineering Research Council of Canada.

Almost 8 years ago UBC's Pulp & Paper Centre and Paprican began looking for ways to automate the measurement of wood pulp fibres. This complex procedure had traditionally been carried out manually. The technology that would allow the researchers to image fibres for 'on-line' analysis was available but the research team had first to develop a method for aligning the fibres so that they could be analysed. After extensive experimentation, they developed a novel 'flow cell', a patented device for channelling and aligning fibres between two streams of water without causing fibre deformation. Paprican later licensed the technology to OpTest. After further enhancements, the first **Fiber Quality Analyzer** units were supplied as three beta sites in Canadian mills; Domtar, Irving Pulp & Paper and Weyerhaeuser, together with Paprican. Since then, the commercialization has been an enormous success with over 70 units sold to date around the world.

## PRODUCT APPLICATIONS

The following technical publications are now available from OpTest:

- "*Counting LWC Flakes by Image Analysis*"
- "*On-line Monitoring of Pulp for Plastic Contamination*"
- "*Automatic fiber length and shape measurement by image analysis*", *Tappi J. (Reprint), Vol.81, No.6, p 152, June 1998*

Contact us by fax, phone or e-mail to receive a copy of these publications.

## NEW PRODUCTS

The McGill **Paper PerFect**, PPF, measures the uniformity of paper formation. It uses advanced algorithms to quickly quantify formation over a broad scale of sizes. The formation values have been found to correlate with other important paper and board end-use properties.

OpTest has reached an agreement with 4R Technologies, of Texas, to develop, manufacture and market a **Large Format Dirt Analyser**. This technology is capable of detecting dirt specks on pulp sheets up to 1m x 1m (or longer paper and board strips) according to TAPPI Standard Method T563.

OpTest is developing a rapid and accurate on-line **Intelligent Drainage Analyzer**, IDA. The IDA overcomes common shortcomings of existing on-line freeness (or drainage) testers. The IDA incorporates software and hardware that can be used with either Innomatic or Drainac devices.

Canadian and US customers contact OpTest for more information on these new products.

(au verso)

PROTECT YOUR INVESTMENT! Contact OpTest Service regarding the Preventative Maintenance Agreements for your OpTest equipment:

Phone: 613-632-5169

Fax: 613-632-3744

E-mail: [service@optest.ca](mailto:service@optest.ca)

## NEW AGENTS & PERSONNEL

We are pleased to announce the following new agents and distributors to represent OpTest internationally.

- **Fibro Systems AB** in Denmark, Norway and Sweden
- **Danbell Equipment Ltd.** in P.R.China
- **JAF International** in Taiwan
- **RESAICAR** in Argentina and Uruguay
- **Noviprofibre SA** in France

We are also pleased to announce the following personnel additions at OpTest:

- \* **Dean Morrow** joins OpTest as our Material Co-Ordinator.
- \* **Joe Kelly** and **Trevor Sobers** join us as manufacturing electro-mechanical technicians.
- \* **Greg Dabrowski** joins us as Technical Director. Greg has considerable experience in a variety of engineering positions in the Pulp and Paper Industry both in mills and with international equipment suppliers.
- \* **Martin Hurst** joins OpTest as Sales Manager - North America. Martin has thirty years of experience with supplier companies including Devron Engineering, Devron-Hercules and Measurex Corp., in the sales and marketing of paper machine process control systems.
- \* **Aiqun Sun** joins OpTest as Software Applications Scientist in our R&D Dept.

Welcome aboard!!

## SHOWS AND EXHIBITS

The following is a list of exhibits where OpTest equipment will be shown [instrumental tests are in italics]:

Oct 18-21, 98 TAPPI P&PQ Conference  
Milwaukee, WI - *dirt formation*  
- *print uniformity*

Jan 25-28, 99 EXFOR '99  
Montreal, QC - *residual ink*  
- *dirt, formation & print uniformity*  
- *dynamic sorption*  
- *lint testing & fibre rising*  
- *lab and on-line fiber quality*  
- *on-line plastic monitoring*  
- *on-line drainage analysis*

March 1-4, 99 TAPPI '99  
Atlanta, GA - *residual ink*  
- *dirt, formation & print uniformity*  
- *lab and on-line fiber quality analysis*  
- *on-line plastic monitoring*  
- *on-line drainage analysis*

June 1-4, 99 SPCI  
Stockholm, (Host: Fibro Systems AB)  
Sweden - *dirt, formation & print uniformity*  
- *fiber quality analysis*

Come meet us at the exhibits and try the equipment.

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