

Robert K. Stevens, Associate Profile

Reeling

Poor papermachine reeling is a source of significant lost production, poor winding and often limits the jumbo to less than optimal size. The use of recycled furnish and the desire to increase winder throughput to keep up with increased papermachine production has recently made reel quality a more important issue for many machines. Reel build quality is assessed by wound in density analysis, J-line evaluation and monitoring of tension, amps, primary and secondary arm loading. Often reel build can be improved through modifications to the existing control systems or minor control additions.

Winding

The winder must be robust and flexible to efficiently wind well structured, defect free rolls often over a wide range of grades and diameters. Winder operation is assessed and optimized with a focus on productivity, roll structure and the impact of winding on pressroom performance. Roll density analysis is the primary roll structure assessment tool.

Calendering

Printing surfaces are developed at the calender, generally at the expense of paper strength, bulk and opacity. Poor calender operation fails to maximize printing properties and creates defects such as cuts, bars, wrinkles or uneven profiles. Inappropriate calender design for your furnish and grade combination can result in inability to achieve the desired surface properties, chronic operational problems, a weakened sheet or high operating or capital costs. Bob has extensive experience in problem solving and grade development for news, directory, SCA and other groundwood grades on machine calenders, on-line soft-nip and supercalenders.

Services

Complete calender performance measure services are available. This includes temperature and loading measurements to compare your calender with the calendering equation. Calender design consulting to obtain the required finish on a given paper grade is also available.

The tools to measure winding and reeling performance are available. This can determine the changes required to minimize paper wastage and build optimum rolls for the best pressroom performance.

Other expertise and services included basis weight and caliper uniformity assessments, approach system and papermachine stability analysis, and product development consulting.

Background of Bob Stevens

Bob's background is in papermaking research, process optimization and product development with 26 years experience in R&D, papermill and pressroom environments.

Strong analytical and organizational skills.

Published and presented seminars in the fields of calendering, winding and printability.

Bob's specialties are calendering (machine, soft-nip and super), reeling, winding and the impact of these processes on paper properties, roll structure and pressroom performance.