

THE 1ST MILLION TON OF NUQUL TISSUE PAPER USING ABB SYSTEMS

NUQUL TISSUE'S HAS RECENTLY ACHIEVED THE PRODUCTION OF ITS FIRST ONE MILLION TONS OF TISSUE PAPER ROLLS, A SUCCESS THAT CAN BE PARTLY ATTRIBUTED TO ABB QUALITY CONTROL SYSTEMS. IN ORDER TO LEARN MORE ABOUT THE NUQUL-ABB EXPERIENCE, METISSUE AND ABB PULP & PAPER TEAM VISITED ONE OF NUQUL TISSUE MILLS, AL-SNOBAR, AND CONDUCTED AN INTERVIEW WITH NUQUL GROUP CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER, SALIM KARADSHEH AND HANI NUQUL, CHIEF NT OFFICER.

Nuqul Tissue: "Tissue is our issue"

Established in 1952, **Nuqul Tissue** (NT) is part of Jordan's leading industrial conglomerate, Nuqul Group. The Group brings together 30 regional and global companies and sells its products to over 45 export markets worldwide. NT manages Nuqul Group's four tissue mills: Al-Bardi Paper Mill and Al-Sindian Paper Mill in Egypt, Al-Keena Hygienic Paper Mill as well as Al-Snobar Hygienic Paper Mill in Jordan, with



a total production capacity of 157,000 tons of different tissue paper grades. A brief description of these mills is given below:

The first established Nuqul Group Paper Mill is Al-Bardi, which started production in March 1991, with an annual capacity of 18,000 tons of tissue paper. The paper machine used is a twin wire c-former with paper width of 2.25 m along with 3 stands in the combining winder. Rolls produced range from 17 cm to 220 cm width. The machine's maximum operating speed is 1600m/min.

The second tissue mill within the group is the Jordan-based Al-Keena Hygienic Paper Mill, which started production in March 1996 with an annual capacity of 30,000 tons of tissue paper.

The paper machine used is a twin wire c-former with paper width of 3.67 m with a maximum operating speed of 1670 m/min.

The Egypt-based Al-Sindian Paper Mill, the third established tissue mill within the group, is located in 6th of October City, near Al Bardi Paper Mill. The

machine's maximum operating speed is 2000m/min, pond width is 5.45 m, and the mill's annual capacity is 54,000 tons. Al Sindian mill started production in January 2005

Finally, Al-Snobar Paper Mill, started production during October 2007 in Jordan. The machine's maximum operating speed of 2,000 m/min, pond width is 5.45 m, and the annual capacity is 54,000 tons.

Both Al-Snobar and Al-Sindian were designed with the highest technological compliance with international environmental and health standards.

All NT tissue mills use 100% high quality virgin pulp; 80% of the mills' capacity is exported to Europe & the MENA Region.

In order to ensure and maintain a leading role in producing high-quality tissue paper and keeping up with the latest technological advances, Nuqul Tissue has installed ABB QCS and DCS systems in all four mills.

Nuqul and ABB share the same culture of understanding customer needs and fulfilling their commitments, which is believed to be the underlying reason for both companies' long successful working relationship.

ABB is Nuqul Tissue Partner of Choice

MET: How do you describe the Nuqul-ABB business relationship? When did this relationship start?

Salim Karadsheh: Nuqul Tissue and ABB have a relationship that goes back to the late 80's and that was established in the Al-Bardi Paper Mill project. The relationship grew significantly in 2003 in particular with the Al-Sindian project in which ABB handled the detailed engineering design, construction supervision and training for the entire electrical and control scope. Based on the success of this project, ABB was selected as the partner of choice for Nuqul Tissue in its Al Snobar project which started-up in 2007 ahead of schedule and budget and ramped up to speed in little time, reconfirming the partnership relationship between the two groups.

MET: What do you think about the new developments within ABB P&P?

- The opening of the P&P equipment manufacturing facility in China?

Salim Karadsheh: Nuqul Group trusts ABB quality irrelevant of the geographical base of its manufacturing. As such it is purely an ABB decision as to where to manufacture its products. Historically we have used ABB solutions from different regions including Sweden, Switzerland, Germany, Egypt, and Greece, and we fully respect ABB's production strategies.

- The shift of the Middle East center of service from Italy to India?

Salim Karadsheh: We have already shared our concerns regarding this shift with ABB. Our concerns are not in any way related to the qualifications and capabilities of Indians, but are rather concerned with logistics issues (visa and related travel requirements for our team). Indeed Nuqul Group continues to successfully include a large number of Indian nationals amongst its human capital, while maintaining equal respect for all nationalities. Having said that, Nuqul Group trusts that ABB will manage a seamless shift of the service responsibility and will address Nuqul's concerns proactively.

The ABB Experience

MET: What kind of ABB system is installed at your mill? And why did you settle on this ABB platform?

Hani Nuqul: Al-Snobar has the most up-to-date ABB System: 800xA. We have examined different systems from other competitors through our NT experts and were set on the 800xA platform because of its high capability to control the paper process.

MET: Why did you choose ABB as a supplier?

Hani Nuqul: The reason for choosing ABB is its integrated solution in the paper industry including: switchgear, smart motor control center, sectional drives, QCS, motors, starters and transformers. The ABB system communicates with all these products in a way to ensure high productivity in terms of cost and quality. ABB also has strong local support in services & spare parts and a long experience record in pulp and paper industries.

MET: What is your experience with the ABB systems and what do you like most about your installed system?

Hani Nuqul: We had good experience with ABB system installed on our PM3 machine at AL Sindian Paper Mill which led us to install same system for PM1 (Al-Bardi), then PM4 (Al-Snobar) and PM2 (Al-Keena).

I think the best asset of ABB is its high communication facilities with third party systems and also its full integration and compatibility with ABB field instruments, ABB drives, ABB switchgear & ABB Quality Control System as well. The installed system is also user-friendly and easy to operate and maintain, which allows carrying out modifications easily by Nuqul Tissue team.

MET: What would you change in this system?


Hani Nuqul: The system is great as such, but we

would ideally like to have one more server included for information management to measure the productivity in terms of cost.

MET: Do you have any recommendations for ABB in terms of development in the future or in new system features?

Hani Nuqul: ABB always keep us updated with the recent technologies so why not include remote service capabilities?

MET: How do you rate the ABB service?

Hani Nuqul: We are greatly satisfied with ABB services especially in terms of high production efficiency for a reasonable cost. 

Architecture of ABB system at Al-Snobar Paper Mill

