

# Plastiroll Chooses Cascade's AFC to Reduce Paper Damage

## ON-THE-JOB REPORT



Plastiroll Oy's Paper Group, based in Ylöjärvi, Finland, recently implemented Cascade Corporation's Adaptive Force Control (AFC) system for their paper roll handling lift truck fleet.

### About The Company

The Plastiroll Paper Group manufactures products associated with paper coating and laminating. The products include reel wraps, outer heads and ream wraps for the paper industry. Additional product groups include food wrappings such as deli wraps and other moisture proof wraps. Nearly all of these products are in rolls and handled by roll clamp-equipped lift trucks.



### Why AFC?

Cascade has worked closely with the paper industry to develop the highly sophisticated and innovative Smart Clamp technology that comprises AFC. In addition to AFC, Cascade offers a wide range of complementary products for damage reduction.

Precisely handling delicate, expensive rolls took a toll on productivity at Plastiroll, says Pentti Kekäläinen, sales manager at Cascade Finland. "Plastiroll was looking for an alternative system in reducing damage. AFC integrates the roll clamp with the lift truck's hydraulic system and automatically applies the correct clamp force to the roll."



Plastiroll Production Director Marko Mattila (left) and Pentti Kekäläinen of Cascade analyse the different types of rolls handled at Plastiroll's Ylöjärvi facility.

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### Plastiroll Commitment to Quality

The motivation behind Plastiroll's interest in this new, automated materials handling technology is the company's strong focus and commitment to quality and customer service.

According to the company's statement of values, "The principle of high quality is a part of everything we do. It is based on a comprehensive quality development and continuous improvement, which includes everything from the product and the quality in the process, customer service and even the personnel's innovations."

Plastiroll believes that Cascade's Smart Clamp technology will become an important part of their commitment to quality by lowering product damage and improving overall paper handling productivity.



### AFC Reduces Damage, Increases Driver Confidence

With conventional roll clamp trucks, drivers manually estimate and apply the clamp force. Each time drivers engage a roll, they must achieve a delicate balance between over- and under-applying clamp force. Over-clamping will distort the roll, making it difficult or impossible to use on high speed paper converting machines. Under-clamping may allow the roll to slip out of the clamp, causing damage to both the outer layers and the roll's edge.

Marko Mattila, production director for Plastiroll, headed the AFC implementation.

"Before AFC we had some damage," he says. "We handle all kinds of paper, and some can be very tricky—especially the coated aluminum; it is very slick and the rolls are expensive."

"We contacted Cascade, and Kekäläinen studied our operation, evaluated our needs and recommended the best solution for us. Now we don't have damage or telescoping because the AFC system is always applying the right force to the roll. The AFC system has definitely met our expectations."

Lift truck driver Rauno Tuomi agrees. "It's easy to use, I work faster and I feel assured that I am using the correct amount of pressure to handle the rolls."

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