

Stora Enso uses Double Tower Clamp with AFC to move paper, eliminate damage.

ON-THE-JOB REPORT



Right:
Johan De Beule of
Stora Enso Langerbrugge
inspects Cascade's
Double Tower Clamp
with AFC.

The Company

Stora Enso, a global market leader in integrated paper, packaging and forest products, produces publication and fine papers, packaging boards and wood products. Its annual production capacity is 16.4 million tonnes of paper and board.

The company's Langerbrugge facility in Ghent, Belgium, produces newsprint (NP) and uncoated magazine paper (SC). Langerbrugge's state-of-the-art newline, introduced in 2003, is one of the largest, fastest newsprint machines in the world. Producing 400,000 tons of newsprint a year at average speeds of 2,000 meters per minute, the News-line makes enough paper to cover three lanes of the Ostend-Brussels motorway, 120km long, in one hour.



The Challenge

When the News-Line was first developed, Johan De Beule, Langerbrugge's News-Line Warehouse Manager (Assistant Finishing), was responsible for finding a system to maintain this rate of production without damaging the rolls. Damage reduction was important because Stora Enso's excellent reputation is based on the quality of its products.

Cascade Corporation helped De Beule find the solution. Staf Van Coreland, Sales Manager at Cascade Belgium, recommended the Double Tower Clamp with Adaptive Force Control (AFC), which had already proven a success at Stora Enso's Hylte Bruk location in Sweden.

Left: De Beule and
Cascade's Tommy
Abrahamsson discuss
the benefits of the
Double Tower Clamp.

Right: Cascade's
Double Tower Clamp
with AFC handles up
to eight rolls at one
time. The AFC system
means the driver
doesn't have to
estimate how hard to
clamp each roll.



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The Double Tower Clamp handles up to eight rolls at one time, while AFC ensures that each roll is clamped with the correct amount of force. AFC is an automatic system that integrates a Cascade roll clamp and force control technology with the lift truck's hydraulic system and automatically controls the right clamp force applied to the roll.

Tommy Abrahamsson, Paper Industry Manager at Cascade Europe, says finding solutions for Stora Enso has helped Cascade to improve its products. "We've worked closely with Stora Enso to develop the highly sophisticated and innovative Smartclamp technology." AFC is one of many components of Cascade's Smartclamp Technology. The line also includes Tilt Control, Rotational Control, and other damage reduction products.



De Beule is happy with the Cascade system. "We don't have damage because the AFC system is always applying the right force to the roll," he says. "The AFC system with the Double Tower Clamp has definitely met our expectations." De Beule says he is also pleased with the support he received from Cascade. "I measure quality of service by action to resolve issues, and Cascade's response was fast."

AFC Reduces Damage, Increases Driver Confidence

With conventional roll clamp trucks, the driver manually estimates and applies the clamp force. Each time the driver engages a roll they must achieve a delicate balance between over- and underclamping. Overclamping distorts the roll, making it difficult or impossible to use on high speed paper converting machines. Underclamping may allow the roll to slip out of the clamp, causing damage to both the outer layers and the roll's edge.

Alex Nimmegeers, a lift truck driver at the Langerbrugge facility, says Cascade's Double Tower Clamp with AFC helps him work faster. "It's easy to use. I don't have to do anything different than when I drive a normal clamp truck, and I feel assured that I am using the correct amount of clamp force to handle the rolls."



Alex Nimmegeers, a lift truck driver at Stora Enso Langerbrugge, says Cascade's AFC system makes his job easier.

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