The problem

As previous sealing solution a competitor’s PTFE packing was installed in the refiner. High temperature and pressure caused high stuffing box leakage, which could not be adjusted without shutting down the machine. In addition to the already excessive maintenance costs, the consumption of cooling and flush water induced raising water and wastewater costs. Therefore Papelera De Chihuahua S.A. De C.V. started looking for an alternative sealing solution, which offers less unscheduled shut downs, higher quality and lower water and maintenance costs.

The EagleBurgmann solution

The installed sealing solution from EagleBurgmann is a customised product, which was especially designed for this refiner application. Therefore a bottom header ring of 5/8” EagleBurgmann Buramex® SF 6335 braided packing was carefully fitted at the bottom of the stuffing box and then Burajet® 8032SCW fibre was injected into the stuffing box. The top header ring of EagleBurgmann Buramex® 6335 was fitted and the gland plate was refitted and bolted down.

Properties and advantages

- Excellent sliding abilities
- Resistant to abrasive media
- Outstanding adaptability, even at asymmetrical stuffing box compartments
- Conversion to the compound is easy and can be done without any technical effort
- Shafts do not have to be replaced or reworked
- While postpacking, there are no more shut down times because the injection can be done during operation

The first Andritz refiner at Papelera De Chihuahua S.A. De C.V. paper mill was equipped with a Burajet® 8032SCW in summer 2008. The customer was completely satisfied with the performance of the seal solution. The loss of water could be reduced to 0-15 drops per minute. The reinjection of Burajet® was possible during the operation of the machine, which meant 15-20 grams after a run of 3 months. The working life of the machine, in relation to the sealing solution, could be increased up to one year. Furthermore a saving of water and maintenance costs of about 23,000 USD per year, per refiner was possible. Therefore, the remaining 17 refiners have been equipped with the special Burajet® 8032SCW solution over the following six month.