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RESOURCE CONSERVATION IN SANITARY PAPER MANUFACTURING

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Abstract

Traditionally, sanitary papers are obtained from virgin cellulosic fibers. Because the production of virgin fibers requires large quantity of wood it is an unsustainable process. In addition, virgin fiber pulp is expensive and deficient, being unattractive for paper producers. Using of virgin fiber is a waste, because sanitary papers cannot be recovered. Due to the fact that the price of sanitary papers must be as low as possible, the paper mills focused on the use of recovered fiber as raw material. The present paper compare the quality of a sanitary paper grade (toilet paper) made from virgin fibers and from recovered fibers, respectively. Some important characteristics of paper such as: ash content, thickness and density, water absorption capacity, strength properties are discussed. The results shows that papers made from recovered fibers are inferior to those obtained from virgin fibers.

Key words: absorption, chemical pulp, recovered paper, sanitary paper, tensile strength

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