

SPEAKER



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BIOGRAPHY

Studium Verfahrenstechnik and der Technischen Universität Graz mit Vertiefung in Papier- und Zellstofftechnik.

Seit 2018 Doktoratsstudium an der TU Graz am Institut für Biobasierte Produkte und Papiertechnik. Die Arbeit beschäftigt sich mit der Interaktion von Flüssigkeiten mit Fasernetzwerken aus Viskose- und Zellstofffasern.

LECTURE

The influence of pulp on the ageing of disintegration of hydroentangled wet wipes

T. Harter, I. Bernt and U. Hirn

Problems with sewer systems in metropolises like New York and London put the public interest on the disposal and disintegration of wet wipes. Wetlaid hydroentangled nonwovens with good dispersible behaviour in dry condition reduce these properties when stored wet. The term of ageing is introduced to describe the decaying dispersibility of wet wipes over the wet storage time. We will demonstrate that for different raw materials this effect can be shown.

Nonwovens for wet wipes consist of biodegradable wood pulp and viscose fibres. The viscose fibres with a length of up to 14 mm are liable for the strength of the wet wipes. Wet strength is thereby achieved via entangling the viscose fibres with each other but also with the short pulp fibres. Wood pulp as the major component of the wipes is responsible for the dispersive properties of the wet wipes. In our talk we will discuss the role of pulp as the influencing factor to overcome the ageing of the dispersibility.