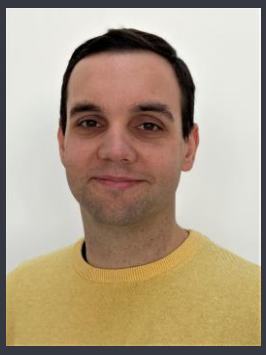
SPEAKER



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BIOGRAPHY
Studies of process engineering at the Graz University of Technology with specialization in pulp and paper technology.

Since 2018 PhD studies at TU Graz at the Institute for Biobased Products and Paper Technology. The thesis deals with the interaction of liquids with fiber networks of viscose and pulp fibers.

LECTURE

Mechanisms controlling dispersibility in wetlaid hydroentangled nonwovens

T. Harter 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.