Xylem Pulp and paper team in front of Huge z-compact system
(Left to Right) Mr. Robert Serfass, Mr. Alexis Métais, Mr. Franz-Josef Richardt, Mr. Jean-Christophe Hostachy and Mr. Harald Stapel

Compared to ECF bleaching, in what way "Green Bleaching" stands better- in terms of investment and pulp quality?

Considering parameters such as raw materials, variety in the pulping/bleaching processes and final products, such question normally requires a long answer but I would say that it is a question of horizon.

For sure, ECF bleaching is the standard technology. But ECF has already reached its "ecological terminus". On the contrary, "Green Bleaching" is not only answering to the today's requirement but also prepares the mill for the future. If, in 5 years, water usage or effluent emission or chemicals transportation and storage will become critical factors, the mills having already adopted "Green Bleaching" processes will be in a better position to maintain profitability. In my opinion, all technologies protecting environment and biodiversity should be promoted from a long term perspective. If the pulp mill has finally the same pulp quality and lower operating cost, I strongly believe that the move will be irresistible.

Environmentally and safety point of view, how good is your system? You may please give examples of some big pulp and paper mills.

In terms of safety, ozone is considered as a non-isolated chemical intermediate since it is immediately used after its generation. This is a big advantage since the risk of ozone release into the atmosphere is close to zero. Contrary to chlorine dioxide, ozone is a real "on site" chemical generation technology not requiring any delivery and storage of dangerous chemical precursors. The single precursor of ozone is oxygen which is generally produced on site, and the single by-product is also oxygen which can be further valorised.

Xylem has developed since 2002 a new concept of ozone generation systems specially designed for pulp and paper applications: Z-Compact Systems. This modular and integrated ozone plant is a big success for our sales in Pulp and Paper. This is a "plug and play" solution requiring minimal footprint on site and completely insulated from the external atmosphere. Once again, pulp and paper industry is a specific market requiring specific solutions.

Please name the countries where your system has been supplied?

Mr. Jean-Christophe Hostachy explains about the function of Ozone Generator Vessel