

NEWS From GEORGIA TECH'S ENGINEERING EXPERIMENT STATION

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For Immediate Release

PAPER MAKING INDUSTRY GETS ENERGY HELP FROM NEW TEXTILE PROCESS

ATLANTA, GA...The paper making industry, one of the nation's leading energy users and one of Georgia's largest employers, will be getting some energy conservation help from a process developed for another large energy consumer--the textile industry.

Working with funds from the U. S. Department of Energy, Georgia Tech's Engineering Experiment Station has begun an energy conservation project for the paper industry that will use a drying process developed to lower energy use for the textile industry. The process, which was developed by a Dutch firm, is being evaluated for the textile industry by EES.

According to James L. Clark of EES, both the textile and paper industries use similar processes for drying their products. Therefore, Clark says, the process studied by EES for the textile business should be able to work for the paper business.

Clark explains that the textile process consists of a high pressure steam jet to remove water from cloth. The jet works by producing shock

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waves which vibrate the cloth fibers to remove water. The process will work for the paper industry by removing water from felt absorbers.

The paper industry is currently ranked number four in total energy consumed by U.S. industry and is number one in the United States for fuel oil consumption.

EES will be working on this project with the Packaging Corporation of America, the Technical Association of the Pulp and Paper Industry (TAPPI), and the Herty Foundation, a research facility for the pulp and paper industry.