REQUESTED ACTION
Circulated to P- and O-members, and to technical committees and organizations in liaison for:

- information
- discussion at the ISO/TC 6/SC 2 plenary meeting 2011-05-26-27, agenda item 5.3

Title: Report from workshop on automated off-line testing
held on Tuesday 2011-05-24,

Source: Ulf Sohlin, Chairman ISO/TC 6/SC 2

Additional information: Workshop program is presented in document ISO/TC 6/SC 2 N 2404. There where 56 participants at the workshop.

AUTOMATED OFF-LINE TESTING – CONCLUSIONS

We have to recognize that ISO standards are currently developed for market needs.

The measuring equipments, complying to the ISO standards, are also used for the mills process control.

These are two different approaches and may lead to the development of complementary specifications to make the link between market needs and process control or to standards based on paper makers’ needs.

During the workshop the topic sampling and conditioning was brought up by many of the participants. Many stated that the automated off-line testing was used both for product control and quality control. In this situation the sampling and conditioning is in most cases not done in accordance with the International Standards ISO 186 and 187.

Many papermakers were present at the workshop and they expressed that this is of great interest to them. My conclusion is that there is a need for ISO/TC 6 and its sub committees to take this in to consideration and discuss how to meet their demands.

Should we modify/amend ISO 186 and ISO 187 or develop a new standard with a structure similar to ISO 5270 but for automated off-line testing?

It was also made clear that many of the measurements included in the different types of automated testing equipment were in accordance with existing ISO methods, such as thickness (ISO 534), grammage (ISO 536), Bendtsen surface roughness (ISO 8791-2), Print-surf (ISO 8791-4), bursting strength (ISO 2758, ISO 2759), optical properties etc.

In practice there is a wish for the automated off-line testing not to have to change the backing as often as described in the standards (optical) and also to get some information regarding how this would influence the results. Is it possible to introduce a reference backing (ceramic?) in the standard?
Issues for ISO/TC 6 and its subcommittees - How to continue?

1. AUTOMATED OFF-LINE TESTING

Start up discussions within ISO/TC 6 on how to do the sampling, conditioning and how to perform the optical testing focusing on the properties where the automated off-line testing is in accordance with existing ISO methods.

- It is proposed to set up an Ad Hoc Group to decide how to proceed and make proposal to address Off-Line testing running issues on sampling and conditioning, based on the comments in this document. Alternatives may be:
  - Develop a new standard, ISO 5270 as a model.
  - Write complementary notes to existing standards.

- In case of new standard, it should be clear that target is to serve papermakers needs to insure reproducible, reliable, comparable test results based on automatic off-line equipments. Optics issues to be treated specifically taking in account existing best practices.

2. ON-LINE TESTING

Start up discussions within ISO/TC 6 on issues related to on how to link ISO TC 6 standards (optics, ash, moisture) to on-line equipments.

- It is proposed to set up an Ad Hoc Group to decide how to proceed for dealing with the link between on-line testing equipments and ISO/TC 6 standards. The group should prepare the basis for a possible NWI proposal for a Technical Report to guideline standards users on how to link on-line equipments and TC6 standards.

- Optics, Ash and Moisture content are the relevant topics, and issues to address are: calibration methods, influence of backing, geometry, temperature, humidity.

- The document should address:
  - *performance evaluation*.
  - *difference evaluations. How often to sample, how to record, how to report, basis for decisions rules*.
  - *Reference to ISO standards and needs for TC6 standards development*.