

NEWS RELEASE

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Albany International's DURAGUARD® Achieving Record Runs

Albany, New York, October 27, 2004 —Albany International (NYSE/PSE: AIN), the world leader in paper machine clothing, reports that its DURAGUARD® corrugator belt has achieved record runs in two plants.

Verified field reports indicate that several plants are achieving record longevity, productivity, fewer machine stops and less down time with DURAGUARD. One Midwest plant reported achieving a rate of 200 mil/lin, nearly doubling productivity and the belt is still running. Similar results have been reported on trials at plants where maximum life for a top belt had never exceeded 12 months. DURAGUARD continues to run 19 months after installation.

“We are as excited about the results with DURAGUARD as our customers are,” said Tom Geiger, Global Sales Director, Corrugators, at Albany International. “What began as a way for plants running narrow board to reduce edge wear resulted in a belt that virtually eliminates starch build-up and provides excellent pulling. When used in conjunction with DURAGRIP on the lower position, our customers have discovered a winning combination for both productivity and performance.”

DURAGUARD is the newest in Albany's family of "DURA" corrugator belting products for the paperboard industry. Similar to its flagship product DURA-DRY® 2000, DURAGUARD is constructed of heavyweight polyester fibers in a 4-layer woven base.

With 47 plants in 14 countries, Albany International is the world's largest producer of paper machine clothing and high performance industrial doors. The company employs more than 6,000 people worldwide.

For more information, contact Tom Geiger at 518-542-4920 or Joe Lanthier, Global Product Manager, at 518-447-6250; visit Albany's web site at www.albint.com; or visit Albany International at Booth #2135 at SuperCorrExpo 2004.