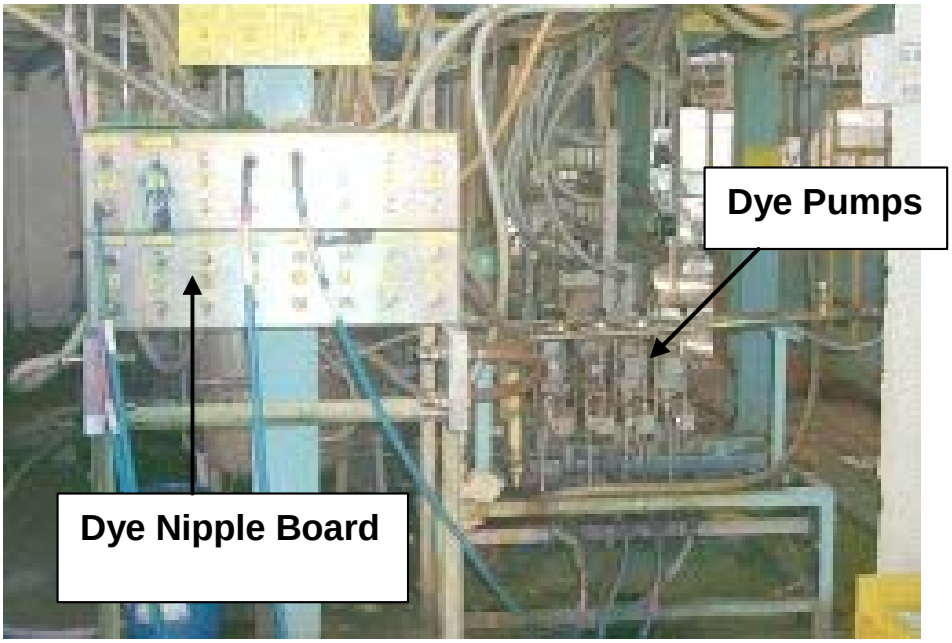
How is colour added to the Paper

How is colour introduced into the paper making process?

The bulk of paper produced has some amount of dye added to the pulp mix in order to achieve a consistent colour in the sheet. The only exception at Shoalhaven is “Recycle 100” which is produced in a natural pulp slush colour. All dyes are specific chemical compounds and generally are varieties of red, blue and yellow colours. The actual colour produced in the paper from adding one or more of these compounds is affected by various processing conditions, such as the nature of the pulps used, the degree of refining, and the chemical balance. Therefore colour matching of product and control of colour uniformity is a challenging task requiring experience and judgement.

Optical brighteners (OBA) are fluorescent substances which can also be added during the making of paper. They transform absorbed ultraviolet light into reflected visible blue light, and thus make the paper look brighter.

Both No1 & No2 Mills have dying systems set up at the pulp preparation stage before the ‘wet end’ of the paper making machine. The water soluble dyes are mixed into the pulp slush prior to the Headbox stage of the paper making machine The mixing of the dyes to customer specification is facilitated through a computerized pumping system in the fan pump area where the required dyes and wet fibre is blended.



The dye nipple board on a paper making machine provides for the controlled transfer of dyes through tubing from elevated holding tanks to the various sized dye pumps and on into the paper machine’s pulp slush mix.