International Paper Investment to Further Improve Water Footprint at French Saillat Mill by 30%

Brussels, Belgium / St.Junien, France, July 09, 2014 – International Paper announced earlier this year an investment of approx. Euro 20 MM into its Saillat mill, located in the French Limousin region, to further reduce the facilities’ water emissions and offer customers an even more environmentally friendly product portfolio. The implementation of the project will commence in the summer of 2014 and is expected to be completed in 2015.

At its core, the investment involves advanced technology to extract an improved quality of fiber from wood by using a smoother process. The new process leaves fibers more intact resulting in even higher quality paper, and at the same time further reduces water emissions by another 30% from the already very good levels the Saillat mill is achieving today.

“We’re well known as a leading manufacturer of entirely locally produced high quality value-added paper grades that meet the highest sustainability standards”, says Eric Chartrain, Vice President & General Manager for International Paper’s European papers business. “Generating a reduction of another 30% of the Saillat mill’s water emissions and supporting local manufacturing of a product that customers want, this investment is another example of International Paper’s commitment to bringing the sustainable and circular economy to life.”

The investment will allow International Paper to offer an even greater choice of top notch products to customers. It follows other investments into the company’s service capabilities and modernization of its paper machines at the Saillat facility in recent years.

The project is supported by local and national French and European agencies, notably the European Union (through the Limousin Region) and the Loire-Brittany Water Agency.
About International Paper

International Paper (NYSE: IP) is a global leader in packaging and paper with manufacturing operations in North America, Europe, Latin America, Russia, Asia and North Africa. Its businesses include industrial and consumer packaging and uncoated papers. Headquartered in Memphis, Tenn., the company employs approximately 65,000 people and is strategically located in more than 24 countries serving customers worldwide. International Paper net sales for 2013 were $29 billion. For more information about International Paper, its products and stewardship efforts, visit internationalpaper.com.

In Europe, Middle East, Africa & Russia (EMEA), International Paper focuses on the production and marketing of office papers and paper-based packaging. The company is a leading supplier of high-quality cutsize papers, coated and uncoated paperboard and corrugated containers for a wide range of applications. International Paper in EMEA had net sales of approximately $3.2 billion in 2013 and employs approximately 9,000 people.

Located in the French Limousin region since over a century, the Saillat pulp and paper mill is part of International Paper since 1989. Certified “Origine France Garantie”, it is the only integrated paper mill in France making uncoated woodfree papers exclusively from locally sourced wood. The mill’s environmental performance is recognized with the EU Ecolabel, FSC and PEFC certifications; the site is also one of the best performing globally in terms of CO2 emissions. The Saillat mill is a key player locally: the site employs approximately 550 people and generates around 4,000 indirect jobs in the area. It is also one of the best in class mills in Europe to apply the short channel (circuit court) concept: The Saillat mill uses only local wood sourced from within a maximum of 150 km around the mill and sells around half of its products locally in France.

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