International Paper in Cooperation with Ilim Group Launches Ballet Brilliant

St. Petersburg – December 15, 2014 – International Paper together with Ilim Group have expanded their portfolio of high-quality office paper with the launch of a new product: a premium class cut-size paper Ballet Brilliant, the only A+ grade paper produced in Russia.

Paper production is part of the joint marketing agreement between International Paper and Ilim Group. Under this agreement, distribution and sales of all uncoated printing paper produced by Ilim Group's Mills are managed by International Paper.

The improved specifications of the new product ensures high CIE whiteness (168%), basis weight (82 gsm), exceptional ISO D65/10° brightness (112%), and strength (150 mN MD / 70 mN CD) to offer superior picture and color reproduction.

Ballet Brilliant is FSC-certified confirming our commitment to sustainability and responsible sourcing while meeting ISO 9001, ISO 14001, ISO 9706, and OHSAS 18001 requirements. It is also manufactured using ECF (Elemental Chlorine Free) technology reducing its environmental footprint.

"Ballet Brilliant, is a terrific product that our customers have been looking for” said Ksenia Sosnina President of International Paper Russia “this new A+ grade guarantees that your most important documents will look extra impressive when printed and it’s yet another sign of our critically important partnership with the Ilim Group and further proof of the robust growth of the paper industry in Russia.”

"The launch of the first A+ grade cut-size paper in Russia is the result of our excellent cooperation with International Paper and proof of the high level of technology development at Ilim which took the industry to a new level,” commented Franz Marx, Ilim Group CEO. – Ballet Brilliant launch is in line with our strategy aimed to embrace value-added products and substitute imports."

Reference information

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 www.internationalpaper.com.

Ilim Group is the largest pulp and paper company in Russia. Its mills and logging facilities are located in Koryazhma (Arkhangelsk Oblast), Bratsk and Ust-Ilimsk (Irkutsk Oblast), and in the Leningrad Oblast.

More detailed information is available on the website www.ilimgroup.ru

Contacts:
Olga Mikhantyeva
International Paper Russia
Tel.: +7 921 947-41-11
E-mail: Olga.Mikhantyeva@ipaper.com

Artem Savko
Ilim Group
Tel.: +7 921 905-88-85
E-mail: artem.savko@ilimgroup.ru