Press release

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SKOLKOVO Business School and International Paper hold a leadership module for MBA-7 students on Kamchatka

Moscow – May 14, 2018 – Moscow School of Management SKOLKOVO together with its strategic partner International Paper has hold the final educational module of MBA program under the extreme conditions of the Kamchatka peninsula for the third year in a row. This year, 42 students from the program participated in the module dedicated to the development of leadership potential. During the seven-day Kamchatka expedition, participants analyzed the experience they acquired throughout the MBA program, reflected on the different aspects of strategic leadership and the role of a leader in a group as well as tested their personal stamina under rough weather conditions of the peninsula. The program of the final module consisted of three stages: emersion, challenge and reflection. The final stage was orchestrated by Andrey Volkov, the first Dean of the Moscow School of Management SKOLKOVO, International Master of Sports in mountain climbing and a member of an expedition to K2, the most spectacular and extreme mountain in the world.

Keith Townsend, President of International Paper in Russia, said:

“We are proud of our strategic partnership with the Moscow School of Management SKOLKOVO, as it allows us to help shape the future business leaders in Russia. We are particularly pleased to support the leadership module on Kamchatka, as this year we are celebrating the 20th anniversary of our operations in Russia. We hope that the experience gained by the participants of the Kamchatka module will enable them to confidently build their business strategy of leadership.”

Andrey Volkov, the first Dean of the Moscow School of Management SKOLKOVO and Management Professor, added:

"It is important for MBA students to understand themselves and their goals as well as to be able to construct their own life as a leader. This understanding is almost impossible to achieve in a standard class set-up – that is why we chose such an exotic place for our module as Kamchatka. I believe that this module is a kind of an express preparation course for the world
of business with its volatility, the world where at any moment you can either lose everything or come out on top.”

Maxim Feldman, Head of MBA and EMBA Programs Department and the Private Customers Division:

"Modern entrepreneurs are leaders, but the turbulent environment introduces major adjustments to the meaning of the concept of "leadership". Paraphrasing Galileo, you cannot teach a man leadership, you can only help him find a leader in himself. This is the goal that we set when we conduct the final module of the program on Kamchatka – we put MBA students in conditions that will push them to reveal their leadership potential. Students of the MBA-7 were provided with a unique opportunity – in seven days of the expedition they took a step forward as leaders that others rely on."

International Paper has been participating in the development of SKOLKOVO MBA’s Kamchatka module for the past three years. As a strategic partner of the Moscow School of Management SKOLKOVO since 2010, the company has been actively supporting three key initiatives of the School – talent sustainability and MBA program support, strategic leadership, and sustainable development. International Paper has traditionally supported SKOLKOVO MBA flagship program.

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About International Paper

International Paper (NYSE: IP) is a leading global producer of renewable fiber-based packaging, pulp and paper products with manufacturing operations in North America, Latin America, Europe, North Africa and Russia. We produce corrugated packaging products that protect and promote goods, and enable world-wide commerce; pulp for diapers, tissue and other personal hygiene products that promote health and wellness and papers that facilitate education and communication. We are headquartered in Memphis, Tenn., and employ approximately 52,000 colleagues located in more than 24 countries. Net sales for 2016 were $21 billion. For more information about International Paper, our products and global citizenship efforts, please visit internationalpaper.com.

About International Paper Russia

In 2018, International Paper is celebrating 20 years of its operations in Russia. The company focuses on the production and marketing of office and offset papers, liquid packaging board and bleached chemical thermo-mechanical pulp at its Svetogorsk mill. The company’s Russian footprint also includes a 50:50 joint venture with the Ilim Group, the largest integrated paper and pulp manufacturer in Russia. International Paper’s most well-known brands in Russia are SvetoCopy and Ballet. International Paper is a responsible investor aimed at sustainable forest management, as well as other environmental and social projects benefitting the Russian community.

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