Press release

Media contacts:
Sergii Pershyn +7 968 849 7639  Irina Dvoryankina +7 925 080 9792

International Paper participates in St. Petersburg International Forestry Forum

Saint Petersburg – October 16, 2017 – International Paper recently conducted a practical workshop entitled “Planning and execution of forestry practices in commercial and protected forests using the new forest management regulations”. The event took place at Tikhvin Forestry Complex and was organized by International Paper Russia together with Saint Petersburg Forestry Research Institute and Forest Industry Union of the Leningrad Region as part of the XIX St. Petersburg International Forestry Forum.

The workshop was dedicated to sustainable forestry practices in accordance with the new reforestation regulations that the Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment is expected to approve at the end of 2017. All stakeholders took part in the event, including the government (Forestry Department of the Northwest Federal District, Tikhvin Forestry Complex, members of the Natural Resources Committee in the Leningrad Region), business (Trastles, MM-Efimovskiy, IKEA Industry Tikhvin LLC, Mondi, Metsya Forest Podporozhe, Kovrovlesprom), NGOs (WWF Russia, GreenForest fund, Forest Industry Union of the Leningrad Region) and academics (Saint Petersburg Forestry Research Institute, University of Eastern Finland, Saint Petersburg State Forest Technical University). At the pilot areas, the participants developed forest management plans and learned how to execute tending and logging according to the principles of sustainable forestry model. The event is a part of the roadmap of the Leningrad Region’s transition to sustainable forestry model approved by Leningrad Region Governor Alexander Drozdenko and Deputy Minister of Natural resources and environment of the Russian Federation Ivan Valentik.

Next day, during “Sustainable forestry in Russia: today and tomorrow” conference stakeholders developed a memorandum to formalize the suggestions made to improve forest management.

Aleksey Eglit, Head of Forestry Department of the Northwest Federal District, said: “Such workshops are valuable, because all stakeholders that partake in sustainable forestry model implementation can have a discussion out in the woods where the changes are to take place. It is important that all participants feel accountable and understand their challenges and responsibilities.”
Konstantin Kobyakov, Hight conservation valuable forests Projects Coordinator, WWF Russia, noted: “We would like to thank the tenants for organizing the workshop. Proper regulations developed with the consideration for diverse forest types as well as proper forestry are our contribution to sustainable future of forests.”

Fedor Grabar, Forest Department Director at International Paper Russia, noted: “The workshop, which we held for the forth time, demonstrates the importance of the dialog between all stakeholders in the process of improved sustainable forestry model. I would like to thank forest management authorities, environmental organizations and tenants for participating in the workshop. We will continue this work as it helps to plan forest activities in line with the new regulations.”

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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, Asia and Russia. We produce 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; papers that facilitate education and communication; paper bags, cups and food containers that provide convenience and portability. We are headquartered in Memphis, Tenn., and employ approximately 55,000 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
International Paper started its operations in Russia in 1998. 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, which in 2017 celebrates the 130th anniversary of its launch. 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 Ballet and SvetoCopy. International Paper is a responsible investor focused on sustainable forest management, as well as other environmental and social projects benefitting the Russian community.

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