Press release

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

International Paper congratulates Moscow School of Management SKOLKOVO on 10th anniversary

Moscow, September 17 – Moscow School of Management SKOLKOVO celebrated the 10th anniversary of its foundation with a business festival on 17 September in Moscow. The event took place at the School’s Campus and gathered together everyone who has supported its development during the past 10 years: representatives of the government, business leaders, professors, students, alumni, friends and partners of SKOLKOVO – in total over 1,500 guests attended the celebration. It is amazing that, 10 years ago, the school was just a draft on a napkin, and today it has produced more than 1,500 degree program graduates, more than 12,000 corporate program students, around 100 corporate clients and over 100 pieces of research in a number of areas.

Keith Townsend, President of International Paper Russia, visited Moscow School of Management SKOLKOVO and congratulated it on this notable anniversary. International Paper continues to support SKOLKOVO’s MBA program and has provided educational grants for MBA-7 class students. During his visit, Keith Townsend met the MBA-7 class students who are due start in October. These young entrepreneurs shared their goals and views on the role played by leadership and why completing your business education at SKOLKOVO is so important. Egor Maslov, Director of the Operational Service Department at the European Pension Fund, and MBA-7 student, said: “The key reason I chose SKOLKOVO’s MBA program was an opportunity to meet the program’s other students, its professors, mentors and representatives – people who represent success.” Students also showed an interest in other International Paper supported programs in Russia. Keith Townsend outlined the company’s comprehensive social agenda in the Leningrad region and its global philanthropic and educational initiatives as well as the support it offers local communities across all 24 countries of the company’s global presence.

On the day of the anniversary the Campus was full of ideas, creativity and positive visions. The business festival program included over 20 events. The day started with a panel discussion titled “The Next 10 Years or How it all Began?”, where the School’s history and the future were discussed. The session was attended by iconic figures not only for the School, but for Russia as a whole – Herman Gref, CEO, Chairman of the Executive Board of Sberbank of Russia, former Minister of Economic Development and Trade, Ruben Vardanyan, Russian entrepreneur and philanthropist, one of the founders of Moscow School of Management SKOLKOVO and its first
The participants discussed the formation of business education in Russia, its development and outlook for the next 10 years.

This discussion was followed by a special event – a meeting with Peter Jackson at a panel discussion titled The Fellowship of a Dream. One of today’s brightest directors, who directed The Lord of the Rings and Hobbit franchises, joined the celebration, and shared his views on how to establish a successful business following a dream. The discussion was also joined by Mikhail Kusnirovich, Chairman of the Advisory Board of BOSCO di Ciliegi, who was an excellent moderator; Vadim Dymov, founder and owner of Dymov brand; Dmitry Grishin, co-founder and CEO of Mail.ru Group; and Alexander Rodnyansky, director and producer, President of A.R.Films.

The School’s alumni shared their aspirations and achievements, and presented their projects at SKOLKOVO Alumni Fair. Guests also participated in business games, workshops and presentation, visited interactive discussions and roundtables.

One of the key exhibitions at the event was the joint initiative “From Sketches on Paper to Spacecraft” which was transferred from GUM where it opened on August 28. A massive installation was suspended from floor to ceiling, filling the entire space of the Campus, representing the full panoply of future careers. This included both traditional and unusual jobs – ranging from corporate anthropologists to glass engineers – jobs that were also initially drafted on a simple sheet of paper.

The event concluded with a traditional graduation ceremony for new members of the Skolkovo family. And the new class MBA-7 will start this in October.

This celebration of SKOLKOVO’s anniversary was fill of creativity and inspiration. Inspiration is the key word that students associate with the world that SKOLKOVO opens up for them.

Moscow School of Management SKOLKOVO is a leading private business school in Russia and CIS founded in 2006 following an initiative from business community. Partners and co-founders include 10 Russian and international companies and 11 individuals – leaders of the Russian business. SKOLKOVO offers programs for business at various stages of its development – from a startup to a large corporation entering global markets.

###

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 along with uncoated papers and pulp. Headquartered in Memphis, Tenn., the Company employs approximately 55,000 people and is strategically located in more than 24 countries serving customers worldwide. International Paper net sales for 2015 were $22 billion. For more information about International Paper, its products and global citizenship efforts, 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 with wholly owned manufacturing operations in Svetogorsk. 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.

###

More news about International Paper in Russia: http://www.internationalpaper.comRussia