International Paper and SKOLKOVO agree three-year extension to cooperation agreement

Moscow, 25 May 2016 - International Paper and Moscow School of Management SKOLKOVO (“SKOLKOVO”) today announced that they have agreed to extend their strategic partnership through to 2019. The announcement came during the signing ceremony of a new MOU between the parties. The ceremony was held in the presence of:

- Ksenia Sosnina, President of International Paper Russia;
- Andrei Sharonov, Dean of SKOLKOVO;
- Ruben Vardanyan, Founding Partner and Vice-Chairman of Moscow SKOLKOVO’s International Advisory Board.

This agreement marks the further development of International Paper’s close cooperation with SKOLKOVO, which goes back to 2009 at which time International Paper became a member of the SKOLKOVO International Advisory Board, and then in 2012 when the parties signed their first MOU to develop joint projects under the SKOLKOVO MBA program. International Paper shared its global expertise in leadership, as the company’s speakers held a number of workshops and lectures for SKOLKOVO MBA students on leadership, sustainability principles, as well as on practical aspects of how a major successful international company operates.

Ksenia Sosnina, International Paper Russia’s President, said: “Human development and leadership, sustainability, improving the investment climate and entrepreneurship experience in Russia are at the heart of International Paper’s strategy and our joint agenda with SKOLKOVO. This is driven by the fact that we share the same views on the mission of major international businesses in Russia and such institutes as SKOLKOVO, namely to help unlock Russia’s long-term economic potential.”

Andrei Sharonov, Dean of SKOLKOVO, said: “We at SKOLKOVO business school believe that partnership is essential to achieving our goals. We cooperate with global companies that see potential for their development on the Russian market and understand how the local expertise can enhance global practice. We are very pleased with our long-term cooperation with International Paper, which supports bright and talented managers and entrepreneurs who want to do business in and with Russia.”

Since 2012, International Paper has supported a number of the business school’s initiatives. The company is a partner of the flagship SKOLKOVO MBA program, providing education grants for those involved in the most promising business projects and supporting the final education leadership module in Kamchatka in Spring 2016. To date, International Paper has provided seven SKOLKOVO MBA grants. In 2015, SKOLKOVO and International Paper jointly published a book by
Pierre Casse, professor in Leadership, entitled Success. Leader. Action. International Paper has also supported the Green Wall – one of the largest in the Eastern Europe – at SKOLKOVO campus.

About joint projects of International Paper and SKOLKOVO

- 2009 - International Paper became a member of the SKOLKOVO International Advisory Board
- 2012 - International Paper and SKOLKOVO signed their first MOU
- 2012 – Launch of education grants programme (MBA)
- 2012 - Launch of the Green Wall, supported by International Paper
- 2012-2015 –International Paper’s workshops and lectures for SKOLKOVO MBA
- 2014 – Launch of an exhibition Russian Forests in the presence of Russian Prime-minister D.A.Medvedev
- 2015 – Launch of Sustainability Lab in cooperation with Unilever and SKOLKOVO
- 2016 – International Paper supported Kamchatka module for MBA-5

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. The company’s headquarters is located in Memphis, Tenn.

Official website of International Paper: www.internationalpaper.com