

SUSTAINABILITY UPDATE

INTERNATIONAL  PAPER

EHS & Sustainability

The Facts on Recycling

International Paper offers a range of recycled products to meet our customer needs.

Whether it's providing recycled or new fiber products, our company always keeps sustainability in mind. Most of our paper and packaging grades can be made with 10 percent post consumer fiber (PCF) and many grades are available with up to 30 percent PCF. Contact your customer service representative for details.

International Paper Recycling collects 12 percent of the U.S.'s total recovered paper.

International Paper's nineteen recycling facilities provide services to thousands of businesses and large retailers throughout the U.S. As the leader in brokering recovered paper globally, our recycling facilities collect 6 million tons of recovered paper annually or 12 percent of all recovered paper in the U.S. We also collect an additional 2 million tons of recycled commodities other than paper, for a total of 8 million tons of recycled commodities. International Paper mills consume almost half of the paper recovered at our recycling facilities, and consume a total of about 6 million tons of recovered paper annually.

Recycled fiber has some limitations – contamination, supply and proper use.

Even though U.S. paper recovery rates are at an all time high, there are still challenges with recovered fiber. Contamination limits the recycled content possible in some paper grades. The demand for recovered paper exceeds the supply. And, recovered fiber can be more expensive to recycle into products, and in some cases can even have a net negative effect on the environment when compared to using new fiber.

New fiber paper is made from trees, a renewable resource.

The true environmental impact of paper depends on the grade, distribution, manufacturing process and many other factors. Each product is different and so is its environmental footprint, with different energy and water requirements, solid waste outputs and shipping distances. Paper is made from one of the world's most renewable resources – trees. International Paper is committed to providing the products our customers need as we work to continue to improve their environmental footprint.

Our products are recyclable.

Fiber in most of the products we manufacture can be recovered and used to make new paper, coated paperboard or corrugated boxes. Promoting the recovery of paper products reduces paper in landfills, helps keep a supply consistent and – perhaps most important – promotes the wise use of paper and packaging products.

A sustainable paper cycle includes both new and recycled fibers.

It is clear that both new and recycled fiber are essential to a sustainable fiber supply. Paper production cannot be sustained by recovered fiber alone. Manufacturers would run out of fiber for papermaking in a matter of months if they relied only on recovered fiber. Therefore, it is vitally important to ensure the new fiber we do use comes from sustainably managed forests. The new fiber we use is certified to the Sustainable Forestry Initiative® (SFI) procurement, the Programme for the Endorsement of Forest Certification (PEFC) and the Forest Stewardship Council (FSC) chain-of-custody Standards.

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