

SAPPI SOMMERSET PLANT RECEIVED

”GOVERNORS AWARD FOR ENVIRONMENTAL EXCELLENCE”

FOR ACCOMPLISHMENTS CONCERNING POLLUTION

**PREVENTION IN MAINE USA WITH HELP OF
TrumpJet™ TECHNOLOGY**





Fine Paper
North America

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Sappi Receives “Governor’s Award for Environmental Excellence” for Accomplishments Concerning Pollution Prevention in Maine

Award Recognizes Environmental Accomplishments at Sappi’s Somerset Plant

Boston - Sappi Fine Paper North America, the leading manufacturer of coated fine paper in North America, recently received the 2005 State of Maine “Governor’s Award for Environmental Excellence.” Honored for the environmental accomplishments of the “No. 3 Paper Machine Water Reduction Project,” Sappi Fine Paper North America’s Somerset Plant won the award in the Pollution Prevention (P2) category.

The Governor’s Award for Environmental Excellence honors outstanding environmental protection efforts made by businesses, organizations and individuals. Five of the 18 companies recognized received awards in the Pollution Prevention category, which recognizes reduction or elimination of pollution at its source through pollution prevention concepts. The concepts must be current state-of-the-art technology processes or processes that are new to industry and considered modern and cutting edge to their sector at a national and international level.

The Sappi Somerset mill has an ongoing program to reduce energy, freshwater and chemical consumption to maximize the use of natural resources and improve economic performance. The No. 3 paper machine has the highest freshwater usage of the mill’s three paper machines. Last year, Sappi initiated a project to reduce the amount hot freshwater used to inject papermaking chemicals into the wet end of the No. 3 paper machine.

The No. 3 paper machine project started in August of 2004. The benefits of the project include:

- Reduction of freshwater consumption by 300 million gallons per year.
- Reduction in the energy and electricity used to treat, heat, and pump the freshwater by 125 billion Btu’s per year.
- Reduction in the use of retention aided chemicals by 22%.

“We are extremely honored to receive this award recognizing our environmental efforts from Governor Baldacci,” said Ronee Hagen, President and CEO of Sappi Fine Paper North America.. “We reduced freshwater consumption and energy and chemical costs on our No. 3 paper machine through employing a widely-used, European technology. The outcome was so successful that we have applied the same cutting-edge technology to our No. 1 paper machine, and are scheduled to implement it on No. 2 later this year.”

Sappi Fine Paper North America is the leading North American producer of coated fine paper used in premium magazines, catalogues, books and high-end print advertising. Headquartered in Boston, Massachusetts, Sappi Fine Paper North America is known for innovation and quality. Its brand names McCoy, Lustro, Strobe, Opus and Somerset are some of the

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industry's most widely recognized and specified coated paper. SFPNA is a division of Sappi Limited (NYSE: SPP), a global company headquartered in Johannesburg, South Africa, with manufacturing operations in eight countries, sales offices in 50 countries, and customers in over 100 countries around the world. Learn more about Sappi at: www.sappi.com

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Sappi wins award for pollution prevention

By Chuin-Wei Yap: Morning Sentinel, MaineToday

SKOWHEGAN (Maine, USA) -- In what its officials describe as a "triple whammy" in pollution reduction, **Sappi Fine Paper North America** in November won this year's **Governor's Award for Environmental Excellence**.

A new technology installed on one of its Skowhegan paper mills cuts freshwater use by 25 percent, or 300 million gallons a year; energy use by 125 billion British thermal units, or Btu a year; and chemicals by 22 percent, according to a Sappi press release.

A Btu is the amount of heat needed to increase the temperature of a pound of water by one degree Fahrenheit.

"We got a triple whammy out of this (in terms of the areas of pollution reduction)," said **Tom Griffin**, the Sappi Somerset Mill's environmental manager. "It's good for the environment and it's good for business."

The eight-month project to tweak the Skowhegan plant's No. 3 paper mill involved reducing the amount of hot water used to inject paper-making chemicals into the "wet end" of the paper machine.

The idea came from an imported **European technology** that was first tried out successfully on the plant's first machine.

"We put a similar system on our No. 1 machine in 2003," said **Deborah Tozier**, the mill's engineer. "It was a great success."

The technology is due to be put in place on the plant's second machine later this year, according to the press release.

The savings amount to an equivalent of 20,000 barrels of oil a year, Griffin said. But, citing competitive reasons, officials would not disclose the amount of money they invested in the antipollution upgrade, and would not allow pictures to be taken of their machine. Funds were requested from Sappi North America's corporate headquarters for the project, Tozier said.

The machine went through two shutdowns to put the new technology in place, Tozier and Griffin said.

Sappi's paper products are known for its use in catalogs, books, high-end advertising and magazines like Elle and Vogue.

Four other companies also won the Governor's Award for pollution prevention this year, which honors those who use state-of-the-art technologies to cut pollution.

Awards like these are not new to Sappi. The company has won awards in the past for phosphorus reduction, hazardous waste reduction, and a mentoring program in partnership with area schools, Griffin said.

News info: copy from a Maine newspaper
maintoday.com

<http://morningsentinel.maintoday.com/news/local/2156546.shtml>



The annual savings:

1. Fresh water saving:

300 million gallons or

1, 1 million m³



2. Energy saving:

125 billion Btu or

20.000 oil barrels or

36.600 MWh (or 131 TJ)



3. Chemical saving:

22%



Summary:

- Better Environment
- Improved Economics