

Paper: Here today ... here tomorrow

Paper is used in **thousands of applications**
tough enough to **withstand acid**, **soft**
enough to use on a **baby's skin**.

Young people find information presented
on **paper** more **official**, **trustworthy**,
confidential and **secure**.¹

**A sustainable resource that
touches our lives every day.**



Why use paper?

Paper offers a sensory experience no other communication medium can replicate.

The type of paper used, can evoke a world of emotions, memories, experiences shared and those still to come—it can say so much, without using any words.

We do not merely use paper, we engage with it. Paper stimulates our senses and our emotions. A world without paper would provide information in a soulless, impersonal manner; never tangible and always dependent on an electronic device, batteries and power sources. A world without paper would have no sustainable, renewable and biodegradable solution for packaging.

Paper is used in thousands of different applications every day, and can be made tough enough to withstand acid or soft enough to use on a baby's skin.

Imagine a world without paper: no books to snuggle up with in bed; no magazines with views, trends and features to read and share with friends; nothing to scribble your brilliant ideas on or to practise your art on; no sheet of music when playing your piano; and no packaging to protect valuable goods in transit. Not even toilet tissue or kitchen wipes.

How does paper compare with digital media?

Digital media has its place, but paper is still very much part of our daily lives; that's true even for the younger generation. The Confederation of European Paper Industries (CEPI) recently surveyed young people in their 20s. The survey showed that paper makes everything more emotional, official, trusted, confidential and secure. Another survey¹ shows that digital media can be distracting: "The reading process and experience of digital text are greatly affected by the fact that we click and scroll, in contrast to the tactilely richer experience when flipping through the pages of a printed book."

Did you know?

Through photosynthesis, trees and other plants use water and sunlight to convert CO₂ into carbohydrates to provide energy and the building blocks for plant growth. The process releases oxygen as a byproduct. The CO₂ removed from the atmosphere is converted and stored in plant material and wood. In other words, trees and the use of forest products can act as carbon sinks. The process of photosynthesis is accelerated by the elevated levels of CO₂ in the atmosphere. In all regions, our industry has played a significant role in expanding forests and plantations. Harvesting is not equal to deforestation; it is an important part of the cycle of growth, materials manufacture and regrowth.

Enjoy a richer **tactile** experience
and **engage emotionally**
more with **printed media**,
than with digital.

Paper is made from a
sustainable resource,
is **recyclable**, **biodegradable** and
locks up carbon throughout its life.

There are **growing concerns**
about the impact
of **fossil based**
packaging
on the world's oceans.

Why choose Sappi paper?

Our paper and paper packaging solutions are 'Inspired by life' and made with fibre sourced from sustainable commercial plantations, managed to exacting international standards, or from fibre collected by recyclers established and supported by Sappi.

Is Sappi paper a sustainable product?

Our paper and paper packing products are made from natural plant fibres, mostly from wood, which is renewable. Once harvested, natural resources, like trees, can be regrown over a relatively short space of time. This contrasts with products made from non-renewable resources like oil, gas, coal or mined products, that, once used, cannot be replaced.

Is Sappi's fibre sourced responsibly?

Each year in South Africa, **harvesting is balanced by replanting**.

We **do not** harvest trees from old growth or indigenous forests.

Up to **a third of our landholdings** are responsibly managed as **conservation areas** to protect and promote biodiversity.

All our virgin wood-sources are Forest Stewardship Council™² (FSC™)-certified or controlled. FSC™ is the international audit benchmark we use in South Africa so that consumers can distinguish responsibly made local products from imported products of unknown origin.

The story of our non-wood fibre use is even more impressive: incorporating sugar cane fibre (bagasse), reclaimed fibre (broke) from our own manufacturing process as well as collected fibre (post-consumer) bought in from recycling agents.

Did you know?

In Southern Africa, we have access to 516,000 hectares of plantations of which approximately 379,000 hectares are owned or leased and 129,000 hectares are contracted supply.

Our aim is to produce low-cost wood with the required pulping characteristics and increase yield per hectare. We actively pursue this aim, particularly through genetic improvement of planting stock.

An example is developing DNA marker tools to enhance our tree breeding efforts, by speeding up the tree selection process.

Another example is our work with *Eucalyptus dunnii*, our most important eucalypt species, where we have focused on developing genomic selection models for approximately 15 growth and wood property traits.

Is paper biodegradable?

Yes. Paper comes from nature and it returns to nature. Not only is it strong, versatile, beautiful, re-usable and recyclable, it is also fully biodegradable.

In sea water conditions—much of the world's garbage ends up in our oceans—paper biodegrades fully within four months, returning to nature without leaving any toxic residue. This is sharp contrast to plastics and other non-biodegradable materials which can take hundreds of years to degrade.

Is Sappi's manufacturing environmentally responsible?

Although our manufacturing activities have some impact on the Planet, we aim to reduce this impact as much as possible. One of the ways in which we have achieved this is by establishing five-year targets. Compared with a base year of 2014, in 2018 our performance in South Africa was as follows:

- A reduction of 4.62% in energy intensity
- A decrease of 20.22% in total specific process water use (m³/adt), and
- A reduction of 9.52% in specific fossil intensity (GJ/adt).

What is Sappi doing about climate change?

For some people, global warming is a recent phenomenon, but at Sappi, we've been measuring our greenhouse gas emissions since 2000. In South Africa, approximately 42.7% of the energy we use is renewable, derived largely from black liquor from our production processes.

Does Sappi take environmental responsibility for its products once it enters the marketplace?

Our responsibility to the environment does not end once our papers enter the marketplace.

Our waste paper division's name, 'Sappi ReFibre' reflects the broad nature of our commitment to re-use what many people classify as waste. We recycle post-converter and post-consumer waste, procured from homes, offices, wholesalers, retailers, and manufacturers, in both the formal and informal sectors, through an extensive network of independent collection agents across the country.

Sappi ReFibre has developed a successful outsourced business model that supports entrepreneurial development and job creation, while also providing a secure market for recyclable paper.

1 Mangen, Anne Hypertext fiction reading: haptics and immersion. Journal of Research in Reading, Vol 31, Issue 4. November 2008

2 Our mills' and forestry certification details, including FSC™, SFI® and PEFC™, are available online (<https://www.sappi.com/certifications>) and summarised in the Sustainability FAQs — Our certifications.

3 http://www.recyclepaper.co.za/wp-content/uploads/2015/08/LB543-PRASA-A4-Aug_2015-summary4.pdf