

**SAPPI GROUP  
(Sappi Limited)  
FOURTH QUARTER FISCAL YEAR 2010 FINANCIAL RESULTS AND  
OPERATIONAL DATA ENDED SEPTEMBER 26, 2010**

**November 08, 2010**

**This report is being furnished to The Bank of New York Mellon as trustee of the Senior Secured Notes due 2014 (the “Notes”) of PE Paper Escrow GmbH pursuant to Section 4.03 of the indenture governing the Notes, dated as of July 29, 2009.**

## **CAUTIONARY STATEMENT REGARDING FORWARD-LOOKING STATEMENTS**

Except for historical information contained herein, statements contained in this report may constitute “forward-looking statements” within the meaning of the United States Private Securities Litigation Reform Act of 1995.

The words “believe”, “anticipate”, “expect”, “intend”, “estimate”, “plan”, “assume”, “positioned”, “will”, “may”, “should”, “risk” and other similar expressions, which are predictions of or indicate future events and future trends, which do not relate to historical matters, identify forward-looking statements. In addition, this document includes forward-looking statements relating to the potential exposure of the Sappi group to various types of market risks, such as interest rate risk, foreign exchange rate risk and commodity price risk. You should not rely on forward-looking statements because they involve known and unknown risks, uncertainties and other factors which are in some cases beyond the control of the Sappi group and may cause its actual results, performance or achievements to differ materially from anticipated future results, performance or achievements express or implied by such forward-looking statements (and from past results, performance or achievements). Certain factors that may cause such differences include but are not limited to:

- the highly cyclical nature of the pulp and paper industry (and the factors that contribute to such cyclicity, such as levels of demand, production capacity, production, input costs including raw material, energy and employee costs, and pricing);
- the impact on the business of the Sappi group of the global economic downturn;
- unanticipated production disruptions (including as a result of planned or unexpected power outages);
- changes in environmental, tax and other laws and regulations;
- adverse changes in the markets for products of the Sappi group;
- consequences of the leverage of the Sappi group, including as a result of adverse changes in credit markets that affect the ability of the Sappi group to raise capital when needed;
- adverse changes in the political situation and economy in the countries in which the Sappi group operates or the effect of governmental efforts to address present or future economic or social problems;

- the impact of investments, acquisitions and dispositions (including related financing), any delays, unexpected costs or other problems experienced in connection with dispositions or with integrating acquisitions and achieving expected savings and synergies; and
- currency fluctuations.

We urge you to read the information contained in the sections entitled “Item 3—Key Information—Selected Financial Data”, “Item 3—Key Information—Risk Factors”, “Item 4—Information on the Company”, “Item 5—Operating and Financial Review and Prospects”, “Item 10—Additional Information—Exchange Controls” included in the Form 20-F filed by Sappi Limited with the U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission on December 11, 2009 and note 30 to the group annual financial statements of Sappi Limited included in such Form 20-F. You are cautioned not to place undue reliance on these forward-looking statements. These forward-looking statements are made as of the date of this report and are not intended to give any assurance as to future results. We undertake no obligation to publicly update or revise any of these forward-looking statements, whether to reflect new information or future events or circumstances or otherwise.

sappi

*4th Quarter*

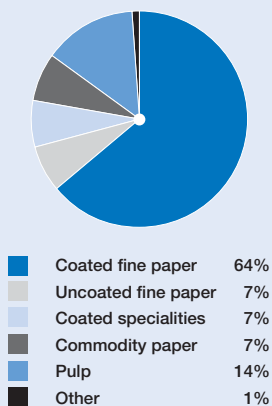
results for the 4<sup>th</sup> quarter and  
year ended September 2010

*Great ideas start on paper.*

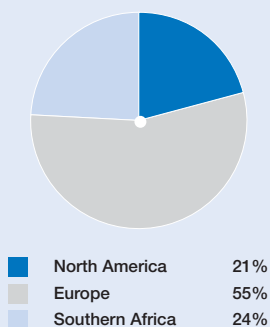


# sappi

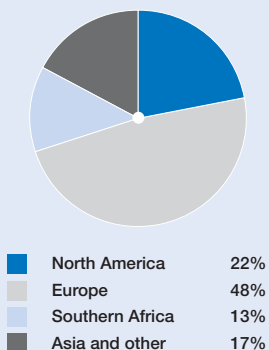
Sales by product group\*



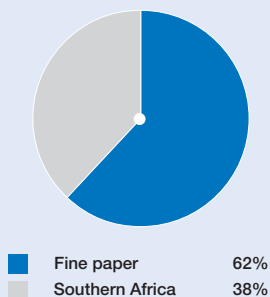
Sales by source\*



Sales by destination\*



Net operating assets\*\*



\* For the period ended September 2010

\*\* As at September 2010

# 4th Quarter results

## Financial summary for the quarter

- ↑ Operating profit US\$129 million (excluding special items); Q4 2009 US\$38 million (excluding special items)
- ↑ EPS 16 US cents; Q4 2009 loss per share of 20 US cents
  - ↑ EPS 9 US cents (excluding special items); Q4 2009 loss per share 2 US cents (excluding special items)
- ↑ Net cash generated US\$238 million; Q4 2009 US\$225 million
- ↑ Coated paper prices increasing; pulp prices high
- ↑ Strong Demand
- ↑ Strong Liquidity

	Sept 2010	Quarter ended		Year ended	
		Jun 2010	Sept 2009	Sept 2010	Sept 2009
<b>Key figures: (US\$ million)</b>					
<b>Sales</b>	<b>1,774</b>	1,602	1,553	<b>6,572</b>	5,369
<b>Operating profit (loss)</b>	<b>158</b>	154	(129)	<b>341</b>	(73)
Special items – (gains) losses <sup>1</sup>	<b>(29)</b>	(79)	167	<b>(2)</b>	106
Operating profit excluding special items <sup>2</sup>	<b>129</b>	75	38	<b>339</b>	33
EBITDA excluding special items <sup>3</sup>	<b>227</b>	176	150	<b>752</b>	431
<b>Basic earnings (loss) per share (US cents)</b>	<b>16</b>	12	(20)	<b>13</b>	(37)
Net debt <sup>4</sup>	<b>2,221</b>	2,337	2,576	<b>2,221</b>	2,576
<b>Key ratios: (%)</b>					
<b>Operating profit (loss) to sales</b>	<b>8.9</b>	9.6	(8.3)	<b>5.2</b>	(1.4)
Operating profit excluding special items to sales	<b>7.3</b>	4.7	2.4	<b>5.2</b>	0.6
Operating profit excluding special items to Capital Employed (ROCE)	<b>12.6</b>	7.3	3.3	<b>8.0</b>	0.8
EBITDA excluding special items to sales	<b>12.8</b>	11.0	9.7	<b>11.4</b>	8.0
Return on average equity (ROE) <sup>5</sup>	<b>18.6</b>	15.0	(21.4)	<b>3.6</b>	(10.4)
Net debt to total capitalisation <sup>5</sup>	<b>53.9</b>	57.6	58.9	<b>53.9</b>	58.9

<sup>1</sup> Refer to page 16 for details on special items.

<sup>2</sup> Refer to page 16, note 9 to the group results for the reconciliation of operating profit excluding special items to operating profit (loss).

<sup>3</sup> Refer to page 16, note 9 to the group results for the reconciliation of EBITDA excluding special items to profit (loss) before taxation.

<sup>4</sup> Refer to page 18, Supplemental Information for the reconciliation of net debt to interest-bearing borrowings.

<sup>5</sup> Refer to page 17, Supplemental Information for the definition of the term.

The table above has not been audited or reviewed.

## Commentary on the quarter

The group had a much improved performance for the quarter, achieving the highest quarterly operating profit excluding special items for a number of years and net cash generated of US\$238 million. The performance of each of the businesses improved, particularly those of North America and Southern Africa which are net sellers of pulp and therefore benefited from high pulp prices.

Demand conditions continued to improve gradually and almost all our mills ran at full capacity for the quarter. In Europe, we implemented a price increase during September (the third since March) which has started to offset the effect of the substantial increase in pulp input costs experienced over the past year and to restore reasonable margins.

Sales increased to US\$1.8 billion, a 14% increase on sales in the equivalent quarter last year as a result of increased sales volumes and prices.

Average prices realised by the group were 3% higher than a year ago in US Dollar terms. In local currency, average prices increased by 11% in Europe, 8% in North America and, largely as a result of high pulp prices, 25% in South Africa.

Raw material input costs were up approximately US\$100 million compared to the equivalent quarter last year, mainly as a result of higher pulp prices.

Special items for the quarter amounted to a gain of US\$29 million primarily in respect of the plantation price fair value adjustment.

Operating profit excluding special items was US\$129 million for the quarter, a substantial improvement compared to US\$38 million in the equivalent quarter last year and compared to US\$75 million in the June 2010 quarter. Including special items, operating profit was US\$158 million compared to a loss of US\$129 million in the equivalent quarter last year.

Earnings per share for the quarter were 16 US cents (including a gain of 7 US cents in respect of special items including financing items), compared to a loss of 20 US cents in the equivalent quarter last year (which included a loss of 18 US cents in respect of special items including financing items).

## Year ended September 2010 compared to year ended September 2009

2010 was a much improved year for Sappi. Sales for the year were 22% higher than the prior year as a result of improving demand, favourable currency movements and the inclusion of the coated paper businesses acquired from M-real for the full year in 2010 compared to 9 months in 2009.

Operating profit excluding special items was US\$339 million compared to US\$33 million in the prior year. While special items had an impact on quarterly results through the year the net effect for the full year was only US\$2 million. Accordingly, operating profit including special items for the year was therefore similar at US\$341 million compared to a loss of US\$73 million last year.

The group generated a net profit of US\$66 million for the year and earnings per share of 13 US cents (favourably impacted by 4 US cents of special items including financing items) compared to a net loss of US\$177 million and a loss per share of 37 US cents (including a loss of 13 US cents of special items including financing items) last year.

# Cash flow and debt

## Quarter

Net cash generated was US\$238 million for the quarter reflecting improved cash generated by operations, and cash released from working capital of US\$181 million.

Net debt decreased by US\$116 million over the quarter to US\$2,221 million as a result of the net cash generated, partly offset by unfavourable currency translation (due to the strengthening of the Euro and the Rand relative to the US Dollar in the quarter).

## Year

Over the financial year, we reduced our net debt by US\$355 million largely as a result of net cash generation of US\$341 million. At year end we had cash on hand of US\$792 million and had additional liquidity in the form of a €209 million (US\$282 million) committed revolving credit facility. During the year, we used approximately US\$250 million of our cash to repay debt early. Capital expenditure of US\$188 million for the year was in line with our target of US\$200 million.

# Operating Review for the Quarter

## Sappi Fine Paper

	Quarter ended Sept 2010 US\$ million	Quarter ended Sept 2009 US\$ million	% change	Quarter ended June 2010 US\$ million
<b>Sales</b>	<b>1,327</b>	1,208	10	1,220
<b>Operating profit</b>	<b>87</b>	1	—*	36
<b>Operating profit to sales (%)</b>	<b>6.6</b>	0.1	—	3.0
Special items – (gains) losses	<b>(11)</b>	49	—	1
Operating profit (loss) excluding special items	<b>76</b>	50	52	37
Operating profit (loss) excluding special items to sales (%)	<b>5.7</b>	4.1	—	3.0
EBITDA excluding special items	<b>151</b>	138	9	110
EBITDA excluding special items to sales (%)	<b>11.4</b>	11.4	—	9.0
RONOA pa (%)	<b>10.0</b>	5.9	—	4.8

\* Comparative not meaningful.

The Fine Paper business achieved an operating profit excluding special items of US\$76 million for the quarter, a 52% improvement compared to the equivalent quarter last year as a result of improved demand levels in our major markets and improving prices.



## Europe

	Quarter ended Sept 2010 US\$ million	Quarter ended Sept 2009 US\$ million	% change (US\$)	% change (Euro)	Quarter ended June 2010 US\$ million
<b>Sales</b>	<b>963</b>	868	11	23	873
<b>Operating profit (loss)</b>	<b>40</b>	(59)	—*	—*	11
<b>Operating profit (loss) to sales (%)</b>	<b>4.2</b>	(6.8)	—	—	1.3
Special items – (gains) losses	<b>(6)</b>	75	—	—	2
Operating profit excluding special items	<b>34</b>	16	113	133	13
Operating profit excluding special items to sales (%)	<b>3.5</b>	1.8	—	—	1.5
EBITDA excluding special items	<b>90</b>	80	13	25	68
EBITDA excluding special items to sales (%)	<b>9.3</b>	9.2	—	—	7.8
RONOA pa (%)	<b>6.5</b>	2.7	—	—	2.5

\* Comparative not meaningful.

While the business performed significantly better during the quarter, it is not yet achieving an acceptable return which remains the top priority for the Sappi group.

The European business' coated paper shipments continued to grow in the quarter. Industry coated woodfree paper shipments increased by 7%, compared to the equivalent quarter last year including a significant increase in exports. Shipments of coated mechanical paper increased 13%, almost returning to the shipment volumes of the equivalent quarter in 2008 which was prior to the global crash.

A third coated woodfree price increase was implemented in September which, together with increases in April and June, is helping offset the effect of rapidly increasing pulp prices. There was a modest price increase for coated mechanical paper in July but the margins for our coated mechanical paper remain well below acceptable levels.

Our average price realised in Europe for the quarter was 11% above the equivalent quarter last year and 5% above those realised in the June 2010 quarter.

## North America

	Quarter ended Sept 2010 US\$ million	Quarter ended Sept 2009 US\$ million	% change	Quarter ended June 2010 US\$ million
<b>Sales</b>	<b>364</b>	340	7	347
<b>Operating profit</b>	<b>47</b>	60	(22)	25
<b>Operating profit to sales (%)</b>	<b>12.9</b>	17.6	–	7.2
Special items – gains	<b>(5)</b>	(26)	–	(1)
Operating profit excluding special items	<b>42</b>	34	24	24
Operating profit excluding special items to sales (%)	<b>11.5</b>	10.0	–	6.9
EBITDA excluding special items	<b>61</b>	58	5	42
EBITDA excluding special items to sales (%)	<b>16.8</b>	17.1	–	12.1
RONOA pa (%)	<b>17.8</b>	13.5	–	10.0

The North American business performed well, benefiting from its market positioning, competitive cost base, good performance from the specialities products and surplus pulp position with higher pulp pricing. Operating profit was lower than the equivalent quarter last year due to alternative fuel tax credits received in the quarter ended September 2009 which are included in special items.

Demand levels improved further, with US industry shipments of coated woodfree paper increasing 9% compared to the equivalent quarter last year.

While price increases were implemented on selected coated paper grades during the quarter, the average price increase of 8% compared to the equivalent quarter last year was largely a result of pulp price increases.

During the quarter, we built our pulp inventory at Somerset mill in preparation for a pulp mill outage which commenced in October 2010. During the outage we upgraded the chemical recovery complex at the mill which is expected to significantly reduce energy costs and increase the proportion of renewable energy used at the Somerset mill to 89%.

During October, the U.S. International Trade Commission ruled to impose anti-dumping and countervailing duties on imported coated sheet paper from Indonesia and China. The duties which range from 25.2% to 313.8% are expected to re-establish a level playing field in the US.

## Sappi Southern Africa

	Quarter ended Sept 2010 US\$ million	Quarter ended Sept 2009 US\$ million	% change (US\$)	% change (Rand)	Quarter ended June 2010 US\$ million
<b>Sales</b>	<b>447</b>	345	30	23	382
<b>Operating profit (loss)</b>	<b>84</b>	(125)	—*	—*	118
<b>Operating profit (loss) to sales (%)</b>	<b>18.8</b>	(36.2)	—	—	30.9
Special items – (gains) losses	<b>(26)</b>	115	—	—	(83)
Operating profit (loss) excluding special items	<b>58</b>	(10)	—	—	35
Operating profit (loss) excluding special items to sales (%)	<b>13.0</b>	(2.9)	—	—	9.2
EBITDA excluding special items	<b>82</b>	15	447	420	62
EBITDA excluding special items to sales (%)	<b>18.3</b>	4.3	—	—	16.2
RONOA pa (%)	<b>12.6</b>	(2.1)	—	—	7.9

\* Comparative not meaningful.

The performance of the Southern African business improved significantly during the quarter. We reorganised the paper and packaging paper business during the quarter to provide a more effective customer interface and to share best operating practices among the mills.

The chemical cellulose business continued to achieve higher output from the expanded Saiccor Mill. Demand was very strong and prices increased further. The majority of our sales are linked to long-term contracts and we therefore did not realise the full benefit of the record spot prices in certain markets for chemical cellulose. These spot markets represent a small proportion of the total chemical cellulose market.

Demand for packaging and fine paper products has improved in the domestic market but competition from imports has continued as a result of the strength of the Rand relative to the US dollar.

## Directorate

During the quarter, it was announced that Mr H C Mamsch would be retiring from the board of directors at the end of December 2010, having served for seven years.

# Outlook

We expect continued gradual improvement in global economic conditions during the year ahead; however we remain cautious as a result of factors such as the volatility of exchange rates which could dampen growth.

Against that background, we expect demand for coated paper in our major markets to recover further during the year. We believe that input costs are likely to rise. We intend to reduce our costs where possible and to grow revenue through sales volume, mix and higher price levels to achieve acceptable margins across the businesses.

We expect continued strong demand and good price levels for chemical cellulose in the year ahead. The reorganisation of the paper business in Southern Africa is expected to help improve margins; however, the Rand is currently strong relative to the US dollar and remains volatile. A strengthening Rand would be unfavourable for the performance of the Southern African business.

The extended outage at Somerset pulp mill in October 2010 will reduce the potential profitability of our North American business for the quarter but we expect the pulp mill to start ramping up production in early November and for energy costs to be reduced once the rebuilt energy complex reaches optimum efficiencies.

With the expected improvement in the performance of our businesses and reduced uncertainty in financial markets we will gradually reduce our cash on hand with further repayment of debt. This, together with our targeted continued reduction in net debt, will help reduce finance costs in the year ahead.

In our first financial quarter, we expect the group's operating profit (excluding special items) to continue the improving trend relative to the equivalent quarter last year.

On behalf of the board

R J Boëttger

**Director**

M R Thompson

**Director**

08 November 2010

**sappi limited**

(Registration number 1936/008963/06)

Issuer Code: SAVVI

JSE Code: SAP

ISIN: ZAE000006284

## Forward-looking statements

Certain statements in this release that are neither reported financial results nor other historical information, are forward-looking statements, including but not limited to statements that are predictions of or indicate future earnings, savings, synergies, events, trends, plans or objectives. The words 'believe', 'anticipate', 'expect', 'intend', 'estimate', 'plan', 'assume', 'positioned', 'will', 'may', 'should', 'risk' and other similar expressions, which are predictions of or indicate future events and future trends, which do not relate to historical matters, identify forward-looking statements. Undue reliance should not be placed on such statements because, by their nature, they are subject to known and unknown risks and uncertainties and can be affected by other factors that could cause actual results and company plans and objectives to differ materially from those expressed or implied in the forward-looking statements (or from past results). Such risks, uncertainties and factors include, but are not limited to, the impact of the global economic downturn, the highly cyclical nature of the pulp and paper industry (and the factors that contribute to such cyclicity, such as levels of demand, production capacity, production, input costs including raw material, energy and employee costs, and pricing), adverse changes in the markets for the group's products, consequences of substantial leverage, including as a result of adverse changes in credit markets that affect our ability to raise capital when needed, changing regulatory requirements, possible early termination of alternative fuel tax credits, unanticipated production disruptions (including as a result of planned or unexpected power outages), economic and political conditions in international markets, the impact of investments, acquisitions and dispositions (including related financing), any delays, unexpected costs or other problems experienced with integrating acquisitions and achieving expected savings and synergies and currency fluctuations. We undertake no obligation to publicly update or revise any of these forward-looking statements, whether to reflect new information or future events or circumstances or otherwise.

## Group income statement

Note	Quarter ended Sept 2010 US\$ million	Reviewed Quarter ended Sept 2009 US\$ million	Reviewed Year ended Sept 2010 US\$ million	Reviewed Year ended Sept 2009 US\$ million
	<b>1,774</b>	1,553	<b>6,572</b>	5,369
	<b>1,498</b>	1,519	<b>5,786</b>	5,029
	<b>276</b>	34	<b>786</b>	340
	<b>119</b>	112	<b>448</b>	385
	<b>1</b>	56	<b>10</b>	39
	<b>(2)</b>	(5)	<b>(13)</b>	(11)
	<b>158</b>	(129)	<b>341</b>	(73)
	<b>63</b>	14	<b>255</b>	145
	<b>67</b>	21	<b>293</b>	137
	<b>(1)</b>	(5)	<b>(17)</b>	(17)
	<b>(3)</b>	(2)	<b>(21)</b>	25
	<b>95</b>	(143)	<b>86</b>	(218)
	<b>11</b>	(40)	<b>20</b>	(41)
	<b>(7)</b>	(3)	<b>(6)</b>	4
	<b>18</b>	(37)	<b>26</b>	(45)
	<b>84</b>	(103)	<b>66</b>	(177)
	<b>16</b>	(20)	<b>13</b>	(37)
	<b>519.5</b>	515.8	<b>516.7</b>	482.6
	<b>16</b>	(20)	<b>13</b>	(37)
	<b>524.0</b>	515.8	<b>520.8</b>	482.6

## Group statement of comprehensive income

	Quarter ended Sept 2010 US\$ million	Reviewed Quarter ended Sept 2009 US\$ million	Reviewed Year ended Sept 2010 US\$ million	Reviewed Year ended Sept 2009 US\$ million
	<b>84</b>	(103)	<b>66</b>	(177)
	<b>86</b>	(154)	<b>8</b>	(197)
	<b>121</b>	57	<b>52</b>	14
	<b>(71)</b>	(229)	<b>(71)</b>	(229)
	<b>23</b>	(14)	<b>14</b>	(14)
	<b>2</b>	–	<b>2</b>	–
	<b>11</b>	32	<b>11</b>	32
	<b>170</b>	(257)	<b>74</b>	(374)

# Group balance sheet

	Reviewed Sept 2010 US\$ million	Reviewed Sept 2009 US\$ million
<b>ASSETS</b>		
<b>Non-current assets</b>	<b>4,653</b>	4,867
Property, plant and equipment	3,660	3,934
Plantations	687	611
Deferred taxation	53	56
Other non-current assets	253	266
<b>Current assets</b>	<b>2,531</b>	2,430
Inventories	836	792
Trade and other receivables	903	868
Cash and cash equivalents	792	770
<b>Total assets</b>	<b>7,184</b>	7,297
<b>EQUITY AND LIABILITIES</b>		
<b>Shareholders' equity</b>		
Ordinary shareholders' interest	1,896	1,794
<b>Non-current liabilities</b>	<b>3,249</b>	3,662
Interest-bearing borrowings	2,317	2,726
Deferred taxation	386	355
Other non-current liabilities	546	581
<b>Current liabilities</b>	<b>2,039</b>	1,841
Interest-bearing borrowings	691	601
Bank overdraft	5	19
Other current liabilities	1,307	1,165
Taxation payable	36	56
<b>Total equity and liabilities</b>	<b>7,184</b>	7,297
Number of shares in issue at balance sheet date (millions)	519.5	515.7

## Group cash flow statement

	Quarter ended Sept 2010 US\$ million	Reviewed Quarter ended Sept 2009 US\$ million	Reviewed Year ended Sept 2010 US\$ million	Reviewed Year ended Sept 2009 US\$ million
<b>Profit (loss) for the period</b>	<b>84</b>	(103)	<b>66</b>	(177)
Adjustment for:				
Depreciation, felling and amortisation	<b>119</b>	131	<b>484</b>	467
Taxation	<b>11</b>	(40)	<b>20</b>	(41)
Net finance costs	<b>63</b>	14	<b>255</b>	145
Post-employment benefits	<b>(25)</b>	(30)	<b>(73)</b>	(62)
Plantation price fair value adjustment	<b>(29)</b>	111	<b>(31)</b>	67
Other non-cash items	<b>(41)</b>	78	<b>16</b>	33
<b>Cash generated from operations</b>	<b>182</b>	161	<b>737</b>	432
Movement in working capital	<b>181</b>	127	<b>(5)</b>	152
Net finance costs	<b>(66)</b>	(27)	<b>(194)</b>	(81)
Taxation paid	<b>(1)</b>	-	<b>(9)</b>	(5)
Dividends paid	-	-	-	(37)
<b>Cash retained from operating activities</b>	<b>296</b>	261	<b>529</b>	461
<b>Cash utilised in investing activities</b>	<b>(58)</b>	(36)	<b>(188)</b>	(762)
Capital expenditure and other non-current assets	<b>(58)</b>	(34)	<b>(188)</b>	(172)
Acquisition	-	(2)	-	(590)
Net cash generated (utilised)	<b>238</b>	225	<b>341</b>	(301)
<b>Cash effects of financing activities</b>	<b>(12)</b>	(272)	<b>(256)</b>	707
<b>Net movement in cash and cash equivalents</b>	<b>226</b>	(47)	<b>85</b>	406

## Group statement of changes in equity

	Reviewed Year ended Sept 2010 US\$ million	Reviewed Year ended Sept 2009 US\$ million
Balance – beginning of period	<b>1,794</b>	1,605
Total comprehensive income (loss) for the period	<b>74</b>	(374)
Dividends paid	-	(37)
Rights offer	-	575
Costs directly attributable to the rights offer	-	(31)
Issue of new shares	<b>17</b>	45
Transfers (to) from the share purchase trust	<b>(6)</b>	2
Share-based payment reserve	<b>17</b>	9
<b>Balance – end of period</b>	<b>1,896</b>	1,794



# Notes to the group results

## 1. Basis of preparation

The condensed financial information has been prepared in accordance with the framework concepts and the measurement and recognition requirements of International Financial Reporting Standards (IFRS) issued by the International Accounting Standards Board, the AC 500 standards issued by the Accounting Practices Board and the information required by IAS 34 "Interim Financial Reporting". The report has been prepared using accounting policies that comply with IFRS which are consistent with those applied in the financial statements for the year ended September 2009, except for the adoption of IFRS 8 "Operating Segments".

The preliminary results for the year ended September 2010 as set out on pages 9 to 16 have been reviewed in terms of the International Standard on Review Engagements 2410 by the group's auditors, Deloitte & Touche. Their unmodified review report is available for inspection at the company's registered office.

## 2. Adoption of IFRS 8 "Operating Segments"

The adoption of IFRS 8 "Operating Segments" did not have an impact on the group's reported results or financial position.

IFRS 8 requires an entity to report financial and descriptive information about its reportable segments. Reportable segments are components of an entity for which separate financial information is available that is evaluated regularly by the chief operating decision maker in deciding how to allocate resources and assessing performance. Prior year segment disclosure has been restated as reflected in note 9.

	Quarter ended Sept 2010 US\$ million	Reviewed Quarter ended Sept 2009 US\$ million	Reviewed Year ended Sept 2010 US\$ million	Reviewed Year ended Sept 2009 US\$ million
<b>3. Operating profit (loss)</b>				
Included in operating profit (loss) are the following non-cash items:				
Depreciation and amortisation	98	112	413	398
Fair value adjustment on plantations (included in cost of sales)				
Changes in volume				
Fellings	21	19	71	69
Growth	(19)	(21)	(67)	(73)
Plantation price fair value adjustment <sup>(1)</sup>	2	(2)	4	(4)
	(29)	111	(31)	67
	(27)	109	(27)	63
Included in other operating expenses are the following:				
Asset impairments (impairment reversals)	2	73	(10)	79
Profit on disposal of property, plant and equipment	(6)	–	(5)	(1)
Loss on disposal of investment	1	–	–	–
Restructuring provisions raised	–	24	46	34
Integration costs	–	–	–	3
Black Economic Empowerment transactions charge <sup>(2)</sup>	–	–	23	–
Fuel tax credit	–	(50)	(51)	(87)

<sup>(1)</sup> In the third quarter of fiscal 2010 the group changed the estimates used to derive the prices of timber that are used to calculate the fair value of its plantations. The change impacts the estimate of the expected future cash flows that are used in calculating the present value of mature and immature timber except for the timber that is expected to be felled in the next twelve months from balance sheet date. Before the change, Sappi used period end spot prices to estimate the fair value of the above timber; the group now uses a twelve quarter rolling average price, as this reflects the fair value of the plantations more accurately.

<sup>(2)</sup> IFRS 2 non-cash charges associated with Black Economic Empowerment transactions, the majority of which relates to the unwinding of the 2006 Black Economic Empowerment deal with the remaining charge relating to the issue of shares to employees and local communities.

	Quarter ended Sept 2010 US\$ million	Reviewed Quarter ended Sept 2009 US\$ million	Reviewed Year ended Sept 2010 US\$ million	Reviewed Year ended Sept 2009 US\$ million
<b>4. Headline earnings (loss) per share *</b>				
Headline earnings (loss) per share (US cents)	16	(6)	10	(21)
Weighted average number of shares in issue (millions)	519.5	515.8	516.7	482.6
Diluted headline earnings (loss) per share (US cents)	16	(6)	10	(21)
Weighted average number of shares on fully diluted basis (millions)	524.0	515.8	520.8	482.6
<b>Calculation of headline earnings (loss) *</b>				
Profit (loss) for the period	84	(103)	66	(177)
Asset impairments (impairment reversals)	2	73	(10)	79
Profit on disposal of property, plant and equipment	(5)	–	(4)	(1)
Loss on disposal of investment	1	–	–	–
Tax effect of above items	–	–	–	–
Headline earnings (loss)	82	(30)	52	(99)

\*Headline earnings disclosure is required by the JSE Limited.

#### 5. Capital expenditure

Property, plant and equipment	81	37	201	184
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#### 6. Capital commitments

			Reviewed Sept 2010 US\$ million	Reviewed Sept 2009 US\$ million
Contracted			62	62
Approved but not contracted			109	126
			171	188

#### 7. Contingent liabilities

Guarantees and suretyships			48	44
Other contingent liabilities			8	8
			56	52

#### 8. Material balance sheet movements

##### Early repayment of interest-bearing borrowings

The North American Municipal Bonds of US\$106 million were repaid in March 2010 at par value.

An amount of US\$29 million of our 7.5% Guaranteed Notes due 2032 was repurchased in the open market early in the third quarter for US\$24 million.

An early repayment of the first instalment on a syndicated loan with Österreichische Kontrollbank of €80 million (US\$99 million), due in December 2010, was made in June 2010.

##### Transfers from assets held for sale and liabilities associated with assets held for sale

The Usutu pulp mill was permanently closed at the end of January 2010. The future of the site and plantations was discussed with potential investors and the Government of Swaziland. The disposal group consisting mainly of plantations had been classified as held for sale since December 2009. The Sappi board subsequently took a decision to continue with its forestry operations in Swaziland, and is investigating the establishment of various timber processing operations at the Usutu mill site. As a result, the assets are no longer classified as held for sale.

## 9. Segment Information

### Restatement of prior year disclosures

Fine Paper Southern Africa is now reported as part of the Southern African segment (previously referred to as "Forest Products") in accordance with the geographical management of our business. The table below shows the effect of this change for the quarter and year ended September 2009:

	<b>Restated Reviewed Quarter ended Sept 2009 US\$ million</b>		
	<b>As previously reported</b>	<b>Adjustment</b>	<b>Restated</b>
<b>Fine Paper</b>			
Sales	1,300	(92)	1,208
Operating (loss) profit	(1)	2	1
Net operating assets	3,526	(205)	3,321
<b>Southern Africa</b>			
Sales	253	92	345
Operating loss	(123)	(2)	(125)
Net operating assets	1,686	205	1,891

	<b>Restated Reviewed Year ended Sept 2009 US\$ million</b>		
	<b>As previously reported</b>	<b>Adjustment</b>	<b>Restated</b>
<b>Fine Paper</b>			
Sales	4,508	(318)	4,190
Operating loss	(17)	3	(14)
Net operating assets	3,526	(205)	3,321
<b>Southern Africa</b>			
Sales	861	318	1,179
Operating loss	(52)	(3)	(55)
Net operating assets	1,686	205	1,891

The information below is presented in the way that it is reviewed by the chief operating decision maker as required by IFRS 8 "Operating Segments".

		Quarter ended Sept 2010	Restated Quarter ended Sept 2009	Year ended Sept 2010	Restated Year ended Sept 2009
		Metric tons (000's)	Metric tons (000's)	Metric tons (000's)	Metric tons (000's)
<b>Sales volume</b>					
Fine Paper –	North America	352	355	1,354	1,274
	Europe	994	895	3,796	2,956
	<b>Total</b>	<b>1,346</b>	1,250	<b>5,150</b>	4,230
Southern Africa –	Pulp and paper	460	470	1,751	1,660
	Forestry	289	168	993	817
<b>Total</b>		<b>2,095</b>	1,888	<b>7,894</b>	6,707
			Reviewed	Reviewed	Reviewed
		US\$ million	US\$ million	US\$ million	US\$ million
<b>Sales</b>					
Fine Paper –	North America	364	340	1,373	1,295
	Europe	963	868	3,638	2,895
	<b>Total</b>	<b>1,327</b>	1,208	<b>5,011</b>	4,190
Southern Africa –	Pulp and paper	426	331	1,488	1,124
	Forestry	21	14	73	55
<b>Total</b>		<b>1,774</b>	1,553	<b>6,572</b>	5,369
<b>Operating profit excluding special items</b>					
Fine Paper –	North America	42	34	124	(2)
	Europe	34	16	76	12
	<b>Total</b>	<b>76</b>	50	<b>200</b>	10
Southern Africa		58	(10)	134	17
Corporate and other		(5)	(2)	5	6
<b>Total</b>		<b>129</b>	38	<b>339</b>	33
<b>Special items – (gains) losses</b>					
Fine Paper –	North America	(5)	(26)	(56)	(55)
	Europe	(6)	75	4	79
	<b>Total</b>	<b>(11)</b>	49	<b>(52)</b>	24
Southern Africa		(26)	115	22	72
Corporate and other		8	3	28	10
<b>Total</b>		<b>(29)</b>	167	<b>(2)</b>	106
<b>Operating profit (loss)</b>					
Fine Paper –	North America	47	60	180	53
	Europe	40	(59)	72	(67)
	<b>Total</b>	<b>87</b>	1	<b>252</b>	(14)
Southern Africa		84	(125)	112	(55)
Corporate and other		(13)	(5)	(23)	(4)
<b>Total</b>		<b>158</b>	(129)	<b>341</b>	(73)
<b>EBITDA excluding special items</b>					
Fine Paper –	North America	61	58	201	98
	Europe	90	80	310	226
	<b>Total</b>	<b>151</b>	138	<b>511</b>	324
Southern Africa		82	15	236	101
Corporate and other		(6)	(3)	5	6
<b>Total</b>		<b>227</b>	150	<b>752</b>	431

		Quarter ended Sept 2010	Restated Reviewed Quarter ended Sept 2009	Reviewed Year ended Sept 2010	Restated Reviewed Year ended Sept 2009
		US\$ million	US\$ million	US\$ million	US\$ million
<b>Net operating assets</b>					
Fine Paper –	North America	935	981	935	981
	Europe	2,109	2,340	2,109	2,340
	<b>Total</b>	<b>3,044</b>	<b>3,321</b>	<b>3,044</b>	<b>3,321</b>
Southern Africa		1,887	1,891	1,887	1,891
Corporate and other		65	38	65	38
<b>Total</b>		<b>4,996</b>	<b>5,250</b>	<b>4,996</b>	<b>5,250</b>

#### Reconciliation of operating profit excluding special items to operating profit (loss)

Special items cover those items which management believe are material by nature or amount to the operating results and require separate disclosure. Such items would generally include profit or loss on disposal of property, investments and businesses, asset impairments, restructuring charges, non-recurring integration costs related to acquisitions, financial impacts of natural disasters, non-cash gains or losses on the price fair value adjustment of plantations and alternative fuel tax credits receivable in cash.

<b>Operating profit excluding special items</b>	<b>129</b>	38	<b>339</b>	33
<b>Special items</b>	<b>29</b>	(167)	<b>2</b>	(106)
Plantation price fair value adjustment	29	(111)	31	(67)
Restructuring provisions raised	–	(24)	(46)	(34)
Profit on disposal of property, plant and equipment	6	–	5	1
Loss on disposal of investment	(1)	–	–	–
Asset (impairments) impairment reversals	(2)	(73)	10	(79)
Fuel tax credit	–	50	51	87
Integration costs	–	–	–	(3)
Black Economic Empowerment transactions charge	–	–	(23)	–
Fire, flood, storm and related events	(3)	(9)	(26)	(11)
<b>Operating profit (loss)</b>	<b>158</b>	(129)	<b>341</b>	(73)

#### Reconciliation of EBITDA excluding special items and operating profit excluding special items to profit (loss) before taxation

EBITDA excluding special items	227	150	752	431
Depreciation and amortisation	(98)	(112)	(413)	(398)
Operating profit excluding special items	129	38	339	33
Special items – gains (losses)	29	(167)	2	(106)
Net finance costs	(63)	(14)	(255)	(145)
<b>Profit (loss) before taxation</b>	<b>95</b>	(143)	<b>86</b>	(218)

#### Reconciliation of net operating assets to total assets

Net operating assets	4,996	5,250	4,996	5,250
Deferred tax	53	56	53	56
Cash and cash equivalents	792	770	792	770
Other current liabilities	1,307	1,165	1,307	1,165
Taxation payable	36	56	36	56
<b>Total assets</b>	<b>7,184</b>	<b>7,297</b>	<b>7,184</b>	<b>7,297</b>

# Supplemental Information *(this information has not been reviewed)*

## General definitions

**Average** – averages are calculated as the sum of the opening and closing balances for the relevant period divided by two

**Fellings** – the amount charged against the income statement representing the standing value of the plantations harvested

**NBSK** – Northern Bleached Softwood Kraft pulp. One of the main varieties of market pulp, produced from coniferous trees (i.e. spruce, pine) in Scandinavia, Canada and northern USA. The price of NBSK is a benchmark widely used in the pulp and paper industry for comparative purposes

**SG&A** – selling, general and administrative expenses

## Non-GAAP measures

The group believes that it is useful to report certain non-GAAP measures for the following reasons:

- these measures are used by the group for internal performance analysis;
- the presentation by the group's reported business segments of these measures facilitates comparability with other companies in our industry, although the group's measures may not be comparable with similarly titled profit measurements reported by other companies; and
- it is useful in connection with discussion with the investment analyst community and debt rating agencies.

These non-GAAP measures should not be considered in isolation or construed as a substitute for GAAP measures in accordance with IFRS

**Capital employed** – shareholders' equity plus net debt

**EBITDA excluding special items** – earnings before interest (net finance costs), taxation, depreciation, amortisation and special items

**Headline earnings** – as defined in circular 3/2009 issued by the South African Institute of Chartered Accountants, separates from earnings all separately identifiable re-measurements. It is not necessarily a measure of sustainable earnings. It is a listing requirement of the JSE Limited to disclose headline earnings per share

**Net assets** – total assets less total liabilities

**Net asset value per share** – net assets divided by the number of shares in issue at balance sheet date

**Net debt** – current and non-current interest-bearing borrowings, and bank overdraft (net of cash, cash equivalents and short-term deposits)

**Net debt to total capitalisation** – net debt divided by capital employed

**Net operating assets** – total assets (excluding deferred taxation and cash and cash equivalents) less current liabilities (excluding interest-bearing borrowings and bank overdraft)

**ROCE** – return on average capital employed. Operating profit excluding special items divided by average capital employed

**ROE** – return on average equity. Profit for the period divided by average shareholders' equity

**RONOA** – return on average net operating assets. Operating profit excluding special items divided by average net operating assets

**Special items** – special items cover those items which management believe are material by nature or amount to the operating results and require separate disclosure. Such items would generally include profit or loss on disposal of property, investments and businesses, asset impairments, restructuring charges, non-recurring integration costs related to acquisitions, financial impacts of natural disasters, non-cash gains or losses on the price fair value adjustment of plantations and alternative fuel tax credits receivable in cash

*The above financial measures are presented to assist our shareholders and the investment community in interpreting our financial results. These financial measures are regularly used and compared between companies in our industry*

# Supplemental Information *(this information has not been reviewed)*

## Summary Rand convenience translation

	Quarter ended Sept 2010	Quarter ended Sept 2009	Year ended Sept 2010	Year ended Sept 2009
<b>Key figures: (ZAR million)</b>				
<b>Sales</b>	<b>13,042</b>	11,985	<b>49,235</b>	48,393
<b>Operating profit (loss)</b>	<b>1,162</b>	(996)	<b>2,555</b>	(658)
Special items – (gains) losses *	(213)	1,289	(15)	955
Operating profit excluding special items *	<b>948</b>	293	<b>2,540</b>	297
EBITDA excluding special items *	<b>1,669</b>	1,158	<b>5,634</b>	3,885
<b>Basic earnings (loss) per share (SA cents)</b>	<b>118</b>	(154)	<b>97</b>	(333)
Net debt *	<b>15,589</b>	19,091	<b>15,589</b>	19,091
<b>Key ratios: (%)</b>				
<b>Operating profit (loss) to sales</b>	<b>8.9</b>	(8.3)	<b>5.2</b>	(1.4)
Operating profit excluding special items to sales	<b>7.3</b>	2.4	<b>5.2</b>	0.6
Operating profit excluding special items to Capital Employed (ROCE) *	<b>12.7</b>	3.3	<b>8.3</b>	0.9
EBITDA excluding special items to sales	<b>12.8</b>	9.7	<b>11.4</b>	8.0
Return on average equity (ROE)	<b>19.3</b>	(21.6)	<b>3.7</b>	(12.1)
Net debt to total capitalisation *	<b>53.9</b>	58.9	<b>53.9</b>	58.9

\*Refer to page 17, Supplemental Information for the definition of the term.

The above financial results have been translated into Rands from US Dollars as follows:

- Assets and liabilities at rates of exchange ruling at period end; and
- Income, expenditure and cash flow items at average exchange rates.

## Reconciliation of net debt to interest-bearing borrowings

	Sept 2010 US\$ million	Sept 2009 US\$ million
<b>Interest-bearing borrowings</b>	<b>3,013</b>	3,346
Non-current interest-bearing borrowings	<b>2,317</b>	2,726
Current interest-bearing borrowings	<b>691</b>	601
Bank overdraft	<b>5</b>	19
Cash and cash equivalents	<b>(792)</b>	(770)
<b>Net debt</b>	<b>2,221</b>	2,576

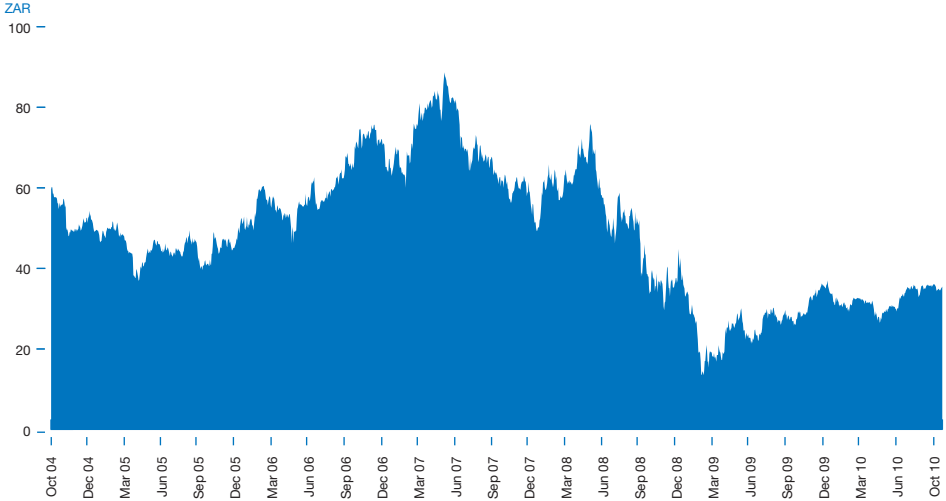
## Exchange rates

	Sept 2010	Jun 2010	Mar 2010	Dec 2009	Sept 2009
<b>Exchange rates:</b>					
Period end rate: US\$1 = ZAR	<b>7.0190</b>	7.6250	7.4298	7.5315	7.4112
Average rate for the Quarter: US\$1 = ZAR	<b>7.3517</b>	7.5821	7.5597	7.5009	7.7174
Average rate for the YTD: US\$1 = ZAR	<b>7.4917</b>	7.5610	7.5302	7.5009	9.0135
Period end rate: EUR 1 = US\$	<b>1.3491</b>	1.2377	1.3413	1.4397	1.4688
Average rate for the Quarter: EUR 1 = US\$	<b>1.2871</b>	1.2937	1.3891	1.4737	1.4317
Average rate for the YTD: EUR 1 = US\$	<b>1.3658</b>	1.3845	1.4302	1.4737	1.3657

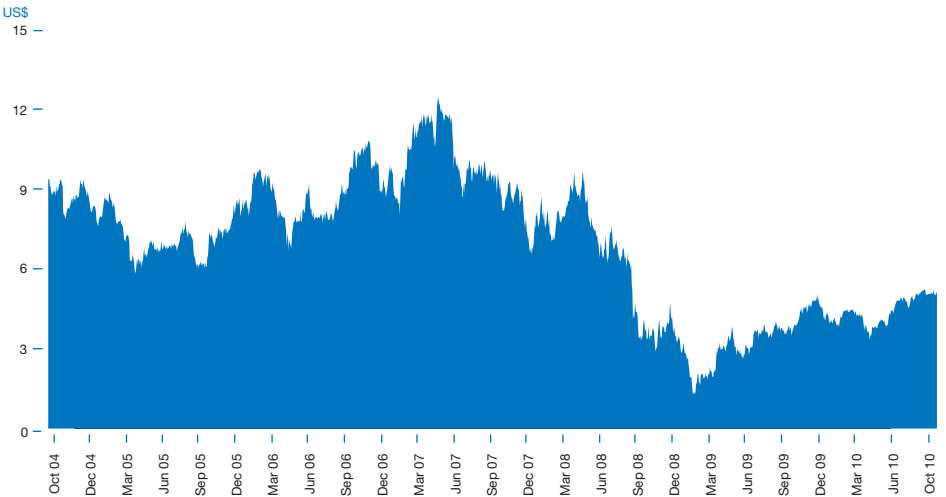
The financial results of entities with reporting currencies other than the US Dollar are translated into US Dollars as follows:

- Assets and liabilities at rates of exchange ruling at period end; and
- Income, expenditure and cash flow items at average exchange rates.

# Sappi ordinary shares\* (JSE: SAP)



# US Dollar share price conversion\*



\* Historic share prices revised to reflect rights offer



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