

Södra Mörrum upgrades fibre line measuring technology

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Pulp manufacturer Södra will install new fibre line analysers at its Mörrum mill. The measuring systems will be supplied by Valmet and are designed to improve process stability and product quality.

Södra told EUWID that the reinvestment aims to ensure long-term plant performance and at the same time take advantage of technological advances in measurement and analysis technology, but is not part of a larger programme. The company did not reveal the investment volume.

Installation of the analysers will be prepared during ongoing mill operation. Commissioning and fine-tuning will take place during the scheduled maintenance break in the last week of April, Södra informed.

At the Mörrum mill, Södra operates two fibre lines with a production capacity for around 470,000 tpy of pulp of which NBSK accounts for about 300,000 tpy and dissolving pulp for about 170,000 tpy.

Koehler moves office board production, revises portfolio

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Koehler Paper is revising its product portfolio and relocating production of its "office board" range from its Oberkirch site in south-west of Germany to Greiz. The move is intended to optimise production processes while preserving flexibility to respond to market change and maintain a high level of delivery reliability.

At the Greiz site in eastern Germany, Koehler operates PM 1, which is designed for converting recovered fibre. The recycled board for office applications produced on this machine is made from 100 per cent recovered fibre and is available in a range of colours and basis weights. The machine also manufactures recycled coloured papers and boards.

In addition, Koehler Paper will discontinue ledger paper production, citing sustained decline in demand for this grade. The company did not specify when the product range will be phased out.

Weak market environment and US tariffs weigh on Altri's 2025 results

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Lower pulp prices, an overall more challenging economic environment, overcapacity and currency fluctuations weighed on the performance of the Portuguese Altri Group in the 2025 financial year. Ebitda fell by more than 50 per cent to €94m, while sales revenues declined by just under 20 per cent to €703m.

An initially positive trend in pulp demand at the beginning of 2025 was curtailed early on by US import tariffs imposed from April. It was not until the fourth quarter that clearer US tariff policy led to a pickup in demand from Asia. This trend has also continued in the first months of the current year, Altri writes.

Tissue remained the main outlet for Altri's pulp, accounting for 48 per cent, followed by printing and writing papers (22 per cent) and textiles (10 per cent). In 2025, 59 per cent of pulp produced was delivered to customers in Europe, compared to 62 per cent in 2024. The MENA region gained significantly in importance, with its share rising by four percentage points to 29 per cent in 2025. Asian customers accounted for 12 per cent of Altri's pulp production.

Investments in diversification and new applications

Despite the challenging overall environment, Altri has continued to push ahead with its growth and diversification projects in line with its strategic plan. The project to recover renewable-based acetic acid and furfural at the Caima mill is scheduled to start up in mid-2026. The conversion of the Biotek industrial plant from bleached eucalyptus kraft pulp to dissolving pulp is progressing as planned, with the rebuilt facility expected to come on stream by the end of 2026.

Following the acquisition of a majority stake in AeonIQ, Altri is now planning to build the first industrial-scale cellulose filament yarn plant at its Caima site in Portugal, with the goal to expand into the sustainable textiles market.

A final investment decision on the Gama project remains subject to the granting of an integrated environmental permit. The project already received a positive environmental impact assessment (EIA) in 2025, as well as the STEP label from the European Climate, Infrastructure and Environment Executive Agency. As the site was not included in Spain's electricity infrastructure planning up to 2030, Altri is currently working on its own solutions for grid connection.

Extreme weather weighs on first-quarter performance

Extreme weather in Portugal in the first quarter of 2026 caused damage at Altri sites and destroyed inventories, although these losses are covered by insurance. In this context, production at the Celbi site was completely halted for one day and continued at reduced levels for three days. The Biotek plant was shut down for eleven days and operated at reduced capacity for a further three days. At Caima, production was suspended for one day, followed by six days of reduced output.

Operations at the port of Figueira da Foz were also restricted for several weeks and only normalised again only in March, restricting Altri's ability to supply customers. These events are expected to have a noticeably negative impact on Altri's performance in the first quarter of 2026, the company said.

With regard to the war on Iran, Altri expects energy costs to rise in the short term; if the conflict persists, overall cost pressure is likely to increase further.

Altri results				
million €	October - December		January - December	
	2025	2024	2025	2024
Key figures				
Sales	165	186	703	855
Cellulosic fibres	121	150	554	710
EBITDA	25	38	94	218
Operating result	13	24	49	158
Net result	9	18	21	107
Pulp production, 1,000 t	276	260	1,087	1,076
BHKP	241	230	957	957
DWP	35	30	130	118
Pulp deliveries, 1,000 t	254	251	1,059	1,079
BHKP	243	232	954	959
DWP	11	19	105	120
Source: Altri				

UPM Adhesive Materials plans new terminal in India

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UPM Adhesive Materials plans to expand its footprint in India with a new slitting and distribution terminal near New Delhi. The investment is to enhance the company's service capability in northern and eastern India. UPM Adhesive Materials already operates one terminal in Mumbai, which was opened in 2024. The company sees growing demand for label material in the country thanks to a rapidly growing Indian economy. The new terminal near New Delhi is expected to begin operations during the third quarter of 2026.

Stora Enso Imatra cuts carbon emissions

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Stora Enso has reduced carbon emissions at its Imatra mill in Finland, cutting them by 87 kg CO₂e per tonne compared with 2019. Scope 1 and 2 emissions at the site now stand at 104 kg CO₂e per tonne produced. The company is targeting a 50 per cent reduction in CO₂e emissions by 2030, both in its own operations (Scope 1 and 2) and across the value chain (Scope 3), against a 2019 baseline. The Imatra site has an annual production capacity of 1.23 million t of foodservice and liquid packaging board and 1.3 million t of pulp.

UK appoints industry-led PRO for packaging EPR scheme rollout

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The UK government has appointed the **UK Packaging PRO** as the Producer Responsibility Organisation (PRO) for the country's packaging Extended Producer Responsibility (pEPR) scheme, marking a further step in the rollout of the new regulatory framework. The appointment has formally taken effect on 1 April 2026, with responsibilities to be introduced gradually. UK Packaging PRO is a producer-led organisation which has brought together more than 100 of the UK's largest brands, retailers and trade bodies.

Sofidel commissions second biomass boiler at Frouard mill

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Tissue and sanitary paper and products manufacturer Sofidel has commissioned a new 8 MW biomass boiler at its Frouard mill in the Grand Est region of France, as part of its ongoing decarbonisation efforts.

The project is supported by the French energy agency ADEME under the BCIAT 2022 programme which is promoting use of biomass heat for Industry, agriculture and tertiary sectors. As stated by Sofidel, the new installation will replace steam previously generated using natural gas and is expected to reduce annual CO₂ emissions by around 9,100 t.

The integrated tissue paper and converting plant in Frouard operates two tissue machines with a total production capacity of up to 120,000 tpy.

A first biomass boiler has been in operation at the Frouard site since 2014. With the addition of the new unit, biomass will now cover approximately 95 per cent of the steam required to heat the drying cylinders of the site's two paper machines. Natural gas will be used only during peak demand periods and as a backup, accounting for roughly 5 per cent of total energy demand, the company says.

The investment in France forms part of Sofidel's broader decarbonisation strategy, which reportedly centres on increasing the use of renewable energy through a flexible, country-specific approach that takes into account local climate conditions, infrastructure and regulatory frameworks.

Papierfabrik Hainsberg enters main insolvency proceedings

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The Dresden Local Court has opened main insolvency proceedings over German producer of recycled papers Hainsberg on 1 April. Prior to this, the company had been under preliminary insolvency proceedings. Dr Susanne Berner of Berner Rechtsanwälte, who was appointed as insolvency administrator, confirmed to EUWID that operations, which had already been suspended before the insolvency filing, would not be resumed.

Ms Berner had previously initiated an investor process to identify a restructuring solution. Several investors had expressed interest in acquiring the mill, she said. However, none of the potential buyers had submitted a binding offer for the takeover of the company's operations. The investor process is still ongoing.

The Dresden Local Court has set 23 June 2026 as the date to examine the claims filed against the insolvent company. The application for preliminary insolvency proceedings for Papierfabrik Hainsberg had been filed with the competent insolvency court on 3 February.

Papierfabrik Hainsberg specialised in the production of recycled printing and writing, office and envelope paper. The company has one paper machine, which is designed to produce up to 40,000 tpy of paper, and most recently employed 85 people. The managing directors, Dietrich Arnhold and Krystyna Saworska, are also shareholders of the company.

SCA: L'Oréal is phasing out fibre products from northern Sweden, but impact is "very limited"

 **EUWID** + 09 April 2026 | ⌚ ~ 2 min | [Published in issue 15/2026](#)

French cosmetics manufacturer L'Oréal will phase out suppliers of bio-based fibre products with links to northern Sweden, and consequently will not source any products from SCA. The Swedish forest products group announced this in a statement on the professional networking site LinkedIn at the end of March. "Even though the quantities involved are limited, it is regrettable and surprising that such decisions are taken without prior dialogue," wrote Andres Edholm, Senior Vice President Sustainability and Communications at SCA. However, the company emphasises that L'Oréal is not a direct customer of SCA and that the impact of such a delisting is therefore "very limited".

L'Oréal confirms that, following a thorough assessment of its supply chain, it found "a very limited indirect connection to SCA" and has "taken steps to cease sourcing from this entity." The decision was made in accordance with the company's guidelines for responsible and sustainable procurement, a company spokesperson explained to EUWID. L'Oréal expects to be able to fully implement the change in its supply chain within the next 60 days.

L'Oréal did not specify, upon request, which SCA materials and products are used in its operations and are now to be delisted. The French cosmetics group also did not provide any information, by the editorial deadline, on whether and which other companies linked to forestry operations in northern Sweden may be as well affected.

SCA holds approximately 2.7 million hectares of forest land in northern Sweden and the Baltic region and operates across the entire wood value chain. The group supplies wood and fibres to the industry, manufactures sawn timber and other wood products, and produces pulp, packaging paper, biofuels and renewable energy from wind power. SCA operates two pulp mills in Sweden with a total capacity of 1.2 million tpy of northern bleached softwood kraft (NBSK) pulp and chemi-thermomechanical pulp (CTMP). The group is also regarded as one of the largest independent manufacturers of primary fibre-based corrugated case materials in Europe. The production capacity in this segment is expected to reach 1.1 million tpy this year, primarily brown and white-top kraftliners as well as kraft-top liner.

In recent months, SCA has come under increasing scrutiny from environmental and human rights organisations in the Nordics due to allegedly controversial forestry practices in northern Sweden. Amid the controversy, Nestlé, Zalando and now L'Oréal have decided to stop sourcing primary fibre materials from SCA.

In general, SCA counters criticism of its forestry practices in northern Sweden by pointing to existing double-certification by the FSC

and PEFC, as well as recurring and independent audits by relevant institutions which confirm compliance with Swedish and EU legislation. Most recently, the forest products group has signed an agreement with the Swedish Sámi National Association (SSR) to strengthen cooperation with the reindeer herding industry. The aim of the agreement is to develop working methods that improve conditions for reindeer herding whilst ensuring responsible forestry in the long term.

Antalis expands packaging offer, buys Hein Verpackungen

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Packaging and paper merchant Antalis has acquired Hein Verpackungen, a German producer of corrugated packaging and point-of-sale solutions. This move is aimed at strengthening the company's footprint in the European packaging market.

Hein Verpackungen employs 50 people and generated sales of €8m in 2025. The company supplies customer from the automotive, food and electronics sectors. Originally founded as a sawmill and manufacturer of wooden pallets, Hein entered the corrugated packaging market in 1970.

Antalis, headquartered in Paris, is part of Japanese Kokusai Pulp & Paper Group. The company employs 4,200 people and operates more than 120 distribution centres across Europe, Canada and Latin America, offering paper, packaging and visual communication solutions.

Fibre Excellence commissions financial adviser to seek buyer for its pulp mills

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Developments around French pulp manufacturer Fibre Excellence show no signs of slowing down. The company, which is on the brink of insolvency if it cannot reach a rescue agreement with the government, is already exploring potential buyers. Fibre Excellence confirmed to EUWID that it has commissioned French financial advisory group Rothschild & Co to identify interested parties for its Saint-Gaudens and Provence pulp mills.

At the same time, efforts to reach an agreement with the government to avert insolvency continue. The government had recently offered financial support of €150m. According to Fibre Excellence, however, this assistance only partially addresses the company's existing problems. In particular, the company is calling for an adjustment to the state-regulated feed-in tariff for biomass-generated electricity due to sharply increased wood costs.

So far, the government has refused to adjust the feed-in tariff, prompting Fibre Excellence to lodge a preliminary administrative appeal, thereby creating the prerequisite to challenge the decision. The company argued that an adjustment was provided for by law and also criticised the awarding of a contract to a single competitor, which it sees as an unlawful state aid. Should the government not change its stance, Fibre Excellence stated last week that it would appeal to the administrative court to have the formula used to calculate the feed-in tariff reviewed.

Fibre Excellence operates two mills in southern France. The Saint-Gaudens mill produces bleached softwood and hardwood pulp with a capacity of 280,000 tpy, while the Provence site in Tarascon can produce up to 220,000 tpy of unbleached softwood pulp.

UK consults on further PRN reform, sharpens focus on evidence quality and fraud risks

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The UK government has opened a new consultation on further reforms to the Packaging Waste Recycling Note (PRN) system. PRNs (Packaging Waste Recycling Notes) and PERNs (Packaging Export Recycling Notes) are tradable evidence notes within the UK's extended producer responsibility system. They certify that a certain amount of packaging waste has been recycled, either domestically (PRNs) or via export (PERNs), and are used by companies to meet their recycling obligations.

The proposals aim to strengthen the resilience of the UK waste management system to export disruptions, unlock investment, and to improve the access to recycled material.

According to Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs (Defra), the latest proposals focus on tightening rules for evidence issuance, improving data transparency and reducing the risk of fraud and error.

The consultation was launched on 24 March and will run until 5 May 2026, writes Defra. While the case for reform remains strongest for glass and plastics, Defra indicated that fraud risks are also relevant across all materials, among them paper and board.

Stricter rules on evidence generation and classification

A central element of the consultation is how recycling evidence is generated and verified. Defra proposes clearer guidance to ensure that PRNs and PERNs are issued based on the actual recyclable content after sorting and cleaning, rather than on input material volumes. In addition, the agency is considering introducing time limits on national protocols and Agency Agreed Industry Grades (AAIGs), suggesting a move away from more flexible or legacy classification approaches. Another key proposal is the cancellation of illegitimately issued PRNs and PERNs, which would strengthen enforcement and address concerns about misuse of evidence.

Defra is also consulting on the introduction of an "Exceptional Mechanism for Compliance". This would allow producers to meet their obligations through a fee-based route in cases where sufficient PRN/PERN evidence is not available, providing flexibility under tight market conditions.

Therefore the consultation further targets greater data transparency, particularly regarding individual reproprocessors and exporters.

It follows earlier reforms to the PRN system that came into force on 1 January 2026. While those measures were designed to improve the functioning of the system, Defra acknowledges that “there is more to do”, particularly in response to concerns from reprocessors and exporters. Therefore a further consultation on more wide-ranging reforms to the PRN/PERN system is planned, focusing on minimum material sorting standards and material specific domestic reprocessing targets. These are expected to increase over time providing greater certainty to businesses to invest in new reprocessing facilities in the UK.

German government presents another proposal to further simplify EUDR

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Germany's federal government has submitted to the European Commission its own proposal for the simplification of the EU Deforestation Regulation (EUDR). The proposal contains recommendations for how the EUDR can be implemented and amended in practical way and “without imposing new burdens” on economic players, according to a press release from Germany's agriculture ministry. With its latest initiative, the German ministry aims to “reconcile the protection of forests worldwide with the EU's competitiveness” and thus strengthen the business community's acceptance of the measure.

To achieve this, the German agriculture ministry formulated six recommendations. Among other things, it proposes “regional collective reporting” rather than declarations by individual companies in order to significantly reduce the burden on small primary producers in the agriculture and forestry sectors, according to the press release . Moreover, it wants “specified and limited” information and documentation requirements for imports from countries with low deforestation risks.

With regard to legality certificates, the German government wants to limit the review to EUDR-relevant requirements, as a full review of foreign laws is neither practicable nor proportionate, according to the press release. The document also stresses the European Commission's responsibility to provide central instruments and services to make implementation of the EUDR harmonised across the EU and less bureaucratic.

To provide relief for firms in the downstream supply chain, Germany proposes “limiting as far as possible” the inspection requirements for companies, corrective measures and sanctions of the first placing on the market of relevant products, such as imports at the EU's external borders. The simplifications already agreed should be clarified and applied in a practical manner, the German document concludes.

As of the EUWID publication deadline, there was not yet any reaction from the European Commission to the German proposal.

Under the political agreement reached in the trilogue process between the European Council, Parliament and Commission at the end of 2025, the Commission is required to carry out a simplification review for the EUDR by the end of April 2026 and present a corresponding report.

Further price hikes for brown recycled CCM likely as of April on the German market

Still no clear trend discernible for recycled cartonboard

 **EUWID** + 09 April 2026 | ⌚ ~ 5 min

On the German market for recycled corrugated case material , the responses to the market survey in early April suggest that a further price increase is being implemented for brown grades as of 1 April. Suppliers had issued new demands following hot on the heels of the March price hikes. In the market for white-top testliner, there are also already reports of upward price adjustments as of April – although not for both grades.

In the recycled cartonboard segment, nearly all producers have presented calls for higher prices following the outbreak of war in Iran and the spread of the conflict across the Middle East. In some cases, these were presented just before the beginning of the Easter holidays in Germany, so it was almost impossible to hold talks. At the end of March, it was still unclear how this would affect pricing.

Further hikes for brown recycled corrugated case material appear likely as of April

Following the price increases implemented for brown recycled corrugated case material in March, the EUWID survey of the German market indicates that another hike is likely to be implemented as of 1 April. Early in the month, respondents said the size of the mark-ups would likely exceed the amount of the price step completed in March. However, the actual adjustments are unlikely to match the initially targeted figures of €80-€100/t.

In March, prices for brown recycled corrugated case material had already risen by €40/t in Germany. Paper mills had considered that first step to be insufficient, so suppliers made further announcements and negotiated these for April deliveries. Paper producers are also reacting to rising costs in the wake of the Iran war, according to market participants. Since the outbreak of the conflict and the resulting cost increases, paper producers have been faced with ongoing and barely calculable cost pressure in the areas of energy and logistics.

In the white-top testliner market, approaches appeared to vary at the time of the EUWID survey in early April. Some market participants reported that price hikes for uncoated white-top testliner were likely to be implemented as of April. Respondents from both the paper and corrugated industries told EUWID that price hikes had already been agreed, with the magnitude broadly aligned with the initial step introduced for brown recycled grades in March. As in the market for brown papers, buyers expect that

a second round of increases for uncoated white-top testliner will be discussed in the near term. This was also confirmed by the paper mills surveyed. By contrast, there are no indications of mark-ups for April deliveries of coated white-top testliner, according to the EUWID market survey.

Producers of recycled corrugated case material told EUWID that their activity levels were good overall and demand was good in March and April. Suppliers also describe bookings as positive for the weeks following Easter. Industry insiders attribute this to two factors: For one thing, demand in the market picked up somewhat overall in March and early April. In addition, suppliers note in retrospect there was a temporary increase in purchases in March because corrugated board producers had stocked up on inventory in anticipation of rising prices as of April.

Easter timing makes price talks for cartonboard more difficult

Since the outbreak of the war on Iran and the escalating conflict in the Middle East countries, several producers of recycled board have approached the market asking for price increases. In some cases, the planned adjustments foresee a step of €70/t effective from 1 April. In other cases, the target is a percentage increase of eight to ten per cent for orders placed as of 1 April. A few producers have not yet issued any price calls.

According to EUWID respondents, one relevant player approached the market very late to announce a price hike, leaving only a few days to negotiate before the increase was slated to go into effect. But the last-minute timing was not the only challenge to implementing this measure. Having the peak phase of the talks occur during the Easter holidays was a real obstacle.

All of the increases were slated to take effect from 1 April, but this date falls in the middle of the Easter school holidays, which started on 23 or 30 March, depending on the federal state. As many people take holidays during this time, negotiating partners from both sides of the market have only limited availability. Therefore, as of the first days of April, it was not yet clear what would happen to prices. The tenor of the EUWID market survey suggests that a price step will definitely occur, but the full amount is unlikely to be implemented. The adjustments for recycled board are regular price increases and not just temporary energy-related surcharges, according to players in the German market.

Bookings on cartonboard machines are very good, say producers of recycled board. Since market rumours have been circulating since last year based on various reports about the financial situation of one player active in the European market, this had reportedly led to shifts in favour of competitors. As of late March, there were no reports about producers of folding cartons stocking up on cartonboard due to the spectre of price increases.

In the market for primary fibre-based board, one producer tried to implement energy surcharges on short notice in March. There are varying reports about the success of this measure. However, after a different player also called for surcharges, it appears that some talks about a potential adjustment are taking place in the market.

Here, too, the outcome was not yet apparent at the beginning of April, as the Easter holidays were still ongoing. In addition, the approaches are not uniform and the majority of producers of fresh-fibre board have not yet made any announcements to the

market.

Polish paper and board markets caught between mounting costs and uncertainty

Ongoing price adjustments accumulate alongside fresh announcements

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The Iran war is driving uncertainty on Poland's paper and board market to a new level. The industry is grappling with a steep spike in energy, logistics and chemical costs, making short-term developments almost impossible to predict. In light of this situation, paper producers have come under additional pressure within a very short period of time. Unlike in 2022, when Russia's attack on Ukraine triggered an energy crisis in Europe, the paper industry today lacks financial buffers in many segments after several lean years.

EUWID Price Watch Poland				
First quarter 2026				
Prices in PLN/t per tonne free delivered	First quarter 2026	Fourth quarter 2025	First quarter 2025	
Graphic paper				
Woodfree uncoated				
Copy paper 80 g/m ² 440 x 660 mm	3,200 - 3,400	3,275 - 3,700	3,675 - 4,075	
Copy paper 80 g/m ² 440 x 660 mm	375 - 825	375 - 860	875 - 975	
Other sheets 80 g/m ² in PLN/t	3,600 - 4,000	3,625 - 4,000	3,675 - 4,275	
Other sheets 80 g/m ² in €/t	625 - 975	602 - 975	975 - 1,025	
Other sheets 80 g/m ² in PLN/t	3,400 - 3,600	3,400 - 3,600	3,600 - 4,175	
Other sheets 80 g/m ² in €/t	600 - 840	675 - 960	975 - 999	
Woodfree coated				
Sheet, double coated, 100 g/m ² in PLN/t	3,700 - 4,000	3,800 - 4,125	4,175 - 4,600	
Sheet, double coated, 100 g/m ² in €/t	600 - 675	600 - 680	1,025 - 1,151	
Reel, double coated, 100 g/m ² in PLN/t	3,300 - 3,600	3,325 - 3,600	3,675 - 4,175	
Reel, double coated, 100 g/m ² in €/t	617 - 852	640 - 960	951 - 999	
Publication paper in €/t				
Standard uncoated 80 g	300 - 345	340 - 385	380 - 410	
LWC offset 80 g	720 - 960	740 - 960	750 - 800	
SC offset 80 g	600 - 800	600 - 675	680 - 710	
Packaging paper in €/t				
Prices for the uncoated and coated				
Uncoated kraft 100 g/m ² in PLN/t	710 - 740	730 - 760	670 - 780	
White top kraftline 140 g	810 - 1,010	830 - 1,010	840 - 940	
Recycled uncoated and coated				
Recycled 80 g	440 - 490	410 - 490	420 - 510	
Recycled 100 g	440 - 520	410 - 520	440 - 585	
Recycled 140 g	420 - 500	440 - 500	440 - 560	
White top kraftline 140 g	520 - 570	520 - 580	540 - 630	
Cartonboard in €/t				
CC1	720 - 770	770 - 810	790 - 830	
CC2	1,000 - 1,100	1,000 - 1,100	1,100 - 1,200	
Exchange rate as of 2 April 2026: 1 PLN = 4.02200				
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EUWID assumes no liability for the accuracy of the pricing information				

As the market moves into the second quarter, several rounds of price hike announcements are overlapping in the Polish paper and board market. While the latest price hikes are only just being implemented or are still in the process of being rolled out, further adjustments have already been announced, and in some cases the next round is already in preparation. There is also renewed talk of special surcharges among suppliers. The entire sector currently finds itself in a tense situation that is hard to forecast.

Fine paper market feeling the pinch as producers target next round of hikes

The Iran war is adding a new layer of uncertainty to an already strained European fine paper market. Although the immediate impact on paper mills in Poland remained limited in March, all key producers are now underscoring rising energy, transportation and chemical costs and citing these factors, among others, as the reason for the latest hikes in woodfree coated and uncoated paper prices. After the first hikes took effect just a few weeks ago, companies are now rolling out a fresh round of mark-ups. At the same time, a few suppliers are reportedly already lining up the next round of price rises.

All key fine paper suppliers to the Polish market have now announced higher prices. Officially requested price increases currently stand at no less than €30/t, but can vary wildly depending on the segment and supplier. According to the price letters, the new prices are set to take effect between mid-March and early May. In most cases, this would represent the second adjustment within just a few weeks. Further developments are considered highly dynamic and currently difficult to assess.

Initially, price increases were primarily driven by inadequate mill profitability following sharp declines last year, in some cases extending into the first quarter. Since the start of the year, rising pulp prices have further increased underlying costs. Additional burdens linked to the Iran war have exacerbated the situation for mills and transport since the end of February. Unlike in 2022, when Russia's attack on Ukraine unleashed an energy crisis in Europe, however, paper mills are now operating with much thinner margins, and many paper manufacturers generally no longer have a financial buffer after last year's losses, industry observers reported.

As the end of March arrived, it was unclear to what extent higher prices would take hold on the fine paper market in Poland. From a cost perspective, there was essentially no room for negotiation, suppliers say. At the same time, insiders think that instituting higher prices will be much more difficult this time than in 2022. Today, paper is available at normal levels, the market is structurally weaker, and many (end) customers, such as buyers of printed products, have adapted their contract terms accordingly since 2022 to mitigate risk. Experts noted that contracts in Poland often contain clauses that do not allow for price adjustments, even in the event of exceptional cost developments or companies declaring force majeure. Insiders suspect that the scope to pass costs down the supply chain at short notice is much more limited than it was a few years ago.

Paper merchants are currently feeling additional pressure on the Polish market. Even before the outbreak of the Iran war, transport costs had risen noticeably due to higher toll rates and the expansion of the toll road network. Recent developments have further exacerbated the situation, especially through rising fuel prices. Market players told EUWID that costs had jumped by more than 10 per cent, which was hitting margins directly. Since the price increases announced by paper mills do not fully offset these additional costs, merchants feel compelled to introduce their own surcharges.

The announcements have had a positive effect on ordering behaviour. During March, many businesses brought forward orders as merchants and printers were looking to build up their stocks, producers stated. As a result, many paper manufacturers saw their order books become significantly fuller towards the end of the month.

Fundamentally, though, Poland's fine paper market continues to be characterised by slow overall demand and surplus capacity. This was true in the first quarter as well: suppliers reported subdued ordering, particularly for office paper grades, while demand for offset grades remained stable, albeit at a low level.

In 2025, many suppliers to the Polish market focused primarily on safeguarding volumes and keeping their machines running amid dwindling demand for woodfree uncoated paper, driven by structural and economic factors. The battle over prices and orders was concentrated in the C-grade copy paper segment. Since the start of this year, a cautious reversal has been visible in Poland, observers said. After prices hit a low in December, in some cases barely topping €700/t, successive increases took hold during the first quarter, in some cases already from December, contacts in Poland told EUWID. At the lower end of the range in particular, prices are thus reported to have increased by a total of €40–50/t since then, sometimes climbing even more.

Despite these developments, Polish woodfree uncoated paper prices remain extremely low compared with other European countries to this day. By way of explanation, sources pointed to Poland's high density of merchants, the strong prevalence of direct sales and intense competition.

In conversations with EUWID, manufacturers said that the price picture for woodfree coated paper was largely stable in the first quarter, with only a few minor price cuts at the beginning of the year. From mid-March, a leading supplier initiated the first round of price increases, followed by further announcements from other producers. Negotiations were largely concluded in the first week of April and, according to information at hand, price increases of €30 to €40/t are emerging in most cases. Market sources say there has been no significant resistance from customers to the producers' pricing plans.

Events coming thick and fast on Poland's publication paper starting in March

The Polish publication paper market was on the move in the first quarter. This sector has been accustomed to operating in a challenging environment for years now, with the pandemic, the war in Ukraine and recurring disruption all leaving their mark. Market players said that developments are coming thick and fast once again.

Price increases were announced virtually across the board for newsprint and magazine paper, mostly on a list-price basis and, in a few cases, as additional temporary surcharges. Some companies had even made two announcements in rapid succession. The range of demands is unusually wide, particularly for coated magazine paper. While a few suppliers are taking a more moderate approach, others are seeking significantly higher price hikes, in some cases well above the level of their competitors. At the same time, quite a few sources are keeping the option open to make further adjustments over the course of the quarter. Accordingly, market conditions remain highly turbulent.

Even though the scale of the demands varies significantly from one supplier to the next, paper manufacturers said that price adjustments should apply to all customers without exception. Early opportunities to grant stable prices in return for secured or larger orders have vanished. In many cases, the first increases were determined back in February. Paper manufacturers stated that the conflict in Iran had exacerbated rather than prompted developments. It cemented existing plans, reduced any remaining room for manoeuvre, and, in some cases, even made a second instalment necessary.

Insiders unanimously cited insufficient margins as the key driver behind price hikes. Costs were already high and had come under further pressure as a result of the latest developments. At the same time, paper producers had been trying to institute moderate rises in publication paper prices for several quarters, albeit without success.

Sources in Poland told EUWID that in many cases, talks about deliveries in April or the second quarter were put to bed at a late stage. Many buyers had hardly any time left to adjust their procurement strategies as a result, so they often left order planning for April unchanged at first. That being said, a few cancellations had already been reported. Likewise, customers are trying to manage their volumes more tightly and shifting them towards lower-priced offers.

Printers in Poland are in an extremely strained situation, given the news of paper mills' plans to charge more for paper. Marketing and advertising expenses are already under pressure in many areas. Economic uncertainty and structural shifts towards digital media are compounding matters. It is already difficult to pass on higher costs in a highly fragmented market like the Polish printing industry. The industry's experiences of 2022 are still fresh in people's minds. At that time, the huge surge in paper prices culminated in a steep decline in the print business. This has fuelled considerable concern that this pattern might be repeated. As a rule, customers have already set their budgets and will not adjust them retroactively, one expert pointed out. This meant that higher prices are not having an immediate impact on print runs and volumes.

Demand for publication paper was relatively robust in Poland in the first three months of 2026, sources told EUWID. Insiders mentioned additional enquiries here and there in the wake of structural changes in the European market, including Slovenia's paper producer Vipap Videm entering insolvency. Some of the additional demand can likely be attributed to anticipatory effects. At the same time, the overall supply situation remains relaxed, with buyers reporting almost all grades being readily available. Insiders said that there were currently no shortages. Producers did add, however, that lead times did become longer over the course of the quarter.

In the newsprint segment in Poland, price increases for the second quarter are emerging in a range of around €10 to €30/t, market participants said in early April. Some suppliers had initially put forward higher demands but adjusted these in response to market conditions.

For SC paper, increases of mostly €20 to €30/t are being indicated for deliveries as of April. At the same time, competition remains fierce, with a few suppliers deliberately maintaining stable prices as a counterbalance in the market. Lead times became noticeably longer during the quarter, indicating that things have become somewhat tighter, although there is no question of an actual shortage.

The LWC and coated magazine paper market is seeing the strongest momentum. Early-year price increase attempts failed, but a new wave of announcements followed during the first quarter. Manufacturers are seeking price hikes ranging from €20 to €80/t for April or from mid-April onwards. The wide spread among suppliers is striking. While a few are taking a moderate approach, others are opting for much larger adjustments, sometimes in two increments within the span of just a few weeks. Insiders are not ruling out additional increases at short notice.

Market players do not think that May will bring relief. Instead, the continuation of the current situation is deemed to be the best possible scenario. To a significant degree, what happens next to demand will hinge on how much prices rise and how buyers and their customers respond.

Containerboard manufacturers implement additional price increases

The Polish corrugated case material market continued to enjoy solid demand at the beginning of 2026. Market players reported that paper mills were operating at good workloads and had good sales both within Poland and to neighbouring countries in January and February – in other words, before the war in Iran began. Experts suspect that additional precautionary buying ahead of price hikes and targeted build-up of “buffer stocks” have likely contributed to the good business since March.

Insiders are now even describing the availability of brown recycled corrugated case material as tight. In some cases, it was hard to source additional amounts at short notice. EUWID interviews indicated that a similar pattern is now emerging for white-top testliner and brown kraftliner, too, with longer lead times and complications with sourcing material.

A downward spiral in recycled corrugated case material prices in Poland largely drew to a close at the end of 2025. It had often been the case that price cuts were larger in Poland than in other countries in the fourth quarter, market players said. Where this was not the case, corrections to this effect were still made in January. Although customers in Poland were often a little earlier in making changes than buyers in Germany, for instance, the overall movement in both countries was broadly similar.

The market and price situation was then largely stable in February before the first increases of the year took hold in March. Manufacturers initially eyed a hike of at least €60/t, but in many cases secured an increase of just €40/t. Sources said that, within Europe, Polish corrugated sheet manufacturers in particular pushed back against higher demands from the industry and negotiated them down accordingly.

Additional hikes of up to €100/t were then unveiled for April. While March’s increase served to improve margins, the latest rise reportedly aimed to pass on mounting costs faced by paper mills following the outbreak of the Iran war. Manufacturers are chiefly pointing to gas, transportation, logistics and chemicals as the main cost drivers. Recovered paper prices have not increased to date. A great deal suggests that these prices will stay stable in Poland in April, too, with only a transport surcharge planned to offset higher fuel costs.

During Easter week, negotiating parties in Poland are said to have agreed on further price increases for brown recycled corrugated case material. These are generally expected to be higher than those implemented in March. At the same time, the situation is considered highly dynamic. A further escalation in the Middle East could quickly intensify upward pressure on energy and other costs, making additional price increases necessary, sources said.

All told, white-top testliner prices decreased by approximately €20/t in Poland either at the end of last year or the start of this year. Since then, the price level has remained stable, despite sporadic price hike announcements for March. For April, new increases of €40 to €100/t have been announced for white-top testliner. In pre-Easter talks on the Polish market, increases at the lower end of the requested range are said to have prevailed.

In many cases, the downward trajectory in brown kraftliner prices came to an end in December in Poland, wrapping up in January in just isolated cases. The market was then stable later on in the first quarter. At the same time, there are more and more indicators that the market climate is becoming more robust.

While no noticeable tightening was observed in the first three months, converters are now reporting longer lead times and reduced short-term availability. For April and May, significantly higher volumes of kraftliner have already been allocated for corrugated production, making additional tonnages harder to secure.

Experts said that these developments were taking place against a backdrop of plans to reduce kraftliner capacity in the US, which had shifted global supply streams and improved capacity utilisation at European kraftliner mills. Buyers fear that the situation will likely intensify later on this year as the season of strong demand arrives in southern Europe.

Kraftliner manufacturers have notified their customers of plans to invoice €80-100/t more, although these higher prices will take place with a delay. A few suppliers are planning to raise their prices as early as April, but one key manufacturer for Poland said that it was eyeing a mark-up only from May onwards. Bearing this in mind, market players anticipate that higher kraftliner prices will not apply across the board until then. Producers are eyeing hikes of the same size for white-top kraftliner.

Polish corrugated board market still on an upward trajectory in the first quarter

The Polish corrugated board and corrugated board packaging market sustained its positive momentum at the start of the year, setting it apart from many other European countries.

Information from market players indicated that deliveries were three to six per cent higher than last year in January and February 2026. Many plants are busy as a result, although customer structures do play a role here. Plants with a strong customer base in the automotive industry continued to report slacker demand. On the other hand, the food and consumer goods segment, in particular, and the furniture production business were stable to robust, underpinning the good overall performance.

This dynamic trend continued in March, not least supported by seasonal effects linked to Easter business. Well-filled order books indicated that April would be another strong month. Market players told EUWID that they had seen no signs of the positive trend in demand slowing.

Downward pressure on cartonboard vanishes, with many companies announcing price hikes

Businesses active on Poland's cartonboard market entered 2026 with muted expectations. They anticipated a rather challenging climate, citing the lack of growth momentum for folding carton packaging in Europe, new capacity and ongoing imports from Asia. In light of this situation, a variety of observers expected that the pressure on prices that prompted further mark-downs for GC and GD board in Poland at the start of the year would persist for the time being.

Towards the end of February, uncertainty mounted as the war in Iran began, although this meant that the prospect of additional price reductions also evaporated. Sources have since been mentioning rising manufacturing and transportation costs and stating that it was much harder for all market players to plan for the future. EUWID respondents therefore said that the question was less whether prices would climb than when and by how much.

A clear picture of price plans for the second quarter has not emerged so far. Quite a few manufacturers have announced price hikes for GC and GD board alike, often taking effect from the start of April and sometimes varying significantly in magnitude. Some suppliers are also raising the possibility of additional surcharges.

The general direction of travel thus appears to be pointing upwards, but not all suppliers are following the same path. While a few producers have already contacted their customers with firm plans, others, including key suppliers for the Polish market, have yet to issue official notices.

Insiders described demand for cartonboard as decent in Poland during the first quarter. Manufacturers and merchants told EUWID that sales were solid and order intake was faring better than in other major European markets. At the same time, experts noted that precautionary buying might also have played a role in recent months. Quite a few customers wanted to lock in their orders at an early stage, given rising costs and uncertain delivery terms.

Folding boxboard (GC) prices have been on a downward path in Poland since the start of summer 2025. Year-end talks for 2026 resulted in additional price cuts, although they varied wildly and depended on previous trends and the old price. Market players put these downward adjustments at an average of €50/t.

In March, a few GC board producers unveiled plans to charge €30-35/t more for deliveries to Poland from April onwards. Asian suppliers have reportedly also announced their intention to raise prices by €30/t. Nonetheless, the gap between prices in Asia and Europe remains significant at over €200. At least two key European producers had yet to make official announcements as EUWID researched this market report, although hikes seemed likely.

Market players reported that instituting these price hikes is proving tricky, with talks with folding carton producers in Poland also tough. Since more capacity has been added in Europe, no manufacturers are currently prepared to give up business. The strain caused by the war in the Persian Gulf and the Middle East is not yet being seen as a break in the flow of goods from the Far East. The prevailing price level for GC board is thus expected to remain in effect in April in many cases, with any potential surcharges or increases only really starting to have an impact from May onwards.

Insiders described a slightly different situation for white-lined chipboard (GD), with prices under more pressure than their counterparts in the GC segment. Market players said that higher energy and gas costs, especially, are having a speedier impact because some producers in central Europe are more heavily dependent on energy bought from external suppliers than Scandinavian board mills, for instance. As a result, all key suppliers have now announced plans to charge up to 10 per cent more in Poland. That being said, it is unclear how much prices will actually rise, with sources currently expecting GD board to become €20-30/t more expensive.

Additionally, sources told EUWID that GD board prices initially declined in Poland at the start of the year. January brought price cuts of around €30-40/t or more for spot transactions, amidst persistent competition, before prices largely stabilised during the quarter.

Stable recovered paper prices in Poland during Q1 despite turbulent environment

Rising transport costs become a focal point

 09 April 2026 | ⌚ ~ 5 min

These are turbulent times on European markets for finished paper and board, with a flurry of price hikes in the graphic and packaging paper markets. Nevertheless, the Polish recovered paper market remained surprisingly calm in the first quarter. Players

unanimously reported that in the period since December, conditions had been stable and prices had moved sideways, noting that this combination of conditions had not been seen for some time. However, higher fuel prices are driving a surge in transport costs, which recovered paper merchants are now passing on to paper mills.

April price increases for supermarket paper and board, anticipated by some players on both the Polish and the German markets, had not materialised by the time this EUWID market survey was conducted shortly before Easter. Instead, market participants in Poland had agreed to keep prices stable for now to avoid creating any additional volatility amid already soaring logistics costs.

There has been hardly any change in quotes for recovered paper of any grade since the beginning of the year in Poland. This is true not only for brown ordinary grades such as supermarket paper and board and mixed paper, but also for sorted graphic paper for deinking and higher-quality grades, merchants and buyers alike told EUWID. Supply and demand were largely balanced. Paper mills in Poland and neighbouring countries were not seeking additional volumes but there was no noticeable oversupply, either, players said. Mills continue to hold adequate inventories of recovered paper, according to market participants.

Until the end of March, overseas exports had also been functioning normally for the most part. With the start of the Iran war, rising container and sea freight rates have made logistics more expensive. However, exports continue to be an important outlet for the European market, experts say. No dramatic drop-off in exports has been observed so far. There was definitely no oversupply on the European market at the moment, said some merchants surveyed shortly before Easter. “If someone now needs larger volumes on short notice, the material is not that readily available,” commented one seller.

Iran war sets off surge in transport costs

EUWID Price Watch Recovered Paper Poland				
First quarter 2026				
Prices in PLN/€ per tonne free delivered	First quarter 2026	Fourth quarter 2025	First quarter 2025	
Supermarket corrugated paper/board in PLN/€ (1.04)	400 - 450	425 - 475	360 - 580	
Supermarket corrugated paper/board in €/t (1.04)	93 - 105	101 - 113	86 - 139	
New shavings of corrugated board in PLN/€ (4.01)	425 - 475	450 - 500	400 - 620	
New shavings of corrugated board in €/t (4.01)	99 - 111	107 - 119	96 - 148	
Sorted graphic paper for deinking in PLN/€ (1.11)	800 - 900	750 - 850	840 - 900	
Sorted graphic paper for deinking in €/t (1.11)	187 - 210	178 - 202	201 - 215	
White woodfree uncoated shavings in PLN/€ (13.18.01)	2,025 - 2,075	2,025 - 2,075	2,100 - 2,150	
White woodfree uncoated shavings in €/t (13.18.01)	472 - 484	482 - 494	502 - 514	
Exchange rate as of 2 April 2026: 1 PLN = 40.2393				
EUWID assumes no liability for the accuracy of pricing information.				
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Ex works prices for recovered paper in Poland remained unchanged in the first quarter. For supermarket paper and board, buyers paid the equivalent of €80-85/t ex works between January and the end of March. The situation for deinking grades is also broadly stable in Poland. Price hikes for pulp, which have been implemented monthly in Europe since December 2025, had not yet had any noticeable influence on quotes for higher-quality, white recovered paper grades, according to market participants.

However, this price stability stands in contrast to rising transport costs, which make deliveries to paper mills more expensive. Even before the outbreak of Iran war, nearly all hauliers in Poland had significantly increased their rates, citing costlier fuel as well as structural factors, such as higher road tolls and rising wages in the transport sector. Within Poland, transporting a lorry load over a distance of around 200 km currently costs roughly PLN800-900 (€187-210), experts say.

Prices for cross-border transports are significantly higher: For the same distance of 200 km, quotes stand at around €350 and often reach as high as €400. The rule-of-thumb figure of around €10/t that market participants typically factored in for transport is therefore no longer accurate. So far, rising transport costs have not yet had any noticeable influence on exports to Germany and this market is still seen as stable, insiders say. However, recovered paper for overseas exports – especially from Polish regions close to maritime ports – are often sold at lower prices compared to paper transported long distances via road throughout Europe.

In light of the recent spike in diesel prices, recovered paper merchants and the paper industry recently agreed that the additional costs should be passed on through separate fuel surcharges rather than incorporated in recovered paper prices. In the week before Easter, players in Poland said these surcharges were currently €2-3/t. Many market participants believe this model is sensible because it allows for flexible adjustments: If fuel prices fall again, the reduced costs could be passed on immediately without distorting the price of the actual raw material.

Modest demand without seasonal drivers

Demand for recovered paper remains subdued. A seasonal upturn, which is often expected in advance of the Easter holidays, did not materialise in March. Market participants say ordering is generally cautious and paper production has declined slightly compared to February in some cases. Customers were not building up any additional recovered paper inventories, EUWID was told. In contrast to last year, when a few paper mills triggered price surges by placing large orders at short notice due to low inventories, the market appears far more disciplined this year. Paper mills had built up stable and relatively large inventories early on, and were making efforts to maintain them, insiders said.

For the coming weeks, market participants do not expect any fundamental changes on the Polish recovered paper market. Rising prices for finished paper and higher energy and transport costs could prompt some players to eye mark-ups in the medium term, but there is no real demand driver to support such pricing initiatives, say EUWID respondents. Many players believe the weaker economic backdrop makes price increases unlikely.

The outlook for the logistics market remains uncertain, particularly in May. Western European countries observe several statutory holidays next month, which could limit transport capacity and create temporary bottlenecks. Market participants are therefore watching the situation closely.

Cartiera Merati announces price increase for coreboard

08 April 2026 | 🕒 ~ 1 min

Italian coreboard producer Cartiera Merati has announced a further price increase for its products. From 1 May, the company wants to charge €40/t more for all coreboard grades in both the European and overseas markets.



This step follows a first adjustment of ten to twelve per cent that already came into effect on 1 April, according to Cartiera Merati. The company attributes both increases to the urgent need to restore economically sustainable margins. The prolonged period of structural overcapacity had pushed selling prices to levels which were no longer compatible with the long-term health of the industry, it said.

The price increase announcement had also been compelled by the persistent escalation of operating costs, Cartiera Merati added. "Energy crises tend to generate inflationary effects that extend well beyond the duration of the crises themselves," the company explained. Producers' cost structure today was significantly higher than it had been only a few years ago, with little prospect of a meaningful reversal in the near term, it added.

Diwass: FEAD welcomes transition period for Annex VII waste shipments

 **EUWID** + 08 April 2026 | [Eva Riebeling](#) | ⌚ ~ 5 min

The European Waste Management Association, FEAD, has welcomed a transitional measure proposed by the European Commission that would allow the continued use of paper Annex VII forms for shipments of green-listed waste until the end of the year. The Commission [presented this approach](#) at the end of March during a meeting of the waste shipment expert group, which was attended by representatives of EU member states and key stakeholders.



FEAD is recommending that companies register with Diwass as soon as possible.

The European umbrella organisation, which represents the private waste management sector, says the flexibility introduced by the transition period is a "necessary measure to ensure a smooth transition towards digitalisation". Under the EU Waste Shipments Regulation (WSR), EU operators are required to submit documentation for transboundary shipments digitally from 21 May 2026. The requirement applies both to notifications as well as to Annex VII documents, which until now have not been submitted but have had to accompany waste shipments that were not subject to notification obligations.

The Commission's proposal is a response to concerns raised by industry and member states about whether the EU's Digital Waste Shipment System, Diwass, will be ready in time for use by obligated operators. FEAD advises companies to consult their competent authorities to determine whether they will follow the Commission's recommendation on the Annex VII form and under what conditions.

In addition, FEAD recommends that all companies handling shipments exclusively under Annex VII "proactively prepare for the digital transition". Necessary steps include registering with Diwass in good time and "being ready to use the system as soon as possible to avoid operational disruptions at the end of the transition period".

According to FEAD, the European Commission expressed confidence during the expert meeting that the system would be ready in time for the transition. To support stakeholders, the Commission has announced that it will publish instructional videos on using the system on its official website in the coming weeks.

At present, the system is not operational. The Commission reportedly said at last month's meeting that registrations would open on 21 April. This would leave member states with just one month to process and approve all applications before use of the system becomes mandatory for shipments that must be notified, the association noted. For notification procedures, no transition period is foreseen.

Three routes are envisaged for digital document exchange: directly via Diwass, via national digital platforms run by competent authorities and linked to Diwass, or via alternative compatible software solutions. Member states were required to notify the Commission by early February of the approach they intend to adopt and which solution would apply within their jurisdiction. The Commission is expected to publish an overview of the various authorities' responses "in the coming weeks", FEAD said. Third countries and companies established outside the EU will be granted access to Diwass on a voluntary basis.

Under the new digital system, operators will also be obligated to submit Annex VII forms two days before the start of transport. Industry associations have expressed "strong concerns" and described the requirement as impractical. In its latest communication, FEAD reiterated its intention to continue working with other stakeholders to have this obligation removed: "The goal is to establish a practical, long-term solution that better aligns with operational realities," said FEAD.

FEAD warns of potential notification backlogs

Because the transitional measure does not extend to notification and consent procedures, companies engaged in shipping non-green-listed waste will be required to use Diwass from 21 May 2026. According to FEAD, the Commission assured participants at the expert meeting that the platform is undergoing comprehensive testing and will be capable of handling a high volume of requests from day one. Stress tests are reportedly under way.

However, the umbrella organisation said it had expressed serious concerns during the meeting about possible delays. "Due to the transition rules under the Waste Shipments Regulation, many competent authorities have gradually limited or discouraged new notifications since early 2026," FEAD said. Some companies have also postponed submissions due to uncertainty over processing times. This made it more likely that documents would need to be resubmitted and procedures restarted, according to the organisation.

The industry body also warned that this could lead to an accumulation of notifications, followed by a surge of requests on 21 May. Even minor delays in Diwass could result in significant operational disruption for the waste management sector, cautioned FEAD.

"Milestone" for the sector

Paolo Campanella, secretary general of FEAD, described the digitalisation of waste shipments in the EU as "a milestone for modern waste management, which is strongly supported by FEAD as we recognise its potential to enhance efficiency, transparency and compliance across the sector".

However, he added that the success of the transition will depend on coordinated efforts and a reliable technical infrastructure. With less than two months before the use of the digital system becomes mandatory, "uncertainties persist, which are undermining the readiness of operators and authorities," he added.

"FEAD had advocated for all operators to receive appropriate training and access to testing of Diwass before its mandatory implementation. Regrettably, this is still not consistently happening due to limited resources of competent authorities and delays in the technical development of the system, leaving operators without the necessary tools and preparation," said Mr Campanella. "We therefore urge the Commission to prioritise resolving these challenges and ensure that the digitalisation process is both practical and inclusive for all parties involved."

FEAD is urging all affected operators to register with Diwass as soon as the platform opens on 21 April and to seek guidance and training from their competent authorities. A new registration may not always be required: in some member states, operators already registered in national digital platforms may be automatically transferred to Diwass. Affected businesses should clarify their situation with national authorities to avoid misunderstandings or duplicate registrations.

FEAD said it will continue to monitor developments, consolidate feedback and inform the Commission accordingly. The organisation is also calling on waste management companies to contact their national associations or FEAD directly if they require support.

Companies urge EU not to reopen EUDR

Nestlé, Ferrero, Aldi Süd and Danone warn against further changes

 **EUWID** + 07 April 2026 | [Konstantin Stoll](#) | ⌚ ~ 2 min

Leading food and retail companies have called on the EU not to make further changes to the EU Deforestation Regulation (EUDR). In a joint letter, the signatories such as Nestlé, Ferrero, Aldi Süd, and Danone are calling on EU Environment Commissioner Jessika Roswall to reject any proposals to reopen the EU Deforestation Regulation (EUDR) following the completion of the review conducted by the European Commission.



The European Commission's report assessing the simplifications already introduced is expected by the end of April.

In the letter, seen by EUWID, the companies and industry associations stress that they have actively prepared for compliance with the EUDR and invested accordingly.

"These efforts were undertaken in good faith that the European legal framework and timetable are reliable," the letter states. Any renegotiation or amendment of individual provisions following the planned review would, in the signatories' view, put these investments at risk. It would also undermine confidence in the EU's regulatory commitments and weaken its position as a reliable partner in international trade.

Instead of further legislative changes, the companies call for remaining uncertainties to be addressed through additional guidance, FAQs and initiatives such as the emerging community of practice.

The signatories therefore ask the Commissioner to "support an outcome of the April review that prioritises timely and effective implementation, ensuring that the EUDR operates in a proportionate, inclusive and legally certain manner. No further changes are necessary." The signatories therefore explicitly oppose any renewed negotiations on the regulation.

They had already urged the EU in autumn 2025 to provide clarity on its next steps amid discussions about a possible delay and amendments to the EUDR. As early as in July, the companies had called for implementation as planned.

In addition to the companies mentioned, signatories include organisations such as the Rainforest Alliance, Tony's Chocolonely, Precious Woods, Cérélia, as well as industry alliances including the Alliance for the Preservation of Forests and Atbit.

Nefab Group acquires Slovakian packaging producer Vallos

07 April 2026 | 🕒 ~ 1 min | [Published in issue 15/2026](#)

Swedish packaging producer Nefab Group has expanded in Slovakia by taking over packaging producer Vallos.

"With this significant acquisition, we are reinforcing Nefab's market position in the Slovakia region while boosting our ability to support customers in critical sectors such as lithium-ion batteries (LiB), datacom, and energy," said Per Öhagen, the group's President and CEO, in a press release.

Vallos specialises in the development and production of complex custom-made packaging solutions made from different materials, such as corrugated packaging and foam inserts and fixations. The company provides industrial packaging for the automotive, mechanical engineering and electrical industries in particular. It runs one production site in Žilina in the northern part of the country.



Martin Macejik (left), Managing Director of Vallos, and Rui Garrido (right), EVP EMEA at Nefab, following the acquisition announcement

Nefab is a global provider of industrial packaging, logistics and digital services. Its portfolio includes paper-based, plastic, plywood, wood and metal packaging for various sectors such as the healthcare, mining and construction, telecom and energy sectors. Following the acquisition of Vallos, the Nefab Group says it now comprises nearly 5,300 employees across 39 countries and expects to generate an annual sales exceeding SEK10bn.

Last year, Nefab already drove its expansion through several acquisitions. In Spain, the company acquired heavy-duty packaging manufacturer [Embalajes Echeberria](#) and plastic packaging producer Plásticos Flome. It also took over Danish supplier of heavy-duty corrugated products [Farusa Emballage](#). Towards the end of the year, the group acquired the two manufacturers of wood packaging Jase Packaging and Heuman Verpakkingen in the Netherlands.

Essity starts negotiations on job cuts in Sweden

 **EUWID +** 03 April 2026 |  ~ 1 min | [Published in issue 15/2026](#)

Essity plans to reduce its workforce in Sweden. The company told EUWID that it had issued a redundancy notice for around 100 positions.



Negotiations with union representatives are said to have already started. The cuts will affect mainly white-collar workers at Essity's offices in Gothenburg and Stockholm.

Essity says the measure is part of the groupwide cost savings programme that it announced in October last year and that aims to reduce sales and administrative costs. In this context, the company also made changes to its organisational structure. Essity said at the time that the programme was expected to generate annual savings of approximately SEK1bn, with full effect by the end of 2026.

The group is not yet strongly affected by higher energy prices

With regard to current tensions on the energy market, Essity confirmed to EUWID what CEO Ulrika Kolsrud told Swedish business journal *Dagens Industri* in an interview: The company is temporarily shielded from rising energy prices thanks to its hedging strategy. In the interview with *Dagens Industri*, Ms Kolsrud said that Essity had hedged around 80 per cent of its gas supply for the first quarter and over 50 per cent of its purchases for the full year of 2026. High energy prices would impact transport costs, but these represented a minor part of total costs of goods sold, she added.

Koehler Paper plans price increase for carbonless and fine papers from May

02 April 2026 | 🕒 ~ 1 min

Koehler Paper has announced a price increase for carbonless papers and fine papers.

Prices for deliveries from 1 May 2026 are set to rise by 10 per cent, according to a statement issued at the end of March.



Koehler Paper cited significant cost increases for pulp, chemicals and energy as the reason.

In addition, there are noticeable pressures in the global freight and logistics system, which are having a considerable impact on production and supply chains, Koehler says.

Italy's Cartonpack takes over packaging distributor Agrypack

01 April 2026 | [Valeria Buß](#) | 🕒 ~ 1 min | [Published in issue 15/2026](#)

Italian paper and plastics packaging manufacturer Cartonpack Group has acquired distribution company Agrypack, also located in Italy. The two companies offer packaging solutions for the food and fresh produce sectors, in particular.



Agrypack has been a long-standing commercial partner of Cartonpack and was now integrated into the group, a press release says. Simone Turrini remains at the helm of the acquired company.

The takeover is to strengthen Cartonpack's activities in northern Italy, where Agrypack is said to have developed a strong presence. Agrypack is based in Verona and is a distributor of packaging solutions for the fresh produce and agri-food sectors.

Cartonpack provides multi-material packaging solutions to the European market. Its portfolio includes corrugated and solid board packaging, moulded fibre packaging, as well as flexible and rigid plastics packaging for the food sector, particularly for fresh produce. The group has nine subsidiaries in Italy, Spain and the UK and employs around 750 people. Cartonpack itself is owned by private equity investment fund A&M Capital Europe.

Diwass: Commission proposes temporarily allowing continued use of paper Annex VII forms

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The EU Waste Shipment Regulation will require documents to be exchanged via the new Digital Waste Shipments System (Diwass). The obligation also applies to the Annex VII form which must accompany transboundary transports not subject to the notification procedure.



The European Commission presented a recommendation during a working group meeting with member state experts.

Industry associations have for some time been calling for a [postponement of this requirement](#) because of delays in the

roll-out of the platform. Last week, the European Commission presented a possible approach during a working group meeting with member state experts.

According to SAM, the competent authority of the German federal state of Rhineland-Palatinate, the Commission said during the meeting that the competent authorities in the member states could continue to accept Annex VII forms in paper format until the end of 2026. This would provide greater flexibility during the introduction of Diwass for shipments of green-listed waste without jeopardising the overall digitalisation objective of the Waste Shipment Regulation, SAM reported quoting the Commission.

SAM stressed that waste management operators should clarify before shipment whether the competent authorities involved indeed follow this recommendation.

With a view to its own activities, SAM said that it would implement "the recommendation for shipments of green-listed waste to and from Rhineland-Palatinate with a sense of proportion and pragmatism". It also pointed out that the recommendation does not apply to the prior notification and consent procedure, which will have to be carried out electronically via Diwass from 21 May 2026.

The trade bodies Recycling Europe and FEAD (European Waste Management Association), as well as associations representing the steel, metals, paper and plastics industries, among others, have called on the European Commission to postpone the mandatory use of Diwass. In their view, it should remain possible for at least one year after the 21 May deadline to provide the Annex VII form and other shipment documents by means other than the digital system, for example in paper form in the transport vehicle.

As a possible legal basis for such a provision, the associations cited Article 16(4) of the Waste Shipment Regulation (WSR), which allows this approach if notification and accompanying forms cannot be provided via the internet. In such cases, no sanctions should be imposed on affected companies, the associations said in a letter to EU Environment Commissioner Jessika Roswall.