

## PressRelease

---

Brussels, 06 July 2015

### Production of paper and board in Europe in full transformation

The Confederation of European Paper Industries (CEPI) today released its 2014 Key Statistics, giving a clear picture of the industry's performance last year. The report includes data about production, consumption and the trade of pulp, paper and raw materials, as well as data on energy and environment. It shows an industry in full transformation, with the growth in output in the packaging sector and a more modest increase in hygiene paper production more than balancing out the continuous decline in the output of graphic paper. Here are the main highlights of the report:

- The production of paper and board in Europe decreased by 0.2% in 2014 compared to the previous year, after a cumulative decline of 4% between 2010 and 2013. It is now established at 91.1 million tonnes.
- Paper and board consumption rose by 0.9% compared to 2013 and totalled 77.1 million tonnes. This increase is particularly important because it comes after three consecutive years of decline. The EU28 and the euro area recovered in 2014, with the annual GDP thought to have increased by respectively 1.3% and 0.8% (source: Eurostat). This was reflected in the demand for paper.
- Graphic grades represented 40.5% of all paper and board produced in Europe, packaging grades 47.5%, sanitary and household papers 7.7% and speciality grades 4.3%.
- Paper and board exports to countries outside CEPI dropped, causing concern, whilst imports rose, resulting in a slightly negative trade balance impact. However, CEPI countries maintained an overall positive trade balance in paper (exports exceeding imports) of 14.0 million tonnes in 2014 (14.8 million tonnes in 2013).
- Market pulp production fell by 1.4% compared to 2013, with an output of 13.2 million tonnes.

Ernst & Young issued a limited assurance statement on the data quality rating that CEPI carried out on its core indicators in the statistics report. The limited assurance statement is available on CEPI's website at: <http://www.cepi.org/topics/statistics>

#END#

You can download the report in pdf format on CEPI's website at [www.cepi.org/topics/statistics](http://www.cepi.org/topics/statistics) or request your own paper copy by sending an email to [mail@cepi.org](mailto:mail@cepi.org).

More detailed statistical information is available to non-CEPI members by subscription.

A full report can be ordered by contacting Ariane Crèvecoeur, by telephone +32 (0)2 62749 35 or email at [a.crevecoeur@cepi.org](mailto:a.crevecoeur@cepi.org) or Eric Kilby at [e.kilby@cepi.org](mailto:e.kilby@cepi.org).



## Note to the Editor

### **CEPI aisbl - The Confederation of European Paper Industries**

The Confederation of European Paper Industries (CEPI) is a Brussels-based non-profit organisation regrouping the European pulp and paper industry and championing industry's achievements and the benefits of its products. Through its 18 member countries (17 European Union members plus Norway) CEPI represents some 515 pulp, paper and board producing companies across Europe, ranging from small and medium sized companies to multi-nationals, and 780 paper mills. Together they represent 23% of world production.

The National Associations of the 18 following countries are CEPI members: Austria, Belgium, Czech Republic, Finland, France, Germany, Hungary, Italy, The Netherlands, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, United Kingdom.

Website: <http://www.cepi.org/>

Connect with us:  @EuropeanPaper  <http://www.cepi.org/news-feed.xml>  <http://www.youtube.com/cepi250>  
 <http://www.flickr.com/photos/cepiindustry>  <http://www.linkedin.com/company/cepi>