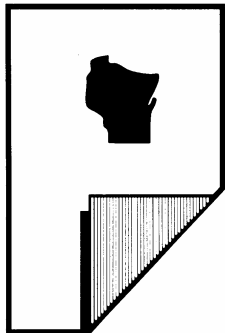


WISCONSIN PAPER COUNCIL

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NEWS RELEASE

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PAPER EXPORTS JUMP IN 2004

MADISON – Governor Jim Doyle and the Wisconsin Department of Commerce announced today that paper and paperboard exports from Wisconsin increased 17.45% in 2004.

“This is great news for the Wisconsin paper industry,” said Patrick Schillinger, President of the Wisconsin Paper Council. “This shows the strength of the paper industry in Wisconsin and that our paper companies can compete in the global marketplace,” he said.

Paper and paperboard was Wisconsin’s fifth largest export in 2004. Total paper and paperboard exports totaled \$686.63 million.

“These statistics also demonstrate that the paper industry competes in a world market and we need to make sure Wisconsin’s business and regulatory climate allows our papermakers to be competitive,” Schillinger said.

Wisconsin has been the number one paper producing state in the nation with total production of paper and paperboard of over \$12 billion. The paper industry in Wisconsin employs 40,000 people with the highest paying manufacturing jobs in the state.

Wisconsin has been the number one paper making state in the country for the last fifty years. The Wisconsin Paper Council is the trade association of the pulp and paper industry in Wisconsin.

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