



# News Release

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## **WISCONSIN TOPS PAPER PRODUCTION FOR 50<sup>TH</sup> CONSECUTIVE YEAR**

NEENAH – While Wisconsin’s paper industry has been streamlining its operations, the state still leads the nation in paper production according to the latest paper production figures released. Wisconsin has been leading the nation in paper production for over 50 years.

“Wisconsin’s paper industry has been struggling to align itself in the global marketplace but we’re still tops in paper production,” said Patrick Schillinger, President of the Wisconsin Paper Council. “The latest figures demonstrate that the paper industry in Wisconsin is still the global leader,” he said. “While there have been workforce reductions and some streamlining of the industry, our production numbers are still high – we’re not going away,” Schillinger said.

According to the American Forest and Paper Association (AF&PA), Wisconsin produced 5,062,000 tons of paper in 2003 (the latest date paper production figures were available) – 44.4% more than their nearest competitor – according to statistics compiled by the American Forest & Paper Association (AF&PA).

Papermakers in Maine produced 3,504,000 tons to rank second nationally, while Alabama’s output was 2,899,000 tons. Washington was fourth in paper production, reporting 2,674,000 tons, while Louisiana, producing 2,335,000 tons, was fifth.

“What these figures show is that given the right business climate, the paper industry in Wisconsin can compete nationally and internationally,” Schillinger said.

The Wisconsin Paper Council is the trade association of the pulp and paper industry in Wisconsin.

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