

MEDIA RELEASE

20 March 2018

Australian Paper welcomes anti-dumping investigation into copy paper imports

Australian Paper, local manufacturer of office paper including market leading Reflex[®], has welcomed the Anti-Dumping Commission's announcement of an investigation into A4 office paper from Austria, Finland, Korea, Russia and Slovakia.

"Paper manufacturing is a capital intensive industry. Australian jobs and the future of the local industry continue to be under threat from low market prices, and we welcome the ADC's decision to investigate this important issue," said Mr Peter Williams, COO, Australian Paper.

"The Australian office paper market remains intensely competitive with imports continuing to be received from around the world. Australian Paper remains committed to competing equitably against imported paper and will continue to focus on the efficient manufacture of innovative, high quality, Australian made products. However market pricing remains at commercially unsustainable levels due to the impact of low priced imports.

"The Australian Government has empowered the Anti-Dumping Commission to administer Australia's antidumping system in compliance with World Trade Organisation rules and Australian legislation. The ADC's investigation into office paper from Austria, Finland, Korea, Russia and Slovakia will determine whether manufacturers from these countries are operating fairly in this market. We look forward to the ADC's determination as to whether office paper from these countries is being sold into this market at dumped prices," Mr Williams added.

Australian Paper is one of the largest employers in Victoria's Latrobe Valley. Economic research has shown that Australian Paper supports more than 5,700 jobs nationally and contributes over \$900 million to Australia's GDP annually.

More information on the anti-dumping action can be accessed at the Australian Government Anti-Dumping Commission website <u>www.adcommission.gov.au</u> and the WRI Economic Impact Report on Australian Paper's contribution to the local economy can be found at <u>www.australianpaper.com.au</u>

(ENDS)

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