

News Release

For Immediate Release

International Paper Hazleton Box Plant Celebrates 40th Year of Operation

HAZLETON, Pa., January 9, 2017 – International Paper’s Hazleton, Pa., Box Plant recently marked its 40th year of operation. The plant is among nearly 190 North American Container facilities that is part of the company’s largest business, Industrial Packaging. International Paper serves as one of the world’s premier manufacturer of containerboard and corrugated packaging.

Having opened for business December 13, 1976, as an Inland Container Plant, which was later acquired by International Paper, the Hazleton facility was one of only four businesses in operation in the “Can Do” Humboldt Industrial Park at the time. In contrast, 67 large-scale, flourishing businesses now operate in the park.

Hazleton Box Plant Local 1531 President Bobby Sundra has been employed at the facility since the plant’s first day of operation. According to Bobby, in 1976 the plant produced about 350 lineal feet per minute off the corrugator machine, and other sites were calling the plant to ask how the team was able to do it. The plant ran one shift with 15 production team members and four-person maintenance crew. In March 1977, the plant added a second shift and, in July of that year, the facility expanded to a three-shift operation. Today, the plant runs boxes for the bottling and tissue industries, among other customers.

Complex General Manager, Mark Newton, added, “While much has changed over the years, without a doubt the plant continues to thrive due to its excellent reputation of safety, quality and service and a dedicated team that cares about each other’s safety and our customers. I am privileged to work with such a committed team of people and to be part of our 40-year celebration.”

About International Paper

International Paper is a leading global producer of renewable fiber-based packaging, pulp and paper products with manufacturing operations in North America, Latin America, Europe, North Africa, Asia and Russia. We produce packaging products that enable world-wide commerce; pulp for diapers, tissue and other personal hygiene products; papers that drive communication; paper bags that carry groceries; and paper cups and food containers that provide convenience. We are headquartered in Memphis, Tenn., and employ roughly 55,000 colleagues located in more than 24 countries. Net sales for 2015 were \$22 billion. For more information about International Paper, our products and global citizenship efforts, please visit internationalpaper.com.

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