

News Release

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International Paper Launches ecotainer® Compostable Hot Cup Lid

MEMPHIS, Tenn. – *November 6, 2009* – International Paper’s Foodservice business is proud to launch a fully compostable hot cup lid as part of the company’s ecotainer® product line.

“International Paper is committed to offering our customers a range of choices when it comes to sustainable packaging,” said Greg Wanta, vice president, IP Foodservice. “This new lid is yet another example of our strong record of innovation for the ecotainer product line as well as our more traditional product offerings.”

Made with Ingeo™ biopolymer from NatureWorks LLC, a fully renewable, plant-based material, the ecotainer hot cup lid can be composted with ecotainer hot cups and food waste at most commercial composting facilities. The lid also meets the strict performance guidelines required to ensure safe serving of hot beverages, the result of several years of development to identify the right combination of materials and processes. The lid is currently in the final stages of testing for the ASTM D6400 and EN13432 standards for compostability.

By using ecotainer hot cup lids along with other ecotainer products, customers can lower their consumption of petroleum-based packaging and further reduce the amount of materials going into landfills through commercial composting.

From raw materials to finished product, the new ecotainer hot cup lid is also the first of its kind to be manufactured entirely in the U.S., which is one of the reasons the lid has a smaller environmental footprint versus similar products.

“It’s exciting to be the first company to market with a compostable cup and lid package produced completely here in the United States,” said Wanta. “We are investing in America to minimize our environmental impact.”

The new hot cup lid joins International Paper's ecotainer family of products, which includes hot cups, Cup Buddy® sleeves, cold cups and food containers. These ecotainer products meet the ASTM D6400 standard for compostability and are widely accepted by commercial composting facilities across the United States. All ecotainer products are made from renewable resources and have a smaller environmental footprint than comparable products.

Since 2006, ecotainer products by International Paper have helped customers around the world *make a difference one cup at a time.*

About International Paper

International Paper (NYSE: IP) is a global paper and packaging company with manufacturing operations in North America, Europe, Latin America, Russia, Asia and North Africa. Its businesses include uncoated papers and industrial and consumer packaging, complemented by xpedx, the company's North American distribution company. Headquartered in Memphis, Tenn., the company employs more than 58,000 people in more than 20 countries and serves customers worldwide. 2008 net sales were approximately \$25 billion. For more information about International Paper, its products and stewardship efforts, visit www.internationalpaper.com.