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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
6 January 2016

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## **ASPI Excellence in Leadership Award Recognizes Don Forst, International Paper**

Don Forst, Director-Global Sourcing, International Paper has been selected to receive ASPI's 2016 Excellence in Leadership Award. Forst will accept his award at the ASPI 2016 Spring Meeting, February 24-26, 2016 in Miami, Florida.

Established in 2010, the Excellence in Leadership Award recognizes outstanding leaders within the paper industry. The award honors unique and creative leadership of employees, company and key suppliers through major projects or ongoing relationships.

"Don was nominated for this award as he has achieved a reputation within the supplier community as providing great guidance and leadership when working with the suppliers," comments ASPI President Mike Gray, Area SVP, Sales and Paper Business NA for Valmet. ASPI Member Jennifer Powell notes that "Don is also known for regularly seeking supplier expertise on projects, and applying their recommendations to his own team's practices. That each mile that Don is willing to go, striving to think outside of the box and always setting a professional example- those are just a few of the qualities that make him an ideal recipient for this award, comments ASPI member Jennifer Powell.

### **About International Paper**

International Paper (NYSE: IP) is a global leader in packaging and paper with manufacturing operations in North America, Europe, Latin America, Russia, Asia and North Africa. Its businesses include industrial and consumer packaging along with uncoated papers and pulp. Headquartered in Memphis, Tenn., the company employs approximately 58,000 people and is strategically located in more than 24 countries serving customers worldwide. International Paper net sales for 2014 were \$24 billion. For more information about International Paper, its products and stewardship efforts, visit [internationalpaper.com](http://internationalpaper.com).

### **About ASPI**

The Association of Suppliers to the Paper Industry (ASPI) is the leading association of companies that supply products and services to the pulp, paper and board industry. Member participation consists primarily of CEOs, owners, and senior management executives. ASPI's mission is to assist its member supplier companies in providing increased economic benefits to their customers through collective knowledge, initiatives and efforts. For more information, contact: Grayson Lutz, Director of Member Relations, at 770-209-7215 or e-mail at [glutz@aspinet.org](mailto:glutz@aspinet.org). Visit [www.aspinet.org](http://www.aspinet.org) to learn more about ASPI.