
DOJ Approves International Paper's Acquisition of Weyerhaeuser

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The Department of Justice last week granted early termination of the Hart-Scott-Rodino review waiting periods allowing WilmerHale client, International Paper, to complete its acquisition of the containerboard packaging and recycling business of Weyerhaeuser. The combined entity will be the largest producer of containerboard (used to make corrugated board) and the largest converter of corrugated boxes in the world. The clearance was received despite opposition from a number of independent box converters.

International Paper announced March 17 it had signed a definitive agreement with Weyerhaeuser to acquire its containerboard packaging and business. Weyerhaeuser's containerboard packaging and recycling business includes nine linerboard mills, 72 box plants in the US and four in Mexico, and more than 30 specialty packaging, kraft bag and recycling operations. International Paper is a global paper and packaging company with manufacturing operations in North America, Europe, Latin America, Russia, Asia and North Africa.

The core IP team was Doug Melamed, [Jim Lowe](#) and [Jeff Ayer](#) with assistance from Kevin Stemp, Dan Matheson, Wendy Terry, Janet Ridge, Sven Völcker, Gabriele Accardo and [Lester Ross](#).