



## Information about the actual energy- and cost situation

Dear Sir or Madam,

We would like to inform you about the extraordinary situation for the paper industry as well as for the entire supply chain and draw your attention to the resulting necessary measures at an early stage.

The impact of the sanctions on the development of energy costs are being intensively communicated via all media. Since February 24, 2022, the cost of gas has more than tripled, peaking at 15 times the previous year. Forecasts indicate that no easing is expected in the foreseeable future.

In addition, during the last few days we are receiving announcements of further price increases from almost all suppliers, who are also forced to pass on their increased costs.

Russia and Ukraine were significant suppliers of wood and pulp for paper mills, these raw materials are now lacking on the world market, leading to additional price and supply problems.

And, of course, freight rates are also constantly being adjusted due to the sharp rise in diesel prices.

Our priority is to be able to reliably produce and supply our customers' needs during this period. To ensure this, we are unfortunately forced to accept the costs of our suppliers, but above all to ensure security of supply in the best possible way.

However, we already have to communicate longer delivery times to you, depending on the product area. Please take this into account in your planning or for customer-specific orders.

Of course, we are aware that this may have an impact on you and your internal processes. However, we assure you that we are working intensively together with our suppliers and factories to communicate further cost increases in a timely manner, but above all to maintain the availability of raw materials as far as possible.

We trust in your understanding during these extraordinary times for all of us and hope that we will achieve stable and predictable conditions again in the foreseeable future.

First and foremost, we sincerely wish you cohesion, humanity and a healthy, happy common future!

With kind Regards

Dr. Heinrich Spies

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