

# AF&PA RELEASES Q1 2024 CONTAINERBOARD QUARTERLY REPORT

The American Forest & Paper Association has released its Q1 2024 Containerboard Quarterly report.

According to the report, total Containerboard production in Q1 increased 7% compared to Q1 2023.

- Operating rates for all major grades except Semi-chemical Medium increased compared to Q4 2023 while total production was down 0.7% (Q1 had 1 less day than Q4).
- Unbleached Kraft Liner production for export surged more than 41% over its year-ago levels. The Q1 2024 export total was higher than any quarter in 2023.

- Despite the significant increase in exports, domestic new supply was up 3.7% from Q1 2023 due to the increase in domestic production, as well as a 12.6% increase in imports of containerboard. New supply declined slightly from Q4.
- Mill inventories ended the quarter at 429,400 short tons, lower than at the end of 2023, but higher than any other month last year.

The complete report can be purchased by contacting [Statistics\\_Publications@afandpa.org](mailto:Statistics_Publications@afandpa.org)

## MHI LAUNCH THIRD GENERATION OF BELT TYPE SINGLE FACER

With the aim of producing high quality board and with easy operation, MHI has confirmed the launch of its third generation of belted single facer, the 60N, which is rated at 450 m/min.

MHI developed its first Pressure belt machine over 30 years ago, being the first manufacturer in the world to offer such a solution to the market. Since then, MHI never returned to roll pressure machines, always prioritising high quality of the board produced and reliability of the machine.

The company says its new belt type 60N Single Facer is based on its popular and well proven 60H Paser. The new single facer has the following standard features:

- Higher automatically adjusted belt tension and automatic nip belt alignment device;
- Automatic sheet wrap control device for internal and external pre-heaters to obtain the best quality for different paper grades;



- Fully automatic flute cassette change system. Flute change time is just 3-4 mins without any operator intervention;
- LCD monitor with improved more detailed unit diagnostics and maintenance information;
- Automatic glue dam control system (option), adjusting the position of the glue dam for less glue consumption and easy operation preventing glue sticking on the corrugating rolls.