

CPI & SPA call on MPs to support UK manufacturing



The Confederation of Paper Industries and the Sheet Plant Association have united with one voice, on behalf of the corrugated packaging industry, to engage in a pre and post election drive, urging MPs to encourage the healthy growth of manufacturing in the UK.

The campaign takes the form of a mailer, made from corrugated, that will drop on the desks of MPs and other opinion formers during the first couple of weeks in March. Advertisements will also run in House Magazine, the weekly publication read by MPs and Peers. The mailing will be repeated after the election to ensure everyone in the new parliament has seen it.

The central message is that decline in UK manufacturing is not inevitable and that policy-makers need to create more advantageous conditions for investment. The industry's thoughts are detailed in its Manifesto for Manufacturing which can be read at <http://www.paper.org.uk/manifesto>

Naturally proud of its own investment record, and the ability of corrugated packaging to help companies reduce costs and carbon footprints, the corrugated packaging industry wants to open up its factories to more visits from MPs to show them British manufacturing at its best. Both the advertisement and the mailer provide contact details so MPs can arrange a visit and see for themselves what modern manufacturing is like.

Andy Barnetson, Corrugated Sector Manager of CPI, commented: "The corrugated packaging industry is a particularly good barometer of the pressure that manufacturing is under and we are pleased to stand alongside the Sheet Plant Association on this issue. It is necessary for everyone involved in manufacturing to keep up a sustained lobby to encourage more manufacturing in the UK."

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For more information, please contact Andrew Barnetson, Corrugated Sector Body Manager, on 07775 771662 or email abarnetson@paper.org.uk

Notes to Editors

- CPI is the voice of the paper industry in the UK, representing papermakers, tissue manufacturers, corrugated packaging producers and recovered paper merchants.
- CPI represents 265 member sites across 60 companies, with a combined annual turnover of £4 billion and 24,500 personnel.
- Over 80% of all corrugated cardboard boxes are recycled, giving the corrugated industry the best UK recycling rate of all packaging materials.
- For additional information on the UK paper industry, in the first instance, please contact Catherine Waterfield, External Affairs Coordinator, on 01793 889612 or email cwaterfield@paper.org.uk. Alternatively, please visit: <http://www.paper.org.uk>.