## Equity Research Company Update

November 30, 2006

Stock Rating:

### **Sector Outperformer**

# Sector Weighting: Underweight

12-18 mo. Price Target	\$37.00
IP-NYSE (11/29/06)	\$32.55
1/ l 00 D 500	

, ,	
Key Indices: S&P 500	
3-5-Yr. EPS Gr. Rate (E)	NM
52-week Range	\$30.69-\$37.98
Shares Outstanding	454.8M
Float	479.0M Shrs
Avg. Daily Trading Vol.	2,777,545
Market Capitalization	\$14,803.7M
Dividend/Div Yield	\$1.00 / 3.1%
Fiscal Year Ends	December
Book Value	\$12.92 per Shr
2006 ROE (E)	13.8%
LT Debt	\$10,450.0M
Preferred	Nil
Common Equity	\$5,874.0M
Convertible Available	Yes

Earnings per Share	Prev	Current
2005		\$1.08A
2006		\$1.31E
2007		\$1.90E
P/E		
2005		30.1x
2006		24.8x
2007		17.1x

EBITDA	
2005	\$2,754
2006E	\$2,683
2007E	\$2.750

#### **Company Description**

International Paper is the world's largest paper & forest products company. Businesses include paper, packaging, building materials and distribution.

#### www.ipaper.com

 Don Roberts
 Herv

 1 (613) 564-0827
 1 (5:00.Roberts@cibc.ca

 Herve
 Herve

**Herve Carreau, CFA** 1 (514) 847-6420

Jonathan Lethbridge, CFA 1 (514) 847-6423 Jonathan.Lethbridge@cibc.ca

Priod Prio

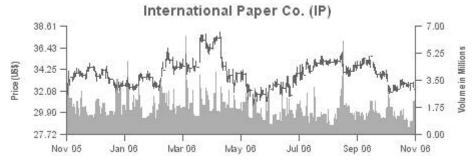
Paper & Forest Products

## International Paper Co.

Sells Majority Of Its Sawmills To West Fraser - Low Price, But Reduces Losses

- On November 29, IP announced it has entered an agreement to sell 13 of its 21 lumber mills to West Fraser (WFT-SP) for approximately \$325 million. Although the transaction price is lower than expected, IP has done well to exit sooner than later, as these mills are currently EBITDA negative.
- This cash transaction takes IP one step closer to completing its restructuring program that began in July 2005. Based on transactions announced so far, the company has delivered roughly \$10 billion in total. Left to go is mainly the remainder of wood products and beverage packaging.
- The company's primary goal remains to increase its financial flexibility and maintain its investment-grade credit rating through debt repayment. However, the company is also seeking to improve shareholder value through share repurchases and capital reinvestment.
- Although we ultimately expect close to \$11 billion in after-tax sale proceeds from the restructuring program, we think that the bulk of the value has already surfaced through the sale of the timberlands. As a result, we are maintaining our \$37 price target for IP.

### **Stock Price Performance**



Source: Reuters

All figures in US dollars, unless otherwise stated.

06-68777 © 2006

CIBC World Markets does and seeks to do business with companies covered in its research reports. As a result, investors should be aware that the firm may have a conflict of interest that could affect the objectivity of this report. Investors should consider this report as only a single factor in making their investment decision.

See "Important Disclosures" section at the end of this report for important required disclosures, including potential conflicts of interest.

See "Price Target Calculation" and "Key Risks to Price Target" sections at the end of this report, where applicable.

The 13 sawmills sold to West Fraser are located in the U.S. South and have a combined annual production capacity of approximately 1.8 billion board feet of southern yellow pine (SYP) lumber (see Exhibit 1).

**Exhibit 1. Sawmills Sold** 

			2005 Production
State	Location	Mill Type	(MMfbm)
Alabama	Citronelle	Dimension	84
Alabama	Maplesville	Dimension	107
Alabama	Opelika	Dimension	95
Arkansas	Leola	Dimension	179
Florida	McDavid	Dimension	211
Florida	Whitehouse	Dimension	96
Georgia	Augusta	Dimension	144
Georgia	Folkston	Dimension	97
North Carolina	Riegelwood	Dimension	199
North Carolina	Seabord	Dimension	100
South Carolina	Newberry	Stud	140
Texas	Henderson	Dimension	142
Texas	New Boston	Dimension	160
Total Sawmills			1,754

Source: Company reports and CIBC World Markets Inc.

The acquisition price of \$325 million, including working capital, is subject to certain post-closing adjustments. The transaction, which is also subject to U.S. regulatory approvals and customary conditions, is expected to close in the first quarter of 2007.

The purchase price is lower than expected, but reflects generally weak markets expected for the next 12-18 months. West Fraser is paying US\$181/mfbm of lumber capacity, while precedent transactions have been done at an average of US\$200/mfbm. We estimate that the price represents 5.9 times normalized EBITDA.

**Exhibit 2. Valuation** 

	TEV/EBITDA		
	2004	2005	
Canfor	3.6	8.2	
West Fraser	5.6	4.9	
Interfor	4.5	4.7	
Average	4.6	5.9	
IP SYP Sawmills	2.9	2.8	

Source: Company reports and CIBC World Markets Inc.

Based on benchmarking surveys, the acquired mills are on average more profitable than other mills in the region. Although the majority of these mills are in the bottom half of the region's cost curve, we estimate they are still EBITDA negative due to current weak market conditions. In total we estimate IP's wood products segment lost \$25 million in EBITDA in Q3, but has generated \$60 million year to date. We think IP's remaining wood products assets, which

include eight sawmills and 5 plywood mills generated almost 2/3's of the segments YTD EBITDA. Having said that, during Q3, we expect these assets lost more money than the assets West Fraser purchased.

Management at IP has continued to operate some of the lumber and plywood mills despite the extremely low prices (which we think would normally have forced market related closures). We expect this may continue until the sale of the remainder of the business is announced over the next few months.

We think Koch Industries is arguably the most likely buyer of IP's four plywood and lumber complexes, while companies like Temple-Inland are likely to pursue the remaining stand-alone sawmills. Note that Koch is the largest plywood producer with roughly 25% of North American capacity, and that IP is the second largest producer with approximately 9%.

## **Price Target Calculation**

Our 12- to 18-month price target of US\$37.00 on IP is based on a multiple of 7.25x applied to our 2007 EBITDA estimate of US\$2.7 billion to arrive at our forecasted TEV of US\$19.9 billion. To isolate our market cap target, we add to the TEV expected operating free cash flow of US\$300 million over the next 12 months and expected proceeds of US\$6.6 billion from the sale of timberland, and deduct current net debt of US\$9.7 billion and minority interest of US\$185 million. This results in a target market capitalization of approximately US\$17 billion or approximately US\$37/share. Our target multiple is at a premium to the average historical valuation in U.S. paper & forest products sector due to the company's higher liquidity.

## **Key Risks To Price Target**

Potential risks to our price target include a weaker-than-expected U.S. economy, continuing increase in input costs and a lower-than-expected value realized on the sale of timberlands.

## **Our EPS estimates are shown below:**

	1 Qtr.	2 Qtr.	3 Qtr.	4 Qtr.	Yearly
2005 Current	\$0.36A	\$0.31A	\$0.29A	\$0.12A	\$1.08A
2006 Current	\$0.19A	\$0.41A	\$0.36A	\$0.35E	\$1.31E
2007 Current					\$1.90E

### **IMPORTANT DISCLOSURES:**

**Analyst Certification:** Each CIBC World Markets research analyst named on the front page of this research report, or at the beginning of any subsection hereof, hereby certifies that (i) the recommendations and opinions expressed herein accurately reflect such research analyst's personal views about the company and securities that are the subject of this report and all other companies and securities mentioned in this report that are covered by such research analyst and (ii) no part of the research analyst's compensation was, is, or will be, directly or indirectly, related to the specific recommendations or views expressed by such research analyst in this report.

**Potential Conflicts of Interest:** Equity research analysts employed by CIBC World Markets are compensated from revenues generated by various CIBC World Markets businesses, including the CIBC World Markets Investment Banking Department within the Corporate and Leveraged Finance Division. Research analysts do not receive compensation based upon revenues from specific investment banking transactions. CIBC World Markets generally prohibits any research analyst and any member of his or her household from executing trades in the securities of a company that such research analyst covers. Additionally, CIBC World Markets generally prohibits any research analyst from serving as an officer, director or advisory board member of a company that such analyst covers.

In addition to 1% ownership positions in covered companies that are required to be specifically disclosed in this report, CIBC World Markets may have a long position of less than 1% or a short position or deal as principal in the securities discussed herein, related securities or in options, futures or other derivative instruments based thereon.

Recipients of this report are advised that any or all of the foregoing arrangements, as well as more specific disclosures set forth below, may at times give rise to potential conflicts of interest.

## **Important Disclosure Footnotes for International Paper Co. (IP)**

2g CIBC World Markets Inc. expects to receive or intends to seek compensation for investment banking services from International Paper Co. in the next 3 months.

# Important Disclosure Footnotes for Companies Mentioned in this Report that Are Covered by CIBC World Markets:

### **Stock Prices as of 11/29/2006:**

Canfor Corporation (CFP-TSX, C\$10.02, Sector Underperformer)
International Forest Products Limited (2g, 12) (IFP.A-TSX, C\$7.10, Sector Outperformer)
West Fraser Timber Co. Ltd. (2g) (WFT-TSX, C\$39.42, Sector Performer)

### **Companies Mentioned in this Report that Are Not Covered by CIBC World Markets:**

#### **Stock Prices as of 11/29/2006:**

Temple Inland Inc. (TIN-NYSE, \$38.99, Not Rated)

Important disclosure footnotes that correspond to the footnotes in this table may be found in the "Key to Important Disclosure Footnotes" section of this report.

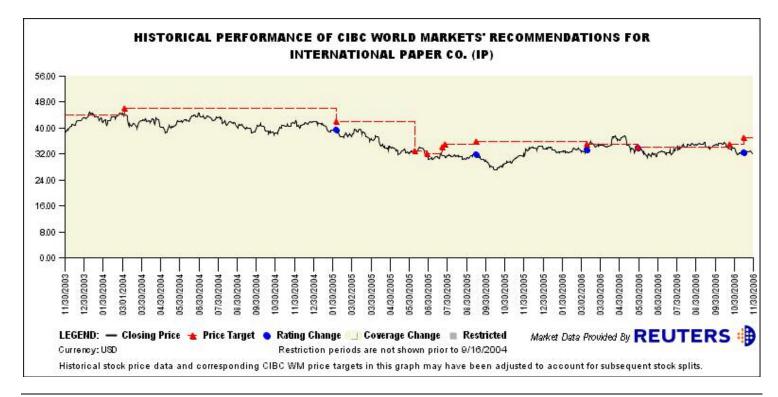


### **Key to Important Disclosure Footnotes:**

- 1 CIBC World Markets Corp. makes a market in the securities of this company.
- 2a This company is a client for which a CIBC World Markets company has performed investment banking services in the past 12 months.
- 2b CIBC World Markets Corp. has managed or co-managed a public offering of securities for this company in the past 12 months.
- 2c CIBC World Markets Inc. has managed or co-managed a public offering of securities for this company in the past 12 months.
- 2d CIBC World Markets Corp. has received compensation for investment banking services from this company in the past 12 months.
- 2e CIBC World Markets Inc. has received compensation for investment banking services from this company in the past 12 months.
- 2f CIBC World Markets Corp. expects to receive or intends to seek compensation for investment banking services from this company in the next 3 months.
- 2g CIBC World Markets Inc. expects to receive or intends to seek compensation for investment banking services from this company in the next 3 months.
- This company is a client for which a CIBC World Markets company has performed non-investment banking, securities-related services in the past 12 months.
- 3b CIBC World Markets Corp. has received compensation for non-investment banking, securities-related services from this company in the past 12 months.
- 3c CIBC World Markets Inc. has received compensation for non-investment banking, securities-related services from this company in the past 12 months.
- 4a This company is a client for which a CIBC World Markets company has performed non-investment banking, non-securities-related services in the past 12 months.
- 4b CIBC World Markets Corp. has received compensation for non-investment banking, non-securities-related services from this company in the past 12 months.
- 4c CIBC World Markets Inc. has received compensation for non-investment banking, non-securities-related services from this company in the past 12 months.
- The CIBC World Markets Corp. analyst(s) who covers this company also has a long position in its common equity securities.
- A member of the household of a CIBC World Markets Corp. research analyst who covers this company has a long position in the common equity securities of this company.
- 6a The CIBC World Markets Inc. fundamental analyst(s) who covers this company also has a long position in its common equity securities.
- A member of the household of a CIBC World Markets Inc. fundamental research analyst who covers this company has a long position in the common equity securities of this company.
- 7 CIBC World Markets Corp., CIBC World Markets Inc., and their affiliates, in the aggregate, beneficially own 1% or more of a class of equity securities issued by this company.
- A partner, director or officer of CIBC World Markets Inc. or any analyst involved in the preparation of this research report has provided services to this company for remuneration in the past 12 months.
- A senior executive member or director of Canadian Imperial Bank of Commerce ("CIBC"), the parent company to CIBC World Markets Inc. and CIBC World Markets Corp., or a member of his/her household is an officer, director or advisory board member of this company or one of its subsidiaries.
- 10 Canadian Imperial Bank of Commerce ("CIBC"), the parent company to CIBC World Markets Inc. and CIBC World Markets Corp., has a significant credit relationship with this company.
- 11 The equity securities of this company are restricted voting shares.
- 12 The equity securities of this company are subordinate voting shares.
- 13 The equity securities of this company are non-voting shares.
- 14 The equity securities of this company are limited voting shares.



### **CIBC World Markets Price Chart**



## HISTORICAL PERFORMANCE OF CIBC WORLD MARKETS' RECOMMENDATIONS FOR INTERNATIONAL PAPER CO. (IP)

Date	Change Type	Closing Price	Rating	Price Target	Coverage
03/03/2004	<b>A</b>	43.81	SP	46.00	Don Roberts
02/03/2005	A •	39.29	SU	42.00	Don Roberts
06/07/2005	<b>A</b>	33.02	SU	33.00	Don Roberts
06/27/2005	<b>A</b>	31.43	SU	32.00	Don Roberts
07/22/2005	<b>A</b>	31.59	SU	34.00	Don Roberts
07/26/2005	<b>A</b>	31.33	SU	35.00	Don Roberts
09/14/2005	<b>A</b> •	31.70	SP	36.00	Don Roberts
03/09/2006	A •	33.24	SO	35.00	Don Roberts
05/29/2006	A •	33.92	SP	34.00	Don Roberts
10/22/2006	<b>A</b>	33.81	SP	35.00	Don Roberts
11/13/2006	A.	32.50	SO	37.00	Don Roberts

## **CIBC World Markets' Stock Rating System**

Abbreviation	Rating	Description
Stock Ratings		
SO	Sector Outperformer	Stock is expected to outperform the sector during the next 12-18 months.
SP	Sector Performer	Stock is expected to perform in line with the sector during the next 12-18 months.
SU	Sector Underperformer	Stock is expected to underperform the sector during the next 12-18 months.
NR	Not Rated	CIBC World Markets does not maintain an investment recommendation on the stock.
R	Restricted	CIBC World Markets is restricted*** from rating the stock.
Sector Weightings	s**	
0	Overweight	Sector is expected to outperform the broader market averages.
М	Market Weight	Sector is expected to equal the performance of the broader market averages.
U	Underweight	Sector is expected to underperform the broader market averages.
NA	None	Sector rating is not applicable.

<sup>\*\*</sup>Broader market averages refer to the S&P 500 in the U.S. and the S&P/TSX Composite in Canada.

### Ratings Distribution\*: CIBC World Markets' Coverage Universe

(as of 29 Nov 2006)	Count	Percent	Inv. Banking Relationships	Count	Percent
Sector Outperformer (Buy)	325	39.2%	Sector Outperformer (Buy)	168	51.7%
Sector Performer (Hold/Neutral)	401	48.4%	Sector Performer (Hold/Neutral)	194	48.4%
Sector Underperformer (Sell)	72	8.7%	Sector Underperformer (Sell)	33	45.8%
Restricted	18	2.2%	Restricted	16	88.9%

#### **Ratings Distribution: Paper & Forest Products Coverage Universe**

(as of 29 Nov 2006)	Count	Percent	Inv. Banking Relationships	Count	Percent
Sector Outperformer (Buy)	3	18.8%	Sector Outperformer (Buy)	3	100.0%
Sector Performer (Hold/Neutral)	8	50.0%	Sector Performer (Hold/Neutral)	6	75.0%
Sector Underperformer (Sell)	5	31.3%	Sector Underperformer (Sell)	4	80.0%
Restricted	0	0.0%	Restricted	0	0.0%

Paper & Forest Products Sector includes the following tickers: A, BOW, CAS, CFP, CFX.UN, CTL, DTC, FPS, IFP.A, IP, LPX, MERC, NBD, TBC, WFT, WY.

Important disclosures required by IDA Policy 11, including potential conflicts of interest information, our system for rating investment opportunities and our dissemination policy can be obtained by visiting CIBC World Markets on the web at <a href="http://research.cibcwm.com/res/Policies/Policies.html">http://research.cibcwm.com/res/Policies/Policies.html</a> or by writing to CIBC World Markets Inc., BCE Place, 161 Bay Street, 4th Floor, Toronto, Ontario M5J 2S8, Attention: Research Disclosures Request.

<sup>&</sup>quot;Speculative" indicates that an investment in this security involves a high amount of risk due to volatility and/or liquidity issues.

<sup>\*\*\*</sup>Restricted due to a potential conflict of interest.

<sup>\*</sup>Although the investment recommendations within the three-tiered, relative stock rating system utilized by CIBC World Markets do not correlate to buy, hold and sell recommendations, for the purposes of complying with NYSE and NASD rules, CIBC World Markets has assigned buy ratings to securities rated Sector Outperformer, hold ratings to securities rated Sector Performer, and sell ratings to securities rated Sector Underperformer without taking into consideration the analyst's sector weighting.

### **Legal Disclaimer**

This report is issued and approved for distribution by (i) in the United States, CIBC World Markets Corp., a member of the New York Stock Exchange ("NYSE"), NASD and SIPC, (ii) in Canada, CIBC World Markets Inc., a member of the Investment Dealers Association ("IDA"), the Toronto Stock Exchange, the TSX Venture Exchange and CIPF, (iii) in the United Kingdom, CIBC World Markets plc, which is regulated by the Financial Services Authority ("FSA"), and (iv) in Australia, CIBC World Markets Australia Limited, a member of the Australian Stock Exchange and regulated by the ASIC (collectively, "CIBC World Markets"). This report is provided, for informational purposes only, to institutional investor clients of CIBC World Markets in the United States and Canada and retail clients of CIBC World Markets in Canada, and does not constitute an offer or solicitation to buy or sell any securities discussed herein in any jurisdiction where such offer or solicitation would be prohibited. This document and any of the products and information contained herein are not intended for the use of private investors in the United Kingdom. Such investors will not be able to enter into agreements or purchase products mentioned herein from CIBC World Markets plc. The comments and views expressed in this document are meant for the general interests of clients of CIBC World Markets Australia Limited.

The securities mentioned in this report may not be suitable for all types of investors. This report does not take into account the investment objectives, financial situation or specific needs of any particular client of CIBC World Markets. Recipients should consider this report as only a single factor in making an investment decision and should not rely solely on investment recommendations contained herein, if any, as a substitution for the exercise of independent judgment of the merits and risks of investments. The analyst writing the report is not a person or company with actual, implied or apparent authority to act on behalf of any issuer mentioned in the report. Before making an investment decision with respect to any security recommended in this report, the recipient should consider whether such recommendation is appropriate given the recipient's particular investment needs, objectives and financial circumstances. CIBC World Markets suggests that, prior to acting on any of the recommendations herein, Canadian retail clients of CIBC World Markets contact one of our client advisers in your jurisdiction to discuss your particular circumstances. Non-client recipients of this report who are not institutional investor clients of CIBC World Markets should consult with an independent financial advisor prior to making any investment decision based on this report or for any necessary explanation of its contents. CIBC World Markets will not treat non-client recipients as its clients solely by virtue of their receiving this report.

Past performance is not a guarantee of future results, and no representation or warranty, express or implied, is made regarding future performance of any security mentioned in this report. The price of the securities mentioned in this report and the income they produce may fluctuate and/or be adversely affected by exchange rates, and investors may realize losses on investments in such securities, including the loss of investment principal. CIBC World Markets accepts no liability for any loss arising from the use of information contained in this report, except to the extent that liability may arise under specific statutes or regulations applicable to CIBC World Markets.

Information, opinions and statistical data contained in this report were obtained or derived from sources believed to be reliable, but CIBC World Markets does not represent that any such information, opinion or statistical data is accurate or complete (with the exception of information contained in the Important Disclosures section of this report provided by CIBC World Markets or individual research analysts), and they should not be relied upon as such. All estimates, opinions and recommendations expressed herein constitute judgments as of the date of this report and are subject to change without notice.

Nothing in this report constitutes legal, accounting or tax advice. Since the levels and bases of taxation can change, any reference in this report to the impact of taxation should not be construed as offering tax advice on the tax consequences of investments. As with any investment having potential tax implications, clients should consult with their own independent tax adviser.

This report may provide addresses of, or contain hyperlinks to, Internet web sites. CIBC World Markets has not reviewed the linked Internet web site of any third party and takes no responsibility for the contents thereof. Each such address or hyperlink is provided solely for the recipient's convenience and information, and the content of linked third-party web sites is not in any way incorporated into this document. Recipients who choose to access such third-party web sites or follow such hyperlinks do so at their own risk.

Although each company issuing this report is a wholly owned subsidiary of Canadian Imperial Bank of Commerce ("CIBC"), each is solely responsible for its contractual obligations and commitments, and any securities products offered or recommended to or purchased or sold in any client accounts (i) will not be insured by the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation ("FDIC"), the Canada Deposit Insurance Corporation or other similar deposit insurance, (ii) will not be deposits or other obligations of CIBC, (iii) will not be endorsed or guaranteed by CIBC, and (iv) will be subject to investment risks, including possible loss of the principal invested. The CIBC trademark is used under license.

© 2006 CIBC World Markets Corp. and CIBC World Markets Inc. All rights reserved. Unauthorized use, distribution, duplication or disclosure without the prior written permission of CIBC World Markets is prohibited by law and may result in prosecution.