

Pulp *Special Edition* truth



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Please copy Pulp Truth front and back and distribute it during non-work time using your Contract Action Teams, steward system or Rapid Response network. Be sure to leave copies in lunchrooms, break rooms, etc. We want to hear what's happening in your workplace. Send your news to lbaker@usw.org

VICTORY! Groundbreaking USW Coated Free Sheet Paper Trade Case Shakes Status Quo, Protects Jobs, Produces Immediate Results

Victory at last!! We've been keeping everyone posted on this groundbreaking case with the USW and certain industry players to protect the coated free sheet (CFS) industry in the U.S. from China and Indonesia undercutting our price and jobs through illegal subsidies and dumping. And after initial tariffs were put in place they were finalized on Friday.

This action to protect jobs in the U.S. paper industry was never undertaken by our prior union before merger and certainly never by the industry. It is through the USW infrastructure built over the last 20 years fighting unfair trade in our other industries that gives us the know-how to research these cases and bring industry into the fight and achieve such victories.

And the work and victory are already paying off: Read this from an industry insider:

* Coated Free Sheet

The big news last week was an affirmative ruling against Chinese and Indonesian producers of CFS. [Restrictions on Asian imports could boost North American \(NA\) pricing](#) and exacerbate the current oversupply situation in Asia. On our recent tour of China, we saw first-hand evidence of bulging CFS inventories. Here in NA, as with lightweight coated (LWC), [the tenor of the NA CFS market has been improving](#). List prices in October were flat vs. Sept levels. In [September, list prices for most grades were up \\$10-25/ton. Verso, NewPage, Sappi NA & Appleton have all announced \\$40- 60/ton price increases, effective mid-Sept/early-Oct](#). NewPage last week also announced a \$40/ton price increase effective Nov. 1 on some of its coated paper grades. Sept shipments were +7.4% y/y and essentially flat m/m (+0.2%). [YTD shipments are up 19.9% y/y](#).

This is good news for USW Paperworkers. It means

jobs and full orders and prices that stick and allow our mills to run. It means it matters who you vote for. Our first CFS case failed under the Bush Administration. This one succeeded. Trade, jobs and economy MUST be the issue of the day as we take our opportunity to vote on November 2. We can go backwards and lose more jobs in this industry or we can fight with our allies to keep the last best paying jobs in American here in the United States.

USW Brother Jamie Schneider of Local 94 at New Page in Biron says it best in an article "Papermakers Laud Trade Ruling" published by his local paper. [For Brother Schneider, a steward with Local 94, the unanimous decision likely means more work and less downtime.](#)

["I'm absolutely ecstatic," Schneider said Monday. "It puts us back onto an even plane. ... As far as I'm concerned, we \(now\) can compete."](#)

Schneider was one of two local union members to meet with federal lawmakers earlier this year in Washington, D.C., to lobby for their support. NewPage employs about 2,360 people in central Wisconsin at facilities in Wisconsin Rapids, Biron, Whiting and Stevens Point.

["As a USW member, I see this \(as\) a very helpful thing for papermakers," Schneider said. "When I say that, I think this is going to have an impactful effect throughout the industry. "It also sends a message that we won't take it lying down."](#)

We couldn't have said it better Brother Schneider. Our Union has the resources and power to get the job done and we intend to keep pushing for fair trade rules as well as enforcement of them. Every Papermaker should think of this case before you vote and whether or not who you are voting for will stand with you and your job by standing up for fair trade.