## DOMTAR INC /CANADA

Form 6-K
November 13, 2002

FORM 6-K<br>SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION<br>Washington, D.C. 20549<br>REPORT OF FOREIGN ISSUER<br>PURSUANT TO RULE 13A-16 OR 15D-16 OF THE SECURITIES EXCHANGE ACT OF 1934<br>For the month of November, 2002.<br>DOMTAR INC.

395 DE MAISONNEUVE BLVD. WEST, MONTREAL, QUEBEC H3A 1L6
[Indicate by check mark whether the registrant files or will file annual reports under cover Form $20-\mathrm{F}$ or Form $40-\mathrm{F}$.]

Form 20-F Form 40-F [check mark]
[Indicate by check mark whether the registrant by filing the information contained in this Form is also thereby furnishing the information to the Commission pursuant to Rule 12g3-2(b) under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934.]

Yes
No [check mark]
[If "Yes" is marked, indicate below the file number assigned to the registrant in connection with Rule 12g3-2(b): 82-..........

ENCLOSED ARE DOMTAR INC.'S THIRD QUARTER RESULTS FOR THE PERIOD ENDED SEPTEMBER 30, 2002.
3. Domtar Inc.

Third Quarter 2002
"The new strength of paper, you'll find it on shelves everywhere."
(PROMOTIONAL PICTURE)

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HIGHLIGHTS
-- Net earnings of $59 million, or $0.26 per common share.
-- Operating profit of $136 million.
-- Net debt-to-total-capitalization ratio reduced from 55% as at December 31,
    2001, to 51% as at September 30, 2002.
RECENT DEVELOPMENTS
-- Acquisition synergies reached an annualized run rate of US$60 million as at
        September 30, 2002, vs a US$65 million target as at December 31, 2002.
-- Creation of a new Forest Products Group, which combines both timber and
        lumber operations.
-- Domtar stock included for a fourth consecutive year in the Dow Jones
        Sustainability Group Index.
Domtar is the third largest producer of uncoated freesheet paper in North
America. It is also a leading manufacturer of business papers, printing and
publishing papers, and specialty and technical papers. Domtar manages according
to internationally recognized standards 22 million acres of forestland in Canada
and the United States, and produces lumber and other wood products. Domtar has
12,500 employees across North America. The Company also has a 50% investment
interest in Norampac Inc., the largest Canadian producer of containerboard.
For further information
Investor relations
Christian Dube
Senior Vice-President
and Chief Financial Officer
Tel.: (514) 848-5511
Fax: (514) 848-5638
Jean-Sebastien Vanbrugghe
Manager, Investor Relations
Tel.: (514) 848-5469
Fax: (514) 848-5638
Email: ir@domtar.com
Communications
William George
Vice-President,
Communications &
Government Relations
Tel.: (514) 848-5103
Fax: (514) 848-6878
Head Office
3 9 5 \text { de Maisonneuve Blvd. West}
Montreal, Quebec H3A 1L6
Tel.: (514) 848-5400
Internet: www.domtar.com
Brokerage firms that follow Domtar:
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Bank of America
BMO Nesbitt Burns
CIBC World Markets
D.A. Davidson & Company
Deutsche Bank Securities
Equity Research Associates
Goldman Sachs
J.P. Morgan
Merrill Lynch
Morgan Stanley Dean Witter
National Bank Financial
Raymond James
RBC Capital Markets
Salomon Smith Barney
Scotia Capital Markets
TD Newcrest
UBS Warburg
Valeurs mobilieres Desjardins
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Your life, our products
Papers
$60 \%$ (1)

Businesses
Quick printers

Homes

Commercial
Printers

Paper
Merchants
22\% (1)

Publishers

Converters
Makers of
end products

Products

BUSINESS PAPERS
High volume
copy paper
Premium imaging/ technology paper
COMMERCIAL
PRINTING PAPERS

Offset
Opaque
coated

DESIGNER PAPERS
Text, cover and writing
Premium coated

PUBLICATION PAPERS
Uncoated lightweights
Coated lightweights
Heavyweight book

TECHNICAL AND
SPECIALTY PAPERS
Flexible packaging
Label papers
Medical disposables
Decorative papers

Wood
7\% (1)

Home improvement
centers
Wholesalers and Distributors

VALUE-ADDED AND Building and
DIMENSIONAL LUMBER remodeling
Premium, J-Grade, Residential
Decking, MSR, I-Joist Construction

Applications

Photocopies
Office documents
Presentations

Pamphlets
Brochures
Direct mail
Commercial printing
Forms and envelopes

Annual reports
Stationery
High-end printing

Books
Catalogues
Magazines

Food and candy wrapping
Surgical gowns
Security check papers
Wallpapers

EBITDA(1)
Operating profit
Financing expenses
Net earnings
Net earnings per common share
Cash flows provided from operating activities
per common share
Weighted average number of common shares
outstanding (millions)
BALANCE SHEET DATA
(PROMOTIONAL PHOTO)

Dear Shareholder,

The results of the third quarter are invigorating for the Domtar team. In fact, the growing demand for our products is an indication of our clients' satisfaction with the quality of our products and our prompt, efficient service.

This customer loyalty, a reflection of Domtar's different feel, combined with
the rigourous implementation of our two profitability improvement programs, resulted in an outstanding third quarter, in which we tripled our earnings per share over the same quarter last year.

What this means is that we are well on our way to meeting the 2002 objectives we set for our profitability improvement programs and our debt-to-equity ratio. Indeed, at the end of the third quarter, synergies related to the acquisition of four U.S. paper mills already reached an annualized run rate of US\$60 million, versus a US\$65 million target at the end of 2002 . For the same period, our net debt-to-total-capitalization ratio was 51\%, compared to our objective of $50 \%$ target at December 31, 2002.

In the lumber sector, which accounts for approximately $7 \%$ of our sales for the quarter, the imposition of various duties by the U.S. as well as difficult market conditions have led us to consolidate management of our timber and lumber operations under a single group, in order to improve our performance in this business segment.

Finally, we are proud to note that Domtar's overall performance in the area of sustainable development was recognized when its stock was reconfirmed for a fourth consecutive year in the Dow Jones Sustainability Index.

All these factors are helping to position Domtar to take full advantage of any improvements in the economy and provide a $15 \%$ return on equity or more over a normal business cycle.

Raymond Royer
President and Chief Executive officer
$M D \& A$

The Management's Discussion and Analysis contains statements that are forward-looking in nature. Such statements involve known and unknown risks and uncertainties, such as: general economic and business conditions, product selling prices, raw material and operating costs, changes in foreign currency exchange rates, our ability to integrate acquired businesses into our existing operations, and other factors referenced herein and in the Corporation's continuous disclosure filings. Therefore, the actual results of the Corporation may be materially different from those expressed or implied by such forward-looking statements. Except where otherwise indicated, all financial information reflected herein is expressed in Canadian dollars and determined on the basis of Canadian generally accepted accounting principles (Canadian GAAP).

## OUR BUSINESS

BUSINESS PROFILE

Domtar's reporting segments correspond to the following four business activities: Papers, Paper Merchants, Wood and Packaging. For the year ended December 31, 2001, our consolidated net sales were $\$ 4.4$ billion, including the net sales from the four U.S. integrated pulp and paper mills (the Acquired Mills) acquired on August 7, 2001 (the Acquisition). If the Acquisition had occurred on January 1, 2001, our pro forma consolidated net sales would have been $\$ 5.5$ billion.

## PAPERS

We are the third largest integrated manufacturer and marketer of uncoated freesheet paper in North America. We operate six pulp and paper mills in Canada

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and five in the United States, with an annual paper production capacity of approximately 2.7 million tons, which are complemented by strategically located warehouses and sales offices. More than $50 \%$ of our paper production capacity is located in the United States and approximately 85\% of our paper sales are generated in that country. Uncoated and coated freesheet papers, our principal products, are used for business, printing and publishing, and technical and specialty applications. The chart below illustrates our principal paper products and our annual paper production capacity.

We sell paper principally through a large network of owned and independent merchants that distribute our paper products from over 350 locations throughout North America. Sales are made also to a variety of customers that include business offices, office equipment manufacturers, retail outlets, commercial printers, publishers and converters. In addition, we sell pulp that we produce in excess of our internal requirements. Our net market pulp position is approximately 630,000 tons. Our Papers business is our most important segment and represented approximately $58 \%$ of our consolidated net sales during the first nine months of 2002.

CATEGORIES Business Papers Printing and Publishing Papers

TYPES Uncoated Freesheet

GRADES
Copy
Premium imaging
Offset
Business converting

Lightweight Opaques
Text and cover

APPLICATIONS

Photocopies
Office documents
Presentations

Pamphlets Stationery
Brochures Brochures
Direct mail
Commercial
printing
Forms \& envelopes

CAPACITY* As at September 30, 2002: 2,700,000 tons
700,000 tons 200,000 tons 500,000 tons 535,000 tons

* The allocation of production capacity may vary from year to year in order to take advantage of market conditions. The production capacity reflects the announcement we made on March 27, 2002, to close three paper machines: two in St. Catharines, Ontario and one in Nekoosa, Wisconsin resulting in the reduction of 50,000 tons of paper manufacturing capacity at St. Catharines and 30,000 tons at Nekoosa. St. Catharines ceased operations at the end of September 2002.

PAPER MERCHANTS

Our Paper Merchants business involves the purchasing, warehousing, sale and distribution of business and printing papers, graphic arts supplies and industrial products made by us as well as by other manufacturers. Our Canadian paper merchants operate a total of eight branches in eastern Canada (Buntin Reid in Ontario, JBR/La Maison du Papier in Quebec and The Paper House in the Atlantic Provinces) while our US paper merchant (RIS Paper) services a large client base from 20 locations in the Northeast, Midwest and the Mid-Atlantic regions of the United States. Our Paper Merchants business represented 22\% of our consolidated net sales during the first nine months of 2002 .

WOOD

Our Wood business includes the manufacturing and distribution of lumber and wood-based value-added products as well as the management of forest resources. We operate 14 sawmills and two re-manufacturing facilities, with an annual capacity of 1.2 billion board feet. We seek to maximize the utilization of forestlands for which we are responsible through efficient management and by following certified sustainable forest management practices so that a continuous supply of wood is available for future needs. Our Wood business represented $9 \%$ of our consolidated net sales during the first nine months of 2002 .

## PACKAGING

Our Packaging business represents our 50\% ownership interest in Norampac, a joint venture between Domtar Inc. and Cascades Inc. We do not manage Norampac and its debt is non-recourse to us. As required by canadian GAAP, we account for our $50 \%$ interest in Norampac by the proportionate consolidation method. Norampac's network of 25 corrugated packaging plants, strategically located across Canada and including facilities in the United States and Mexico, provides full-service packaging solutions and produces a broad range of products. These facilities are fully integrated on a direct or indirect basis with Norampac's eight containerboard mills that have a combined annual capacity of more than 1.6 million tons. Our Packaging business represented $11 \%$ of our consolidated net sales during the first nine months of 2002.

SUMMARY OF OPERATING RESULTS

FINANCIAL HIGHLIGHTS
(In millions of Canadian dollars, except per share amounts)

| Three months ended |  |
| :---: | :---: |
| September 30 |  |
| ------------------ |  |
| 2002 | $2001(1)$ |
| ----- | ------ |
| $\$$ | $\$$ |
| 1,390 | 1,177 |
| 233 | 163 |
| 136 | 83 |
| 59 | 14 |
| 0.26 | 0.08 |

Nine months ended
September 30

| September |  |
| :---: | :---: |
| -------------------- |  |
| 2002 | $2001(1)$ |
| ----- | ------- |

\$

| Net sales | 1,390 | 1,177 | 4,134 | 3,075 |
| :--- | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: |
| EBITDA | 233 | 163 | 592 | 450 |
| Operating profit | 136 | 83 | 286 | 249 |
| Net earnings | 59 | 14 | 103 | 122 |
| Net earnings per share (basic) | 0.26 | 0.08 | 0.45 | 0.66 |
|  |  |  |  | 48 |
| Net sales allocation by segment (\%): |  | 54 | 58 | 4 |


| Wood | 7 | 9 | 9 | 10 |
| :---: | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: |
| Packaging | 11 | 12 | 11 | 13 |
| Total | ----- | ----- | ----- | ---- |
| Selling price index $(\%)$ | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 |
|  |  | 92 | 94 | 91 |

(1) Figures have been restated following the application of amended accounting recommendations that are described in "Accounting Changes".

THIRD QUARTER 2002 VS THIRD QUARTER 2001
NET SALES OF \$1.4 BILLION
Net sales for the third quarter of 2002 totaled $\$ 1,390$ million, up $\$ 213$ million
(or 18\%) from net sales of $\$ 1,177$ million in the third quarter of 2001 . This increase was mainly due to the inclusion of net sales of the Acquired Mills for the full three months in 2002 compared to only two months in the corresponding quarter in 2001, as well as the inclusion of our share of net sales of Norampac's recent acquisitions. Excluding the impact of the acquisitions mentioned above, net sales in the third quarter of 2002 would have decreased by $\$ 2$ million compared to net sales of the third quarter of 2001 . This decrease was mainly due to lower transaction prices for all of our businesses except pulp, as well as by the $\$ 11$ million net impact of duties on exports of softwood lumber to the United States ( $\$ 17$ million cash deposits made in the third quarter of 2002 compared to a $\$ 6$ million provision recorded in the corresponding period of 2001). These factors were partially offset by higher shipments in all of our businesses except containerboard, as well as by a stronger U.S. dollar, net of costs related to our hedging program. Overall, product pricing for the third quarter of 2002 is at $92 \%$ of our selling price index, compared to $94 \%$ during the corresponding period of 2001. (See Sensitivity Analysis.)

## OPERATING PROFIT OF \$136 MILLION

Cost of sales increased by $\$ 145$ million (or 15\%) in the third quarter of 2002 compared to the corresponding period of 2001 mainly due to the inclusion of cost of sales of the Acquired Mills for the full three months in 2002 compared to only two months in the corresponding quarter in 2001, to our share of Norampac's cost of sales related to recent acquisitions and to higher shipments except containerboard. This increase was partially offset by lower energy costs and a \$12 million investment tax credit related to research and development expenditures of prior years.

Selling, general and administrative (SG\&A) expenses decreased by $\$ 2$ million (or $3 \%$ ) in the third quarter of 2002 compared to the same period of 2001 . This decrease was mainly due to the impact of the cost reduction initiatives undertaken, partially offset by the inclusion of SG\&A expenses of the Acquired Mills for the full three months in 2002 compared to only two months in 2001, as well as to our share of Norampac's SG\&A related to recent acquisitions.

As a result of the factors mentioned above, EBITDA (earnings before financing expenses, income taxes and amortization) for the third quarter of 2002 amounted to $\$ 233$ million compared to $\$ 163$ million in the third quarter of 2001 and operating profit for the third quarter of 2002 amounted to $\$ 136$ million compared
to \$83 million for the corresponding quarter of 2001.
NET EARNINGS OF $\$ 59$ MILLION
Net earnings for the third quarter of 2002 amounted to $\$ 59$ million
( $\$ 0.26$ per common share) compared to net earnings of $\$ 14$ million ( $\$ 0.08$ per common share) for the same quarter in 2001 . The third quarter 2001 results included the recognition of unrealized foreign exchange losses in accordance with amended accounting recommendations, representing $\$ 8$ million net of income taxes ( $\$ 0.04$ per common share).

NINE MONTHS ENDED SEPTEMBER 30, 2002 VS NINE MONTHS ENDED SEPTEMBER 30, 2001
NET SALES OF \$4.1 BILLION
Net sales for the nine months ended September 30, 2002, totaled $\$ 4,134$ million, up $\$ 1,059$ million (or $34 \%$ ) from net sales of $\$ 3,075$ million, over the same period in 2001. This increase was mainly due to the inclusion of net sales of the Acquired Mills for the full nine months in 2002 compared to only two months in 2001, as well as the inclusion of our share of net sales of Norampac's recent acquisitions. Excluding the impact of the acquisitions mentioned above, net sales in the first nine months of 2002 would have decreased by $\$ 7$ million compared to net sales of the corresponding period in 2001. This decrease was mainly due to lower transaction prices for all of our businesses as well as by the $\$ 16$ million net impact of duties on exports of softwood lumber to the United States ( $\$ 22$ million cash deposits made in the first nine months of 2002 compared to a $\$ 6$ million provision recorded in the corresponding period of 2001). These factors were partially offset by the $\$ 20$ million net impact of the reversal of provision for countervailing and antidumping duties on exports of softwood lumber to the United States ( $\$ 28$ million reversal of a provision in the second quarter of 2002 net of the $\$ 8$ million provision recorded in the first quarter of 2002), higher shipments in all of our businesses except containerboard, as well as by a stronger U.S. dollar, net of costs related to our hedging program. Overall, product pricing for the first nine months of 2002 is at $91 \%$ of our selling price index, compared to 97\% during the corresponding period in 2001.

## OPERATING PROFIT OF $\$ 286$ MILLION

On March 27, 2002, we announced plans to permanently shutdown the St. Catharines, Ontario, paper mill as well as one paper machine in the Nekoosa, Wisconsin, paper mill. The shutdown of the St.Catharines paper mill, which occurred at the end of September 2002, resulted in a charge to first quarter 2002 earnings of $\$ 45$ million ( $\$ 30 \mathrm{million}$ net of income taxes, or $\$ 0.13$ per common share) which included $\$ 14$ million related to the write down to the estimated net realizable value of property, plant and equipment as well as \$31 million of charges for other commitments and contingencies related to this paper mill.

The shutdown of a paper machine at the Nekoosa paper mill, acquired in the third quarter of 2001, was a result of a study since its acquisition. In accordance with Canadian Institute of Chartered Accountants (CICA) recommendations, charges related to the closure of this paper machine, amounting to $\$ 10 \mathrm{million}$ (US\$6 million), are accounted for as part of the allocation of the purchase price to the assets acquired and liabilities assumed as of the acquisition date and thus do not affect the nine months ended September 30, 2002 earnings.

Cost of sales increased by $\$ 830$ million (or $34 \%$ ) in the first nine months of 2002 compared to the corresponding period of 2001 mainly due to the inclusion of cost of sales of the Acquired Mills for the full nine months in 2002 compared to only two months in 2001, to our share of Norampac's cost of sales related to recent acquisitions, and by higher shipments except containerboard. This increase was partially offset by lower purchased fiber and energy costs as well
as by a $\$ 12$ million investment tax credit related to research and development expenditures of prior years.

SG\&A expenses increased by $\$ 56$ million (or $31 \%$ ) in the first nine months of 2002 compared to the same period of 2001. This increase was mainly due to the inclusion of $S G \& A$ expenses of the Acquired Mills for the full nine months in 2002 compared to only two months in 2001, to our share of Norampac's SG\&A related to recent acquisitions, as well as to the cashing in of certain insurance policies that were applied to $S G \& A$ expenses in the second quarter of 2001. This increase was partially offset by the impact of the cost reduction initiatives undertaken.

As a result of the factors mentioned above, EBITDA for the first nine months of 2002 amounted to $\$ 592$ million (or $\$ 623$ million excluding closure costs) compared to $\$ 450$ million in the first nine months of 2001 and operating profit for the first nine months of 2002 amounted to $\$ 286$ million (or $\$ 331$ million excluding closure costs) compared to $\$ 249$ million for the corresponding period of 2001 . These factors were partially offset by the impact of the cost reduction initiatives undertaken.

## NET EARNINGS OF \$103 MILLION

The net earnings for the first nine months of 2002 amounted to $\$ 103$ million ( $\$ 0.45$ per common share) compared to net earnings of $\$ 122$ million ( $\$ 0.66$ per common share) for the same period in 2001 . The year-to-date 2002 net earnings included closure costs described previously of $\$ 30$ million net of income taxes (\$0.13 per common share), as well as earnings from the net impact of the reversal of a provision for countervailing and antidumping duties on exports of softwood lumber to the United States, representing $\$ 14$ million net of income taxes ( $\$ 0.06$ per common share). The year-to-date 2001 net earnings included earnings from non-recurring items primarily related to the cashing in of certain insurance policies, representing $\$ 9$ million net of income taxes (\$0.05 per common share), the recognition of unrealized foreign exchange losses in accordance with amended accounting recommendations, representing $\$ 10$ million net of income taxes (\$0.06 per common share), as well as a reduction of $\$ 33$ million ( $\$ 0.18$ per common share) of income tax expense related to a reduction in enacted income tax rates.

PAPERS

SELECTED INFORMATION

|  | Three months ended September 30 |  | Nine months ende September 30 |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | 2002 | 2001 | 2002 | 2001 |
| Net sales (millions of Canadian dollars) | 833 | 638 | 2,413 | 1,460 |
| Operating profit (millions of Canadian dollars) | 121 | 59 | 199 | 177 |
| Operating profit excluding closure costs (millions of Canadian dollars) | 121 | 59 | 244 | 177 |
| Shipments: |  |  |  |  |
| Paper ('000 ST) | 676 | 514 | 1,973 | 1,188 |


| Pulp ('000 ADST) | 196 | 141 |
| :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Shipment paper product offering (\%): |  |  |
| Copy and offset grades | 57 | 48 |
| Uncoated printing \& publishing and |  |  |
| premium imaging grades | 17 | 21 |
| Coated printing \& publishing grades | 13 | 18 |
| Technical \& specialty grades | 13 | 13 |
|  |  |  |
| Total | 100 | 100 |
| Benchmark nominal prices(1) : |  |  |
| Copy 20 lb sheets (US\$/ton) | 772 | 789 |
| Offset 50 lb rolls (US\$/ton) | 690 | 697 |
| Coated publication, no. 3, 60 lb rolls (US\$/ton) | 740 | 820 |
| Pulp NBSK (US\$/tonne) | 510 | 487 |
|  |  |  |
| (1) Source: Pulp \& Paper Week. |  |  |
| SALES, SHIPMENTS AND OPERATING PROFIT |  |  |
| Net sales in our Papers business, representing 60\% of consolidated net sales in |  |  |
| the third quarter of 2002, amounted to $\$ 833$ million, an increase of $\$ 195$ millio (or 31\%) compared to the third quarter of 2001 . This increase was primarily due |  |  |
| to the inclusion of net sales of the Acquired Mills for the full three months in |  |  |
| 2002 compared to only two months in 2001, to the effect of increases in |  |  |
| Acquired Mills, as well as to the favorable effect of a stronger U.S. dollar, net of costs related to our hedging program. This increase was partially offset |  |  |
| period in 2001, for the same reasons noted above except that no increases wer registered in transaction prices for pulp on a year-to-date basis. |  |  |
| Operating profit in the Papers business amounted to $\$ 121$ million in the third quarter of 2002, a $105 \%$ increase compared to $\$ 59$ million in the third quarter of |  |  |
| 2001. This increase was primarily due to the inclusion of operating profit of the Acquired Mills for the full three months in 2002 compared to only two months |  |  |
|  |  |  |
| in 2001 and to the realization of Acquisition-related synergies. The Papers |  |  |
| business also benefited from a \$12 million investment tax credit related to |  |  |
| research and development expenditures of prior years, the favorable effect of a |  |  |
| stronger U.S. dollar, net of costs related to our hedging program, lower purchased fiber and energy costs, higher prices for pulp, as well as higher |  |  |
| shipments for paper at mills excluding Acquired Mills. These positive factor were partially offset by lower prices for paper. On a year-to-date basis, |  |  |
| operating profit amounted to \$199 million, a $12 \%$ increase compared to the sa |  |  |
| period of 2001. Excluding the $\$ 45 \mathrm{million} \mathrm{provision} \mathrm{related} \mathrm{to} \mathrm{closure} \mathrm{costs} \mathrm{of}$ |  |  |
| the St. Catharines mill, operating profit amounted to \$244 million, a \$67 |  |  |
| million increase (or 38\%) compared to \$177 million in the third quarter of 2001. |  |  |
| This increase was attributable to all the factors mentioned above except that pulp transaction prices decreased on a year-to-date basis. |  |  |

## PRICING ENVIRONMENT

Our average transaction prices in the third quarter of 2002
for 20 lb copy sheets (business papers) and 50 lb offset rolls (uncoated printing and publishing papers) decreased by US\$7/ton compared to the prices experienced in the third quarter of 2001. For the nine months ended September 30, 2002, average transaction prices for 50 lb offset rolls and 20 lb copy sheets decreased by US $\$ 36 /$ ton compared to the average prices experienced in the corresponding period of 2001. Effective at the end of September 2002, we announced a US\$40/ton price increase for copy and offset grades.

Our weighted average transaction price for all our coated printing \& publishing papers in the third quarter of 2002 decreased by US\$53/ton compared to the corresponding quarter of 2001. For the nine months ended September 30, 2002, average transaction prices decreased by US\$46/ton.

Discipline by pulp producers to manage supply resulted in the implementation of a US\$10/tonne price increase for both hardwood and softwood pulp in July 2002. Our average Northern Bleached Softwood Kraft (NBSK) and Northern Bleached Hardwood Kraft (NBHK) pulp transaction prices in the third quarter of 2002 increased by an average of US\$67/tonne compared to the same quarter in 2001 . For the nine months ended September 30, 2002, average transaction prices decreased by US\$52/tonne compared to the same period last year.

## PRODUCTION EFFICIENCY

In the Papers business, we pursued our efforts to integrate our newly Acquired Mills. A majority of our new employees (91\% of employees of the new Acquired Mills) have already participated in interactive training sessions on Domtar's management philosophy and corporate values.

In the third quarter of 2002, we took market-related downtime, curtailing production by 6,000 tons of paper, representing approximately $1 \%$ of our third quarter 2002 production capacity. In addition, during the third quarter of 2002 , we slowed back or curtailed production of pulp by 1,000 tons. On a year-to-date basis, we have curtailed production by 50,000 tons of paper and 39,000 tons of pulp. This reflects our commitment to adjust production to our customers' needs and the impact of the closures of three paper machines in St. Catharines and Nekoosa described previously.

During the third quarter of 2002 , we continued to focus our efforts on reducing our costs and on achieving synergies related to the Acquisition. As at September 30, 2002, we reached an annualized run rate of US\$60 million on our synergies and we are committed to meeting our objective of achieving an annualized run rate of US\$65 million by the end of 2002.

PAPER MERCHANTS

SELECTED INFORMATION

Net sales (millions of Canadian dollars)
Operating profit (millions of Canadian dollars)


SALES AND OPERATING PROFIT

Net sales in the Paper Merchants business, representing $22 \%$ of consolidated net sales in the third quarter of 2002, amounted to $\$ 300$ million, an increase of $\$ 9$ million (or $3 \%$ ) compared to the corresponding period of 2001 . This increase is due to continued volume growth and market share gains realized throughout 2002 , partially offset by lower average selling price levels in comparison to the corresponding quarter of 2001 . On a year-to-date basis, net sales of Paper Merchants amounted to $\$ 897$ million, a decrease of $\$ 6$ million (or 1\%) compared to the same period in 2001 due to lower average selling prices.

Operating profit in the Paper Merchants business of $\$ 6$ million generated an operating margin of $2 \%$ in the third quarter of 2002 compared to operating profit of $\$ 3$ million and an operating margin of $1 \%$ in the corresponding period of 2001 . The increase in operating profit was due to margin enhancement and improved cost control. On a year-to-date basis, operating profit of $\$ 20$ million generated an operating margin of $2.2 \%$ compared to operating profit of $\$ 13$ million and an operating margin of $1.4 \%$ for the same period of 2001 . The increase in operating profit is due to continuing margin improvement from volume gains combined with more efficient cost of doing business across our own North American merchant network.

6

WOOD

SELECTED INFORMATION

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(1) Source: Random Lengths.

SALES, SHIPMENTS AND OPERATING PROFIT

Net sales in the Wood business, representing 7\% of our consolidated net sales in the third quarter of 2002 , amounted to $\$ 100$ million, a decrease of $\$ 6$ million (or $6 \%$ ) compared to the third quarter of 2001 . Net sales decreased primarily due

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to the $\$ 11$ million net impact of duties on exports of softwood lumber to the United States ( $\$ 17$ million cash deposits made in the third quarter of 2002 compared to a $\$ 6$ million provision recorded in the corresponding period of 2001), as well as lower selling prices. This decrease was partially offset by higher shipments and a better sales mix stemming from recent investments made in new equipment. On a year-to-date basis, net sales amounted to $\$ 371$ million, an increase of $\$ 66$ million (or $22 \%$ ) compared to the first nine months of 2001 . This was primarily as a result of the $\$ 20$ million net impact of the reversal of provision for countervailing and antidumping duties on exports of softwood lumber to the United States ( $\$ 28$ million reversal of a provision in the second quarter of 2002 net of the $\$ 8$ million provision recorded in the first quarter of 2002), higher shipments, a better sales mix stemming from recent investments made in new equipment and the favorable effect of a stronger U.S. dollar. These positive factors were partially offset by the $\$ 16$ million net impact of duties on exports of softwood lumber to the United States ( $\$ 22$ million cash deposits made in the first nine months of 2002 compared to a $\$ 6$ million provision recorded in the corresponding period of 2001).

Operating loss amounted to $\$ 10$ million in the third quarter of 2002 compared to $\$ 4$ million in the third quarter of 2001 . The $\$ 6$ million increase in operating loss is primarily due to the duties on exports of softwood lumber to the United States (as described previously) and lower selling prices, partially offset by lower costs due to cost reduction initiatives as well as a better sales mix stemming from recent investments made in new equipment. For the first nine months of 2002, operating profit was $\$ 13$ million compared to an operating loss of $\$ 20$ million for the same period last year. The $\$ 33$ million increase is primarily due to the $\$ 20$ million net impact of the reversal of provision for duties on exports of softwood lumber to the United States (as described previously), higher shipments, a better sales mix stemming from recent investments made in new equipment and the favorable effect of a stronger U.S. dollar. This increase was partially offset by the $\$ 16$ million net impact of duties on exports of softwood lumber to the United States ( $\$ 22$ million cash deposits made in the first nine months of 2002 compared to a $\$ 6$ million provision recorded in the corresponding period of 2001).

## PRICING ENVIRONMENT

In the third quarter of 2002, average transaction prices for Great Lakes $2 \times 4$ studs were lower by US $29 / \mathrm{MFBM}$ and prices for random lengths were lower by US\$44/MFBM compared to the corresponding quarter in 2001. On a year-to-date basis, average transaction prices for Great Lakes $2 x 4$ studs and random lengths remained approximately at the same level as prices in the corresponding period of 2001 .

## PRODUCTION EFFICIENCY

In September 2002, Domtar announced the creation of a new Forest Products Group, which combines timber and lumber operations. This initiative was necessary to further increase productivity, reduce costs and improve service to customers in difficult market conditions.

Due to the Canada-US softwood lumber dispute, the Ste-Marie and Ste-Aurelie sawmill operations are still halted for an undetermined period of time. The Grand-Remous sawmill has also ceased operations on July 26, 2002, due to a dispute between the Barriere Lake First Nation and the governments of Quebec and Canada. Although the dispute was settled, the sawmill has not been restarted because of market conditions.

```
Net sales (millions of Canadian dollars)
Operating profit (millions of Canadian dollars)
Shipments(1):
Benchmark nominal prices(2):
(1) Represents 50\% of Norampac's trade shipments.
(2) Source: Pulp \& Paper Week.
```

    \(\begin{array}{llrrrr} & 84 & 94 & 256 & 267 \\ \text { Containerboard ('000 ST) } & 84 & 4,837 & 3,918\end{array}\)
    

SALES, SHIPMENTS AND OPERATING PROFIT
Our 50\% share of Norampac's net sales, representing 11\% of our consolidated net sales in the third quarter of 2002 , amounted to $\$ 157$ million, an increase of $\$ 15$ million (or 11\%) compared to the third quarter of 2001 . This was primarily due to higher volume for corrugated products related to Norampac's recent acquisitions. Not taking into account the recently acquired facilities, shipments of corrugated containers increased nonetheless compared to the third quarter of 2001. On a year-to-date basis, Domtar's $50 \%$ share of the net sales of Norampac amounted to $\$ 453$ million, an increase of $\$ 46$ million (or $11 \%$ ) compared to the corresponding period last year for the same reasons stated above.

Our 50\% share of Norampac's operating profit amounted
to $\$ 21$ million, a decrease of $\$ 4$ million (or $16 \%$ ) from the $\$ 25$ million reported in the third quarter of 2001 . This reduction is mainly attributable to an increase in recycled fiber costs and a reduction of the net selling price of containerboard and corrugated products, partially offset by higher volumes of corrugated containers resulting from recent acquisitions. On a year-to-date basis, operating profit amounted to $\$ 56$ million, a $\$ 9$ million decrease (or $14 \%$ ) compared to the same period last year, mainly due to the same reasons stated for the quarter-over-quarter analysis.

## PRICING ENVIRONMENT

Prices for both medium and linerboard increased by approximately US\$25/ton during the third quarter of 2002 reflecting, respectively, most of the US\$40/ton and US\$30/ton price increases announced for July 2002, while the $9 \%$ price increase announced for corrugated boxes has been fully implemented. Despite these price increases, containerboard transaction prices in the third quarter of 2002 decreased by US\$24/ton compared to the third quarter of 2001. On a year-to-date basis, the average kraft linerboard transaction price decreased by US\$30/ton compared to the first nine months of 2001.

## PRODUCTION EFFICIENCY

During the third quarter of 2002, Norampac took market-related downtime at its containerboard mills for a total of 15,600 tons, representing approximately $4 \%$ of its third quarter 2002 North American production capacity. For the first nine months of the year, downtime amounted to 71,600 tons, representing approximately $6 \%$ of Norampac's North American capacity for that period. This reflects Norampac's commitment to adjust production to customers' needs.

FINANCING EXPENSES AND INCOME TAXES

FINANCING EXPENSES

During the third quarter of 2002, financing expenses were $\$ 51$ million, a $\$ 13$ million decrease compared to the third quarter of 2001 , mainly due to a lower level of indebtedness, lower interest rates, as well as by the recognition in 2001 of $\$ 11$ million of unrealized foreign exchange losses in accordance with amended accounting recommendations. On a year-to-date basis, financing expenses amounted to $\$ 146$ million, a $\$ 32$ million increase compared to the first nine months of 2001, primarily due to the additional indebtedness we incurred with respect to the Acquisition, partially offset by the recognition in 2001 of $\$ 13$ million of unrealized foreign exchange losses in accordance with amended accounting recommendations.

INCOME TAXES

Our income tax expense for the third quarter of 2002 was $\$ 28$ million, reflecting an effective tax rate of $32.2 \%$, compared to income tax expense of $\$ 6$ million, reflecting an effective tax rate of $30 \%$ in the corresponding period of 2001 . The year-to-date 2001 income tax expense was affected by a $\$ 33$ million reduction as a result of a decrease in future income tax liabilities due to a reduction in enacted income tax rates, mainly in Ontario. On a year-to-date basis, the effective tax rate was $28.5 \%$, compared to $35.5 \%$ in the corresponding period of 2001 when excluding the reduction mentioned previously. The reduction in the year-to-date effective tax rate for 2002 reflects lower overall income taxes applicable to Domtar Inc. and its subsidiaries in certain jurisdictions.

LIQUIDITY AND CAPITAL RESOURCES

SELECTED INFORMATION

|  | Three months ended September 30 |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: |
| (In millions of Canadian dollars) | 2002 | 2001 |
| Cash flows provided from operating activities |  |  |
| before changes in working capital and other items | 176 | 98 |
| Changes in working capital and other items | (7) | 55 |
| Cash flows provided from operating activities | 169 | 153 |
| Net capital expenditures | (50) | (80) |

Net debt-to-total-capitalization ratio (in \%)

Our principal liquidity requirements are for working capital, capital expenditures, and principal and interest payments on our debt. We expect to fund our liquidity needs primarily with internally generated funds from our operations and, to the extent necessary, through borrowings under our revolving credit facility.

Cash flows provided from operating activities in the first nine months of 2002 , amounted to $\$ 427$ million, a $\$ 136$ million increase compared to the corresponding period of 2001. This increase was mainly due to an increase in EBITDA.

Net capital expenditures for the first nine months ended September 30, 2002, amounted to $\$ 119$ million, a $\$ 73$ million decrease compared to the same period of 2001. We intend to limit our annual capital expenditures for 2002 and 2003 to $75 \%$ of amortization, or approximately $\$ 290$ million per year. This amount includes approximately $\$ 140$ million for capital expenditures relating to the long-term sustainability of our equipment.

Free cash flow (cash flows from operating activities less net capital expenditures) for the first nine months of 2002 totaled $\$ 308$ million compared to $\$ 99$ million in the corresponding period of 2001, reflecting the increase in EBITDA, as well as our reduced level of capital spending. Free cash flow generated in the first nine months of 2002 was applied primarily to debt reduction.

As at September 30, 2002, our net debt-to-total-capitalization ratio was 51\%, a decrease of $4 \%$ compared to December 31, 2001. Net indebtedness, including our $50 \%$ share of the net indebtedness of Norampac of $\$ 215$ million, was $\$ 2,643$ million as at September 30, 2002, compared to $\$ 2,919$ million at the end of 2001 , including our $50 \%$ share of the net indebtedness of Norampac of $\$ 192$ million.

As at September 30 , 2002, the off balance sheet sales of receivables represented $\$ 239$ million compared to $\$ 238$ million as at December 31, 2001. We expect to continue to sell receivables in the future on an ongoing basis, since the implicit interest rate on sales of receivables is lower than the interest rate on borrowing alternatives. If we were unable to do so in the future, our working capital requirements would increase. Such sales of receivables are also subject to Domtar retaining specified credit ratings.

As at September 30, 2002, the remainder of the US\$1 billion bank term loan totaled US\$570 million (\$904 million), a decrease of US\$160 million (\$259 million) from December 31, 2001. The term loan bears interest based on the U.S. dollar LIBOR rate, or the U.S. prime rate, plus a margin that varies with Domtar's credit rating.

As at September 30,2002 , our $U S \$ 500$ million revolving credit facility was undrawn and letters of credit totaling US $\$ 8$ million ( $\$ 13$ million) were outstanding, resulting in US\$492 million (\$780 million) of availability under this facility. As at December 31, 2001, US\$9 million (\$15 million) of the US\$500 million revolving credit facility was drawn in the form of overdraft and included in "Bank Indebtedness" and letters of credit totaling US\$7 million (\$11

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million) were outstanding. Borrowings under the existing revolving credit facility bear interest at a rate based on the Canadian dollar bankers' acceptance or the U.S. dollar LIBOR rate or the prime rate, plus a margin that varies with Domtar's credit rating.

The indentures or agreements under which some of our debt was issued contain covenants, including a limitation on the amount of dividends on our shares that we may pay, on the amount of shares that we may repurchase for cancellation and on the amount of new debt we may incur. Our bank facilities contain certain restrictive quarterly covenants. Our US $\$ 500$ million unsecured revolving credit facility also requires commitment fees in accordance with standard banking practices.

As at October 31, 2002, we had $227,570,904$ common shares, 69,576 Series A Preferred Shares and 1,720,000 Series B Preferred Shares, which were issued and outstanding.

## RISKS AND UNCERTAINTIES

## PRODUCT PRICES

Our financial performance is dependent on the selling prices
of our products. The markets for most paper, pulp, lumber and packaging products are cyclical and are influenced by a variety of factors beyond our control. These factors include periods of excess product supply due to industry capacity additions, periods of decreased demand due to weak general economic activity in North America or international markets, inventory de-stocking by customers and fluctuations in currency exchange rates. During periods of low prices, we have experienced in the past, and could experience in the future, reduced revenues and margins, resulting in substantial declines in profitability and sometimes net losses. (See Sensitivity Analysis.)

## OPERATING COSTS

Operating costs for our businesses can be affected by increases or decreases in energy and other raw material prices as a result of changing economic conditions or due to particular supply and demand considerations.

## COMPETITION

The uncoated freesheet market is currently undergoing substantial consolidation, with the top five producers representing approximately $75 \%$ of the North American market. We are currently the third largest North American integrated manufacturer and marketer of uncoated freesheet paper. We compete with a number of substantial companies operating in this market. The coated paper products market is large and subject to global competition. The markets for our wood and market pulp are also large and highly fragmented. The packaging products market in which Norampac competes has undergone significant consolidation in the past several years resulting in the creation of a number of substantial competitors. While the principal basis for competition in all our businesses is price, competition can also be based upon quality and customer service, including, in some cases, providing technical advice to customers. For example, the highly technical nature of specialty papers limits competition since not all paper mills can produce the required papers. Competition in this market is generally based more on quality and service than on price.

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Our revenues for many of our products are affected by fluctuations in the exchange rate between the Canadian dollar and the U.S. dollar. The prices for many of our products, including those we sell in Canada, are principally driven by U.S. prices of similar products. We generate approximately $\$ 1$ billion of U.S. dollar denominated sales annually from our Canadian operations. As a result, any decrease in the value of the U.S. dollar relative to the Canadian dollar reduces the amount of Canadian dollar revenues we realize on sales. Exchange rate fluctuations are beyond our control and the U.S. dollar may depreciate against the Canadian dollar in the future, which would result in lower revenues and margins. In order to reduce the potential negative effect of a weakening U.S. dollar, we hedge the value of a portion of our future U.S. dollar net cash inflows for periods of up to three years. Our hedging arrangements as at September 30, 2002, totaling US $\$ 377$ million (of which US\$122 million matures within 2002) protect the value of part of our expected net U.S. dollar cash inflows at an average exchange rate of 1.45 for the next two years, and they limit Domtar from benefiting from a higher U.S. dollar to a maximum average exchange rate of 1.52 for that same period.

## ENVIRONMENTAL REGULATIONS

The United States and Canadian environmental regulations to which we are subject relate to, among other matters, air emissions, timber cutting, wastewater discharges, waste management, groundwater quality, plant and wildife protection, landfill sites, employee health and safety and the discharge of materials into the environment. These regulations require us to obtain and operate in compliance with the conditions of permits and authorizations from the appropriate governmental authorities. Regulatory authorities exercise considerable discretion in whether or not to issue permits and the timing of permit issuances. If we fail to comply with applicable requirements, our operations at the affected facilities could be subject to significant fines and to orders requiring additional expenditures, which could affect our financial results and financial condition. In addition, changes in environmental laws and regulations or their application could require us to make further significant expenditures.

We expect to continue to incur ongoing capital and operating expenses to achieve and maintain compliance with new environmental requirements and to upgrade existing equipment. As at September 30 , 2002 , we made environmental capital expenditures of $\$ 5$ million, mostly for the improvement of air emissions.

## ENVIRONMENTAL LIABILITIES

We are continuing to take remedial action at a number of current and former sites, due in part to soil and some groundwater contamination at these sites. As at September 30, 2002, we had a provision of $\$ 48$ million for known and determinable site remediation costs, primarily in connection with our former wood preserving business, which we sold in 1993, and relating to sites in various provinces and states. The process of investigation and remediation can be lengthy and is subject to the uncertainties of changing legal requirements, developing technologies, the allocation of liability among potentially responsible parties and the discretion of regulators. Accordingly, we cannot estimate with certainty the actual amount and timing of costs associated with site remediation. Our costs for site remediation may ultimately exceed the amount of the provision we have established. In addition, we are party to environmental claims and lawsuits, which are being contested. We may incur costs in excess of amounts we have reserved to cover such claims and lawsuits.

LEGAL ACTIONS

In the normal course of our operations, we become involved
in various legal actions. While the final outcome with respect to actions outstanding or pending as at September 30, 2002, cannot be predicted with certainty, it is our opinion that their resolution will not have a material adverse effect on our financial position, earnings or cash flows.

LUMBER EXPORT DUTIES

Our sales of Wood represent approximately $9 \%$ of our consolidated net sales and we export approximately $62 \%$ of our softwood lumber products to the United States.

The United States Department of Commerce announced that it had assessed the Canadian softwood lumber industry with final aggregate countervailing and antidumping duties at an average rate of $27.22 \%$. On May 2, 2002, the United States International Trade Commission rendered its final determination of injury and consequently, cash deposits of $27.72 \%$ must be applied on Canadian exports of softwood lumber to the United States as of May 22, 2002. The Government of Canada has challenged the duties with the World Trade Organization and under the North American Free Trade Agreement.

We are currently experiencing, and will continue to experience, reduced revenues and margins in our Wood business as a result of countervailing and antidumping duty applications.

SENSITIVITY ANALYSIS

Our operating profit, net earnings and earnings per share can be impacted by the following sensitivities:

|  | Annual Impact On (c) |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| (In millions of Canadian dollars, except per share amounts) | Operating Profit | Net Earnings | Earning Per Shar |
|  | \$ | \$ | \$ |
| Each US\$10/unit change in price of: (a) |  |  |  |
| Papers |  |  |  |
| Copy and offset grades | 19 | 12 | 0.05 |
| Uncoated printing \& publishing and |  |  |  |
| premium imaging grades | 11 | 7 | 0.03 |
| Coated printing \& publishing grades | 6 | 4 | 0.02 |
| Technical \& specialty grades | 6 | 4 | 0.02 |
| Pulp - net position | 7 | 5 | 0.02 |
| Wood |  |  |  |
| Lumber | 15 | 10 | 0.04 |
| Packaging |  |  |  |
| Containerboard | 6 | 4 | 0.02 |
| Foreign exchange |  |  |  |
| CAN 1 (cent) change in relative value to the U.S. dollar |  |  |  |
| After hedging (b) | 4 | 3 | 0.01 |
| Before hedging | 10 | 6 | 0.03 |
| Interest rate |  |  |  |

1\% change in interest rates on our floating rate debt
N/A $\quad 9 \quad 0.04$
---------
(a) Based on 2002 capacity (in tons or MFBM).
(b) Based on currency hedging portfolio for the period of January 1 to December 31, 2002.
(c) Based on an exchange rate of 1.55 and a marginal tax rate of $35 \%$.

Benchmark Nominal Prices (1)

|  | 1995 | 1996 | 1997 | 1998 | 1999 | 2000 |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Papers: |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Copy 20 lb sheets (US\$/ton) | 1,123 | 848 | 769 | 780 | 778 | 877 |
| Offset 50 lb rolls (US\$/ton) | 983 | 736 | 756 | 666 | 659 | 757 |
| Coated publication, no. 3, 60 lb rolls (US\$/ton) | 1,200 | 943 | 941 | 909 | 851 | 948 |
| Pulp NBSK (US\$/tonne) | 874 | 586 | 588 | 544 | 541 | 685 |
| Wood: |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Lumber $2 \times 4 \times 8$ (US\$/MFBM) | 335 | 403 | 383 | 376 | 390 | 316 |
| Packaging: |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Linerboard 42 lb (US\$/ton) | 511 | 371 | 336 | 373 | 400 | 468 |
|  | 1995 | 1996 | 1997 | 1998 | 1999 | 2000 |
| Selling price index | 120\% | 100\% | 99\% | 94\% | 93\% | 102\% |

Selling price index after Acquisition
(1) Source: Pulp \& Paper Week and Random Lengths.

The term "ton" refers to a short ton, an imperial unit of measurement which equals 0.9072 metric tonnes, and the term "tonne" refers to a metric tonne.
(2) Source: Consensus of analysts.

## ACCOUNTING CHANGES

STOCK-BASED COMPENSATION AND OTHER STOCK-BASED PAYMENTS

Effective January 1, 2002, we have adopted the new CICA recommendations relating to the accounting for stock-based compensation and other stock-based payments. The recommendations require the use of a fair-value based approach of accounting
for stock-based payments to non-employees. The recommendations do not require the use of the fair value method when accounting for stock-based awards to employees, except for stock-based compensation that meets specific criteria.

We have chosen to record an expense for the stock options granted to our employees using the fair-value method. In accordance with the transitional provisions of the new accounting recommendations, we have adopted the new recommendations for awards granted after January 1, 2002. The effect of the adoption of the recommendations has been reflected as a charge of $\$ 3$ million for the nine months ended September 30, 2002.

## FOREIGN CURRENCY TRANSLATION

Effective January 1, 2002, we have adopted the amended CICA recommendations relating to the accounting for foreign currency translation. These recommendations eliminate the requirement to defer and amortize unrealized exchange gains and losses on foreign currency denominated monetary items that have a fixed or ascertainable life extending beyond the end of the fiscal year following the current reporting period.

In accordance with the transitional provisions of the amended accounting recommendations, we have applied these recommendations retroactively with restatement of prior years. The cumulative effect of the adoption of the recommendations has been reflected as a charge of $\$ 32$ million ( $\$ 22$ million net of income taxes) to opening retained earnings for the year ended December 31 , 2001. Financing expenses for the three months and nine months ended September 30, 2001, were increased by $\$ 11$ million ( $\$ 8$ million net of income taxes) and by $\$ 13$ million ( $\$ 10 \mathrm{million}$ net of income taxes), respectively, to reflect the application of these recommendations. Financing expenses for the year ended December 31, 2001, were increased by $\$ 15$ million ( $\$ 12 \mathrm{million}$ net of income taxes).

We have designated all of our U.S. dollar denominated long-term debt as a hedge of our net investment in self-sustaining foreign subsidiaries and, to the extent necessary, as a foreign currency hedge of our future U.S. dollar revenue streams. For such debt designated as a hedge of the net investment in self-sustaining foreign subsidiaries, exchange gains and losses are included in the "Accumulated foreign currency translation adjustments" account. For the remaining U.S. dollar denominated long-term debt designated as a hedge of future U.S. dollar revenue streams, exchange gains and losses are deferred from being recognized in earnings until the earlier of the debt repayment or such time as the hedge ceases to be effective.

Norampac has designated a portion of its U.S. dollar denominated long-term debt as a hedge of its net investment in self-sustaining foreign subsidiaries. For such debt designated as a hedge of the net investment in self-sustaining foreign subsidiaries, exchange gains and losses are included in the "Accumulated foreign currency translation adjustments" account. For the remaining U.S. dollar denominated long-term debt the exchange gains and losses are included in "Financing Expenses."

## GOODWILL AND INTANGIBLE ASSETS

Effective January 1, 2002, we have adopted the new CICA recommendations relating to the accounting for goodwill and other intangible assets that require intangible assets with an indefinite life and goodwill to no longer be amortized and be tested annually for impairment by comparing the fair value of the assets
with their carrying amount. Intangible assets with a definite life will continue to be amortized over their useful life.

In accordance with the transitional provisions of the new accounting recommendations, we have performed the impairment test of our goodwill and have determined that no write down for impairment was necessary. Also, we have reclassified, from goodwill to timber limits and timberlands, presented under "Property, plant and equipment," an amount of $\$ 12$ million, resulting from prior years' acquisitions that meets the criteria for recognition apart from goodwill. In 2001, amortization expense related to goodwill was $\$ 1$ million per quarter, or \$4 million for the year.

OUTLOOK

The improvement in the balance between supply and demand for the uncoated freesheet market presents interesting prospects for the mid- to long-term fundamentals in this market. Our ability to successfully implement our two profitability improvement programs positions us to take full advantage of any improvements in the economy and meet our target of $15 \%$ return on equity (ROE) or more over a business cycle.

## CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

CONSOLIDATED EARNINGS


| Net earnings |  |  |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Basic | 0.16 | 0.26 | 0.08 | 0.28 | 0.45 |
| Diluted | 0.16 | 0.26 | 0.08 | 0.28 | 0.45 |
| Weighted average number of common shares outstanding (millions) |  |  |  |  |  |
| Basic | 227.4 | 227.4 | 180.8 | 227.1 | 227.1 |
| Diluted | 228.3 | 228.3 | 181.6 | 228.0 | 228.0 |

The accompanying notes are an integral part of the consolidated financial statements.

CONSOLIDATED RETAINED EARNINGS


The accompanying notes are an integral part of the consolidated financial statements.

| September 30 | September 30 |
| :---: | :---: |
| 2002 | 2002 |
| ------------------------- | (Unaudited) |


|  | US\$ |
| :--- | ---: | ---: |
| (Note | 3) |

The accompanying notes are an integral part of the consolidated financial statements.


| Nine months ended |  |
| :---: | ---: |
| --------------- |  |
| 2002 | 2002 |
| ----- | ------- |
| ---- | (Unaudit |


|  | US\$ <br> (Note 3) | \$ | Restated <br> (Note 2) \$ | $\begin{gathered} \text { US\$ } \\ \text { (Note 3) } \end{gathered}$ | \$ |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Operating activities |  |  |  |  |  |
| Net earnings | 37 | 59 | 14 | 65 | 103 |
| Non-cash items: |  |  |  |  |  |
| Amortization | 61 | 97 | 80 | 193 | 306 |
| Future income taxes | 13 | 20 | (16) | 13 | 21 |
| Amortization of deferred gain | (1) | (2) | (1) | (2) | ( 4 |
| Closure costs excluding write down of property, plant and equipment (Note 6) | - | - | - | 20 | 31 |
| Payments of closure costs | (3) | (4) | - | (3) | ( 4 |
| Other | 4 | 6 | 21 | 8 | 13 |
|  | 111 | 176 | 98 | 294 | 466 |
| Changes in working capital and other items |  |  |  |  |  |
| Receivables | (38) | (61) | 23 | (59) | (94 |
| Inventories | 6 | 10 | 3 | 43 | 69 |
| Prepaid expenses | - | - | (2) | (1) | (2 |
| Trade and other payables | 8 | 12 | 22 | (32) | ( 50 |
| Income and other taxes payable | 16 | 25 | 9 | 16 | 25 |
| Other | 4 | 7 | - | 8 | 13 |
|  | (4) | (7) | 55 | (25) | (39 |
| Cash flows provided from operating activities | 107 | 169 | 153 | 269 | 427 |
| Investing activities |  |  |  |  |  |
| Net additions to property, plant and equipment | (31) | (50) | (80) | (75) | (119 |
| Business acquisitions (Note 4) | - | - | $(2,563)$ | (17) | (27 |
| Other | 4 | 7 | , | (5) | ( 8 |
| Cash flows used for investing activities | (27) | (43) | $(2,639)$ | (97) | (154 |
| Financing activities |  |  |  |  |  |
| Dividend payments | (5) | (8) | (7) | (16) | (25 |
| Change in bank indebtedness | 4 | 6 | 58 | (2) | ( 4 |
| Change in revolving bank credit, net of expenses | (5) | (7) | (240) | 18 | 29 |
| Issuance of long-term debt, net of expenses | - | - | 2,891 | - |  |
| Repayment of long-term debt | (69) | (110) | (201) | (159) | (252 |
| Common shares issued, net of expenses | 2 | 3 | 2 | 11 | 18 |
| Redemptions of preferred shares | (1) | (1) | (1) | (1) | (2 |
| Cash flows provided from (used for) financing activities | (74) | (117) | 2,502 | (149) | (236 |
| Net increase in cash and cash equivalents | 6 | 9 | 16 | 23 | 37 |
| Cash and cash equivalents at beginning of period | 40 | 64 | 16 | 23 | 36 |
| Cash and cash equivalents at end of period | 46 | 73 | 32 | 46 | 73 |

The accompanying notes are an integral part of the consolidated financial statements.

NOTES
Three months and nine months ended September 30 (Unaudited) (In millions of Canadian dollars, unless otherwise noted)

## 1. BASIS OF PRESENTATION

In the opinion of management, the accompanying unaudited interim consolidated financial statements, prepared in accordance with Canadian generally accepted accounting principles, contain all adjustments necessary to present fairly Domtar Inc.'s (Domtar) financial position as at September 30, 2002, and December 31, 2001, as well as its results of operations and its cash flows for the three months and nine months ended September 30, 2002 and 2001.

While management believes that the disclosures presented are adequate, these unaudited interim consolidated financial statements and notes should be read in conjunction with Domtar's annual consolidated financial statements.

These unaudited interim consolidated financial statements follow the same accounting policies as the most recent annual consolidated financial statements, except as described in note 2.

## 2. ACCOUNTING CHANGES

STOCK-BASED COMPENSATION AND OTHER STOCK-BASED PAYMENTS
Effective January 1, 2002, Domtar has adopted the new Canadian Institute of Chartered Accountants (CICA) recommendations relating to the accounting for stock-based compensation and other stock-based payments. The recommendations require the use of a fair-value based approach of accounting for stock-based payments to non-employees. The recommendations do not require the use of the fair value method when accounting for stock-based awards to employees, except for stock-based compensation that meets specific criteria.

Domtar has chosen to record an expense for the stock options granted to its employees using the fair value method. In accordance with the transitional provisions of the new accounting recommendations, Domtar has adopted the new recommendations for awards granted after January 1, 2002. The effect of the adoption of the recommendations has been reflected as a charge of $\$ 3$ million for the nine months ended September 30, 2002.

## FOREIGN CURRENCY TRANSLATION

Effective January 1, 2002, Domtar has adopted the amended CICA recommendations relating to the accounting for foreign currency translation. These recommendations eliminate the requirement to defer and amortize unrealized exchange gains and losses on foreign currency denominated monetary items that have a fixed or ascertainable life extending beyond the end of the fiscal year following the current reporting period.

In accordance with the transitional provisions of the amended accounting recommendations, Domtar has applied these recommendations retroactively with restatement of prior years. The cumulative effect of the adoption of the recommendations has been reflected as a charge of $\$ 32$ million ( $\$ 22$ million net

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of income taxes) to opening retained earnings for the year ended December 31, 2001. Financing expenses for the three months and nine months ended September 30, 2001, were increased by $\$ 11$ million ( $\$ 8$ million net of income taxes) and by \$13 million (\$10 million net of income taxes), respectively, to reflect the application of these recommendations. Financing expenses for the year ended December 31, 2001, were increased by $\$ 15$ million ( $\$ 12$ million net of income taxes).

The Corporation has designated all of its U.S. dollar denominated long-term debt as a hedge of its net investment in self-sustaining foreign subsidiaries and, to the extent necessary, as a foreign currency hedge of its future U.S. dollar revenue streams. For such debt designated as a hedge of the net investment in self-sustaining foreign subsidiaries, exchange gains and losses are included in the "Accumulated foreign currency translation adjustments" account. For the remaining U.S. dollar denominated long-term debt designated as a hedge of future U.S. dollar revenue streams, exchange gains and losses are deferred from being recognized in earnings until the earlier of the debt repayment or such time as the hedge ceases to be effective.

Norampac (a 50-50 joint venture with Cascades Inc.) has designated a portion of its U.S. dollar denominated long-term debt as a hedge of its net investment in self-sustaining foreign subsidiaries. For such debt designated as a hedge of the net investment in self-sustaining foreign subsidiaries, exchange gains and losses are included in the "Accumulated foreign currency translation adjustments" account. For the remaining U.S. dollar denominated long-term debt the exchange gains and losses are included in "Financing expenses".

## GOODWILL AND INTANGIBLE ASSETS

Effective January 1, 2002, Domtar has adopted the new CICA recommendations relating to the accounting for goodwill and other intangible assets that require intangible assets with an indefinite life and goodwill to no longer be amortized and be tested annually for impairment by comparing the fair value of the assets with their carrying amount. Intangible assets with a definite life will continue to be amortized over their useful life.

In accordance with the transitional provisions of the new accounting recommendations, Domtar has performed the impairment test of its goodwill and has determined that no write down for impairment was necessary. Also, the Corporation reclassified, from goodwill to timber limits and timberlands, presented under "Property, plant and equipment", an amount of $\$ 12$ million, resulting from prior years' acquisitions, that meets the criteria for recognition apart from goodwill. In 2001, amortization expense related to goodwill was $\$ 1$ million per quarter or $\$ 4$ million for the year.

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Notes to consolidated financial statements
Three months and nine months ended September 30 (Unaudited)
(In millions of Canadian dollars, unless otherwise noted)

## 3. UNITED STATES DOLLAR AMOUNTS

The unaudited interim consolidated financial statements are expressed in Canadian dollars and, solely for the convenience of the reader, the 2002 financial statements and the tables of certain related notes have been translated into U.S. dollars at the September 2002 month-end rate of CAN\$1.5858 $=$ US\$1.00. This translation should not be construed as an application of the recommendations relating to the accounting for foreign currency translation, but rather as supplemental information for the reader.

## 4. BUSINESS ACQUISITIONS

On January 21, 2002, Norampac acquired all the issued and outstanding shares of Star Container Corp., a corrugated products converting plant located in Leominster, Massachusetts, for a total cash consideration of approximately $\$ 50$ million. Also in 2002, Norampac acquired other businesses for a total cash consideration of $\$ 3$ million. The Corporation's proportionate share of these acquisitions is $\$ 27$ million in 2002.

## 5. EARNINGS PER SHARE

The following table provides the reconciliation between basic and diluted earnings per share:

|  | Three months ended September 30 |  |  | Nine months ended Sept |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | 2002 | 2002 | 2001 | 2002 | 2002 |
|  | ------ | (Unaudited) | - | ------ | (Unaudited) |
|  |  |  | Restated <br> (Note 2) |  | R |
|  | $\begin{gathered} \text { US\$ } \\ \text { (Note 3) } \end{gathered}$ | \$ | \$ | $\begin{gathered} \text { US\$ } \\ \text { (Note 3) } \end{gathered}$ | \$ |
| Net earnings | 37 | 59 | 14 | 65 | 103 |
| Dividend requirements of preferred shares | - | - | - | 1 | 1 |
| Net earnings applicable to common shares | 37 | 59 | 14 | 64 | 102 |
| Weighted average number of common shares outstanding (millions) | 227.4 | 227.4 | 180.8 | 227.1 | 227.1 |
| Effect of dilutive stock options (millions) | 0.9 | 0.9 | 0.8 | 0.9 | 0.9 |
| Weighted average number of diluted common shares outstanding (millions) | 228.3 | 228.3 | 181.6 | 228.0 | 228.0 |
| Basic earnings per share | 0.16 | 0.26 | 0.08 | 0.28 | 0.45 |
| Diluted earnings per share | 0.16 | 0.26 | 0.08 | 0.28 | 0.45 |

## 6. CLOSURE COSTS

On March 27, 2002, Domtar announced plans to permanently shut down the St. Catharines, Ontario, paper mill as well as one paper machine in the Nekoosa, Wisconsin, paper mill. The shutdown of the St. Catharines paper mill, which occurred at the end of September 2002, resulted in a charge to first quarter 2002 earnings of $\$ 45$ million ( $\$ 30 \mathrm{million}$ net of income taxes, or $\$ 0.13$ per common share), which included $\$ 14$ million related to the write down to the estimated net realizable value of property, plant and equipment as well as \$31 million of charges for other commitments and contingencies related to this paper mill.

The shutdown of a paper machine at the Nekoosa paper mill, acquired in the third quarter of 2001, was a result of a study since its acquisition. In accordance with CICA recommendations, charges related to the closure of this paper machine, amounting to $\$ 10$ million (US\$6 million), are accounted for as part of the allocation of the purchase price to the assets acquired and liabilities assumed as of the acquisition date and thus do not affect the nine months ended September 30, 2002 earnings.

## 7. SEGMENTED DISCLOSURES

Domtar operates in the four reportable segments described below. Each reportable segment offers different products and services and requires different technology and marketing strategies. The following summary briefly describes the operations included in each of Domtar's reportable segments:

PAPERS - represents the aggregation of the manufacturing and distribution of business, printing and publishing, and technical and specialty papers, as well as pulp.

PAPER MERCHANTS - involves the purchasing, warehousing, sale and distribution of business and printing papers, graphic arts supplies and industrial products made by Domtar as well as by other manufacturers.

WOOD - includes the manufacturing and distribution of lumber and wood-based value-added products as well as the management of forest resources.

PACKAGING - comprises the Corporation's 50\% ownership interest in Norampac, a company that manufactures and distributes containerboard and corrugated products.

Domtar evaluates performance based on operating profit, which represents sales, reflecting transfer prices between segments at fair value, less allocable expenses before financing expenses and income taxes. Segment assets are those directly used in segment operations.

SEGMENTED DATA

| 2002 | 2002 | 2001 | 2002 | 2002 |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| ---- | (Unaudited) | ------ | ------ | (Unaudited) |
| US\$ <br> (Note 3) | \$ | Restated <br> (Note 2) \$ | US\$ <br> (Note 3) | \$ |
| 571 | 905 | 709 | 1,676 | 2,658 |
| 189 | 300 | 291 | 566 | 897 |
| 83 | 131 | 126 | 276 | 437 |
| 100 | 159 | 144 | 289 | 459 |
| $\begin{aligned} & 943 \\ & (45) \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{array}{r} 1,495 \\ \quad(72) \end{array}$ | $\begin{array}{r} 1,270 \\ \quad(71) \end{array}$ | $\begin{array}{r} 2,807 \\ (154) \end{array}$ | $\begin{gathered} 4,451 \\ (245) \end{gathered}$ |

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| Intersegment sales-Wood | (20) | (31) | (20) | (42) | (66) |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Intersegment sales-Packaging | (1) | (2) | (2) | (4) | (6) |
| Consolidated net sales | 877 | 1,390 | 1,177 | 2,607 | 4,134 |
| Amortization |  |  |  |  |  |
| Papers (b) | 50 | 79 | 62 | 158 | 250 |
| Paper Merchants | -- | -- | 1 | 1 | 2 |
| Wood | 6 | 10 | 9 | 18 | 29 |
| Packaging | 5 | 8 | 7 | 15 | 23 |
| Total for reportable segments | 61 | 97 | 79 | 192 | 304 |
| Corporate | - | - | 1 | 1 | 2 |
| Consolidated amortization | 61 | 97 | 80 | 193 | 306 |
| Operating profit (loss) |  |  |  |  |  |
| Papers (b) (c) | 76 | 121 | 59 | 125 | 199 |
| Paper Merchants | 4 | 6 | 3 | 13 | 20 |
| Wood (a) | (6) | (10) | (4) | 8 | 13 |
| Packaging | 13 | 21 | 25 | 35 | 56 |
| Total for reportable segments | 87 | 138 | 83 | 181 | 288 |
| Corporate (d) | (1) | (2) | -- | (1) | (2) |
| Consolidated operating profit | 86 | 136 | 83 | 180 | 286 |

Notes to consolidated financial statements
Three months and nine months ended September 30 (Unaudited) (In millions of Canadian dollars, unless otherwise noted)
7. SEGMENTED DISCLOSURES (CONTINUED)



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(a) The net sales and the operating profit for the nine months ended September 30, 2002, reflect a reversal of a $\$ 20$ million provision recorded in the third quarter and fourth quarter of 2001; $\$ 6$ million and $\$ 14$ million respectively, for countervailing and antidumping duties on exports of softwood lumber to the United States.
(b) The 2002 year-to-date results reflect a $\$ 45$ million charge, including $\$ 14$ million related to the write down of property, plant and equipment, relating to the shutdown of the $S t$. Catharines, Ontario, paper mill.
(c) The three months and nine months ended September 30, 2002, include the recognition of $\$ 12$ million for investment tax credits related to research and development expenses of prior years, reflected as a reduction of the cost of sales.
(d) The nine months ended September 30, 2001, include $\$ 14$ million primarily related to the cashing in of certain insurance policies.

## 8. INCOME TAXES

Income tax expense has been reduced by $\$ 33$ million as a result of a reduction in statutory enacted income tax rates in June 2001. Excluding this item, income tax expense for the nine months ended September 30, 2001, would have been $\$ 49$ million.

## 9. DERIVATIVE FINANCIAL INSTRUMENTS

During the three months ended September 30, 2002, the Corporation entered into cash settled swap agreements to manage price risk associated with sales of Northern Bleached Softwood Kraft (NBSK) pulp covering a period starting November 2002 and ending October 2005. The agreements fix the sale price for 1,500 tonnes
per month for 36 months of NBSK pulp at US\$558 per tonne.
10. COMPARATIVE FIGURES

To conform with the basis of presentation adopted in the current year, certain figures previously reported have been reclassified.

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SIGNATURES

Pursuant to the requirements of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, the registrant has duly caused this report to be signed on its behalf by the undersigned, thereunto duly authorized.

By RAZVAN L. THEODORU

Razvan L. Theodoru
Assistant Secretary

