

**WORLD ENVIRONMENT DAY - 5th JUNE 2020**

## Time for nature



While world population is facing a very strong feeling of threat and worries about our future because of recent Corona pandemic, many figures showed that nature and air quality have been improved. Wildlife across the world is flourishing at the moment. As the coronavirus pandemic continues to take hold of the world, many governments have imposed strict lockdown and social-distancing measures to curb the spread of the disease.

Besides current Covid impact on nature, and as natural resources on earth are vulnerable to many human impacts, people and governments around the world are adopting new regulatory principles like ecological taxes, and different proactive approaches to avoid probable environmental damage. World environment day is celebrated every year on June 5th with the purpose to raise global awareness on global warming marine pollution, cutting world's forest, overpopulation and other factors.

**Happy 2020 World environment day!**

## MARKET TRENDS

### State of emergency affects collection and supply of waste paper in EU

Strict isolation measures, the imposition of a state of emergency and the prevention of the spread of the Covid-19 have affected the consumption, collection and consequently availability of waste paper dramatically in the last couple of months. Covid-19 and wide-ranging prevention measures paralysed many sectors in industry in EU region so as in Serbia. Since most businesses have been or are still closed, while some partially work (home/office work), consumption and collection of waste paper is reduced to minimum. These conditions have caused enormous shortages and scarcity of waste paper on the market. Huge shortages are most evident in the white office-paper market. From the middle of March when the isolation measures took effect, all offices and administration in region ceased to operate or were switched to home-office mode, which immediately turned off consumption and consequently collection of the same.

Even though negative health effects of the virus are weakening, current trends and prognosis are suggesting we are just starting to experience the long term consequences on the market. As a result of short supply, and higher demand, prices of waste paper suffered a significant increase across Europe.

During the Covid situation in Europe, border crossings, transport routes and rules were very variable and changing, which at that time caused and created unpredictable outcomes. For a while, many professional truck drivers were quarantined, consequently leading to the lack of available vehicles and big delays.

# Working from home office during lockdown period



As a response to the worldwide outbreak of COVID, Umka quickly and successfully adapted its processes to the new situation. In order to practice social distancing and minimize the risk of infection, most of our colleagues from Finance, HR, Purchasing and Sales sectors are working from home. We have been dedicated working hard to keep all processes within our Mill running smoothly. Protection of health and safety is the ultimate priority, which enables every member of our team to contribute in the maximum possible way.

At the end of May we officially started a gradual return to our offices. Whole team was reminded once more about all health and safety protective measures and about necessity to keep workplace and office clean and safe. Our colleagues from H&S department also paid special attention to the regulations for transportation by bus, private or company owned cars, as well as mandatory disinfection measures before entering the factory, such as taking protective equipment, disinfecting shoes and items for personal use.

From the beginning of 2020 and during the entire period of isolation and state of emergency measures in the country, Mill worked at full capacity continuously. Even though there were many challenges, difficulties and obstacles, thanks to good organization, timely decisions and reactions, we succeeded in that. Mill worked without stops past 6 months, effortly striving to meet all customer needs and demands. Read More on our official LinkedIn page: [www.linkedin.com/company/umka-board-mill](http://www.linkedin.com/company/umka-board-mill)

## Investment cycle 2020-2024

Like we announced previously, upcoming period for us will be very important and intensive. During next 4 years we intend to significantly invest in the modernization of the production technology and water purification system. Despite the pandemic and cross-border travel bans in whole Europe, our close cooperation with main suppliers remained untouched and wasn't interrupted during state of emergency. All engineering activities with our main partner, Valmet, leading supplier company in paper industry, were organised and conducted in accordance with initial agreements. The modernization projects are proceeding as planned regardless of the Corona pandemic.

## Care about natural environment as a core duty and purpose



As a largest recycler in Serbia and surrounding countries, Umka Cardboard Mill processes up to 500 tons of waste paper per day, which can be compared to the number of 8,500 preserved trees per one day. Our sister company, Ekostar Pak, as a national operator for management of waste packaging only last year collected 75,000 tons of different types of packaging waste.

Ekostar Pak take care of its network of collectors and recyclers for past 10 years in Serbia, and successfully cooperate with Umka Mill in fields of recycling and extraction of waste paper and different types of consumer good's packagings from our natural environment.



This year on the 10th anniversary of cooperation between Umka and Ekostar Pak, number of employees participate in trees planting at our site in order to mark the jubilee and make our Mill greener.

**To find more visit our web pages [www.ekostarpak.rs](http://www.ekostarpak.rs), [www.umka.rs](http://www.umka.rs).**



Despite Q2 of 2020 was very hard and unpredictable for business, economy, social life and human health on first place, we managed to deliver our products to 28 countries across Europe, Asia and Middle East. In Q2 we delivered cardboard to Lebanon for the first time in our 80 years long history, and we established regular monthly shipments for Spain. Depending on the transportation possibilities and all other relevant factors, we will continue to adapt to the latest market trends and limitations caused by the virus.

Thank you for your trust and cooperation!

## If you have questions or inquires please write to us

### SALES

Serbia and AP Kosovo, Slovenia, Croatia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Monte Negro

and Northern Macedonia

+381 11 3602 651

+381 11 3602 653

+381 11 36 02 702

Email: [sasa.stipic@umka.rs](mailto:sasa.stipic@umka.rs)

Romania, Bulgaria, Greece, Turkey and Albania

+ 381 11 3602 654

+381 11 36 02 604

Email: [sasa.krzman@umka.rs](mailto:sasa.krzman@umka.rs)

Hungary, Russia, Ukraine, Belarus, Baltic Countries, Moldova and other EX Soviet countries

+ 381 11 3602 656

+381 11 3602 778

+381 11 36 02 635

Email: [filip.petricevic@umka.rs](mailto:filip.petricevic@umka.rs)

Poland, Italy, France, United Kingdom, Spain and Overseas Countries

+381 11 3602 650

+381 11 3602 717

Email: [ivan.grujcic@umka.rs](mailto:ivan.grujcic@umka.rs)

Czech Republic, Slovakia, Germany, Austria, Belgium, Holland and Luxembourg

+381 11 36 02 655

+381 11 36 02 632

Email: [david.savin@umka.rs](mailto:david.savin@umka.rs)

### LOGISTICS

#### NATIONAL TRANSPORT

Srđan Gučevac 066/8615-358

Email: [nacionalni.transport@kappastar.com](mailto:nacionalni.transport@kappastar.com)

#### INTERNATIONAL TRANSPORT

Miloš Mijailović 060/7615-942

Email: [internacionalni.transport@kappastar.com](mailto:internacionalni.transport@kappastar.com)

With respect,  
**UMKA TEAM**



Umka DOO Beograd, 13. oktobra 1, 11260 Umka

Tel: +381 11 36 02 600, Fax: +381 11 8026 995

Email: [sales@umka.rs](mailto:sales@umka.rs) , web: [www.umka.rs](http://www.umka.rs)