# Newsletter



## UMKA CARDBOARD MILL

Successful completion of the drying section reconstruction



The reconstruction of drying sections in the Factory is successfully completed. We are very proud of our entire production team, who worked continuously for 37 days to ensure that the reconstruction process was carried out in accordance with the highest standards.

During this phase of the investment cycle, significant improvements were made to the cardboard machine:

- The entire drying section with steam and condensate system was replaced (61 steel cylinder with a diameter of 1.83m)
- The entire air system with recuperation was reconstructed

In implementation of this phase of investment cycle, expected annual production is 190.000 tons with improvement in product quality. New investments and further modernization of the Mill will be continued in 2024.



# Delegation of Umka Cardboard Mill visiting congress ECMA

Traditionally, the European Carton Makers Association ECMA brings together folding carton converters, cartonboard mills, national associations and suppliers to the folding carton industry. The theme of the ECMA Congress 2023 was 'Circular Cartons & Beyond' and it was held in Sevilla, Spain.



Our General Manager Miloš Ljušić and Sales Director Nikola Pejović attended the congress.

#### **NEWS AND TRENDS**

## **1** The impact of the Red Sea crisis on the economy of European companies

European companies are concerned about the crisis in the Red Sea and its impact on trade with Asia. The result of the current situation is reflected in delays in transport, cancellations and large surcharges for already booked transport.

A large part of the transport is diverted around the Cape of Good Hope, with an additional 10 days of delivery delay.





Asian manufacturers of cardboard and paper are facing an extension of already long delivery times for the European market.

The Red Sea crisis has a direct impact on the economy of European companies that rely on trade with Asia, especially those that import or export goods that are time-sensitive.

The Red Sea crisis also has indirect effects on the global economy, as it affects the global supply chain and market dynamics. For instance, the crisis creates uncertainty and volatility in oil prices, which affects the production costs and profitability of many industries. The crisis also reduces the competitiveness of European products in Asian markets, as they become more expensive and less available compared to products from other regions. The crisis also affects the consumer demand and preferences in both regions, as they may switch to alternative products or sources.

The Red Sea crisis is a complex and evolving situation that requires constant monitoring and analysis.

# **D2.** Pressure on the industry due to the energy crisis

An increasing number of European countries are planning to reduce the pressure on the industry with the help of electricity price packages. The main goal of introducing electricity price packages is to provide planning security for energy-intensive industries. European paper and cardboard manufacturers are not fully satisfied with the relief measures, as the adopted packages are far from restoring the international competitiveness of the paper industry, which has already suffered serious losses.



### **INTERESTING STORIES**

In Q3-Q4 2023 we managed to deliver our products to 34 countries and 241 customers across Europe, North Africa and Middle East.

Depending on the transportation possibilities and all other relevant factors, we will continue to adapt and follow latest market trends.

#### Thank you for your trust and cooperation!



#### IF YOU HAVE QUESTIONS OR INQUIRES PLEASE WRITE TO US

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With respect,

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