



# Consolidation in the Corrugated Industry

**An Independent View**

Steve Young  
President, AICC

# Everybody has an Agenda

- Overview/Who is AICC?
- Current state of the industry
- Corrugated trends
  - Shipments
  - Consolidation
- Opportunities
  - Market segments: what's hot, what's not
  - Sustainability
  - Retail Ready Packaging
  - Digital Printing



# Who's AICC?

- Founded in 1974, representing exclusively independent packaging industry – corrugated, folding carton & rigid box
- 300 corporate members, plus 130 supplier members
- International in scope with members in US, Canada, Mexico and overseas
- Education, training, advocacy and networking, public outreach



# State of the Industry

# What's Going On?

US Corrugated industry and economic data, January 2013

Unless otherwise noted, data represent change from previous reporting period (month, quarter or year)

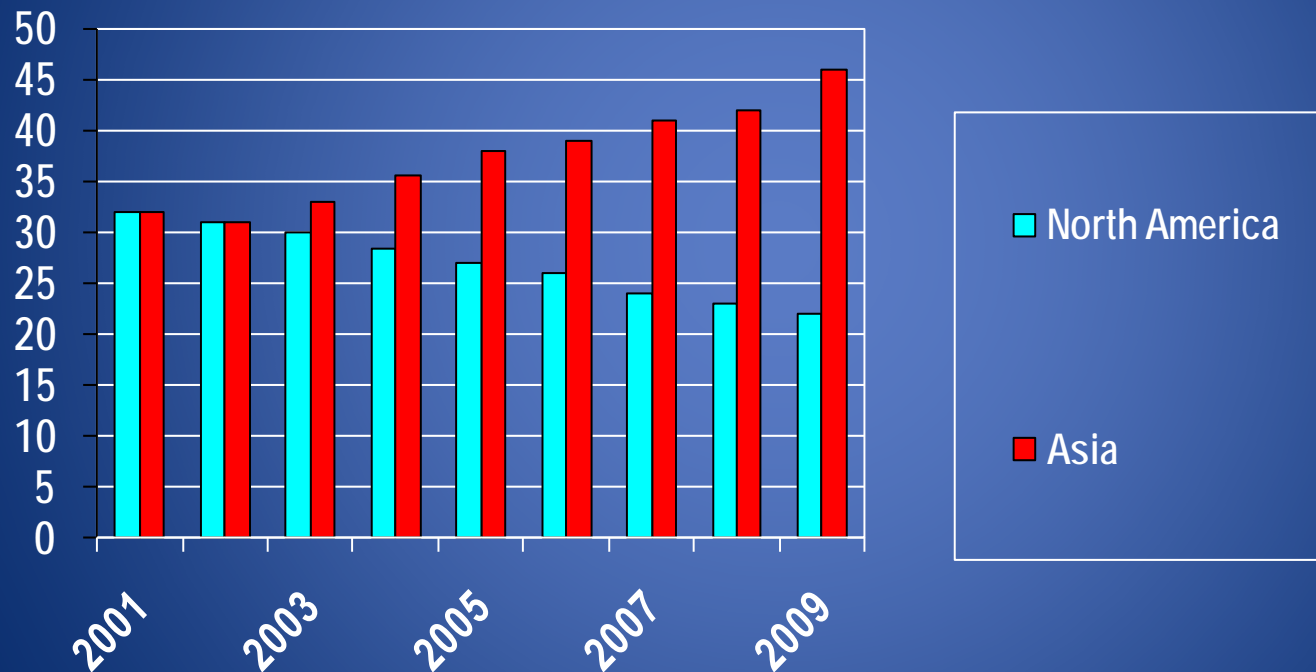
|  |                         |
|--|-------------------------|
| Corrugated shipments:                      | 4.6% (2012-2013)        |
| Mill operating rates:                      | 97.1%                   |
| Containerboard inventory (weeks of supply) | 4.1 weeks (up from 3.6) |
| 4Q 2012 GDP Growth (revised)               | 0.1%                    |
| Purchasing Managers' Index                 | 55.2 (up from 53.1)     |
| Linerboard Exports                         | 10.5%                   |
| Change in OCC Prices (Midwest, January)    | \$10/ton                |

Sources: Scoring Boxes, Feb, 2013



# Corrugated Market Share 2001-2009

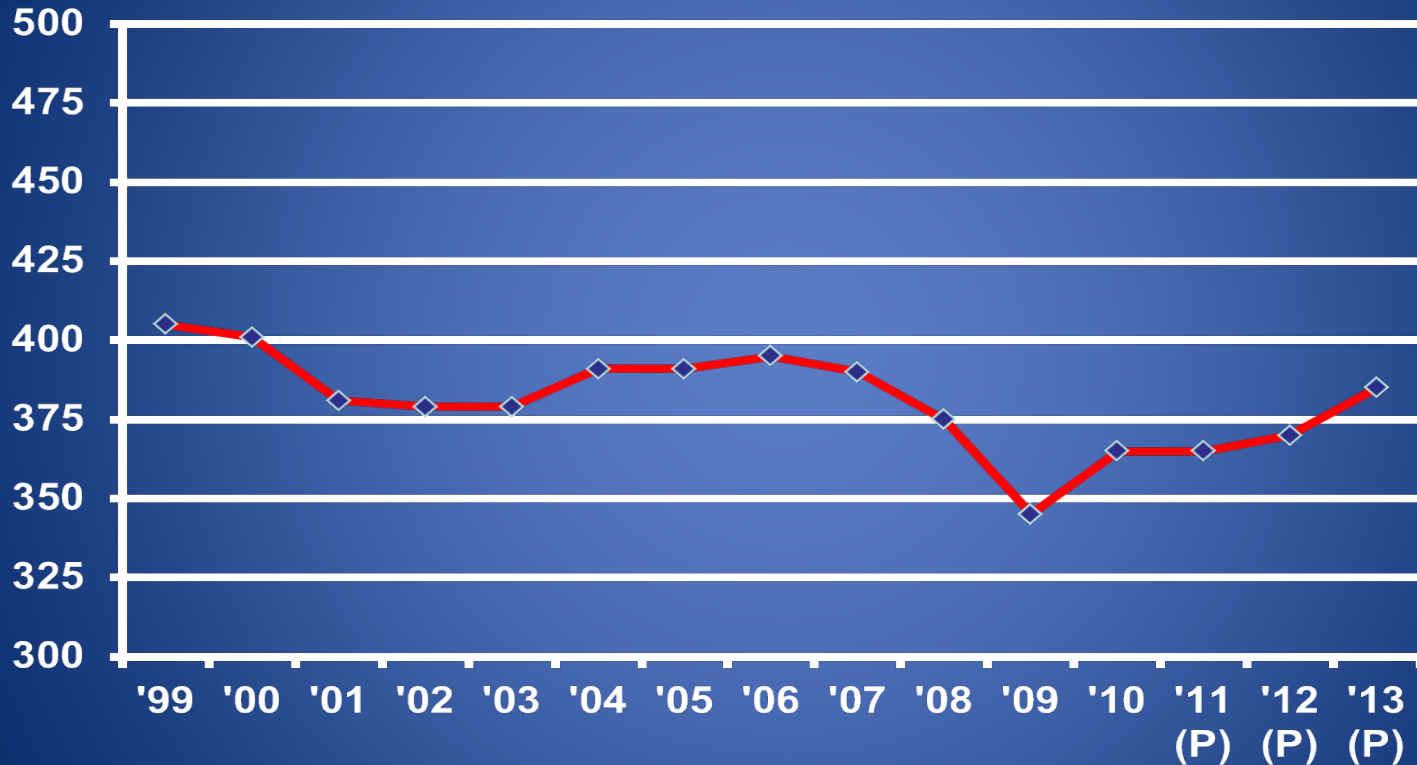
Asia vs. North America, percent of total world corrugated production



Source: International Corrugated Case Association



# Shipments Trend

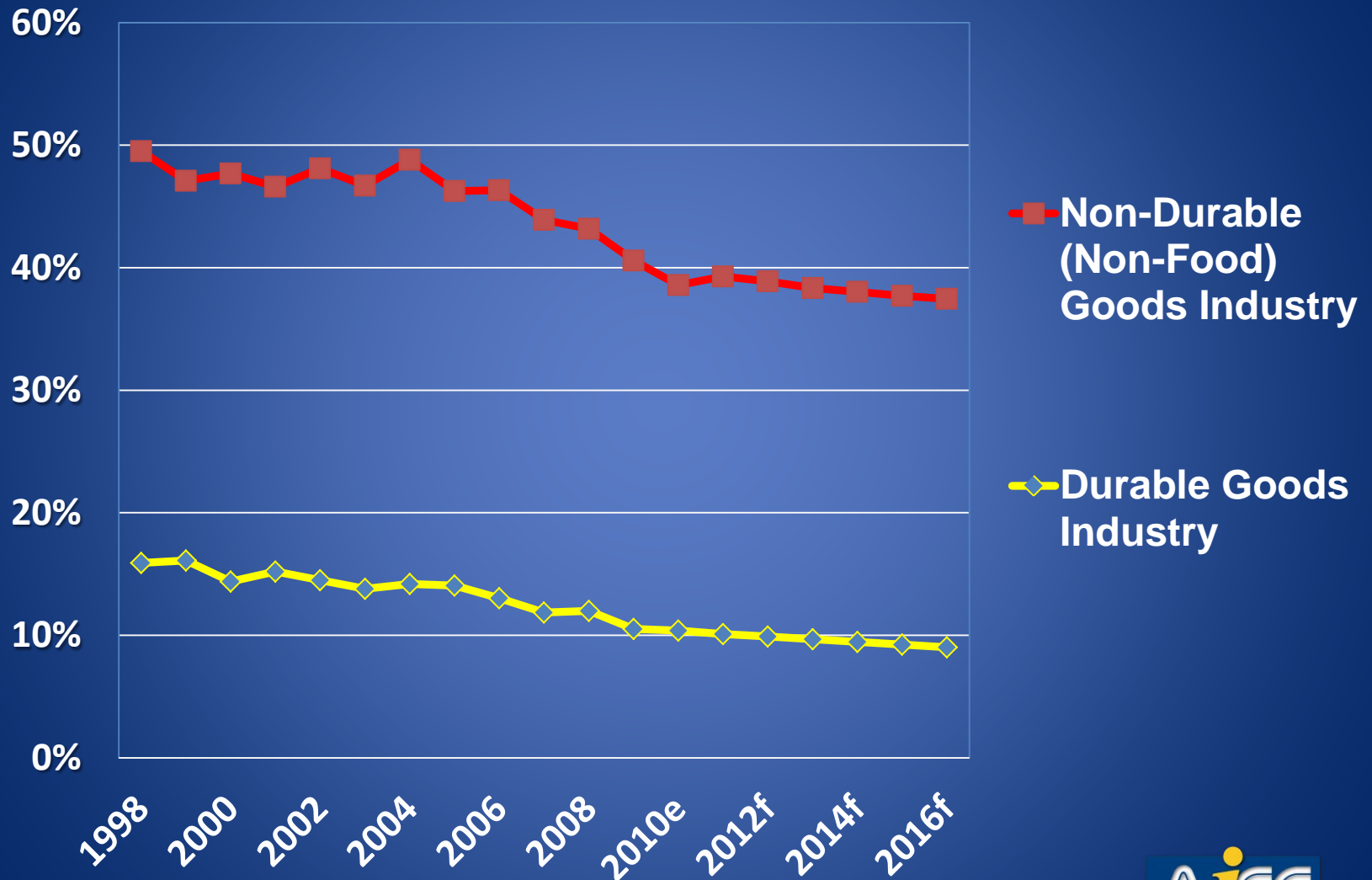


Billions of Square Feet

*Source: Fibre Box Association, 2011 Annual Report*



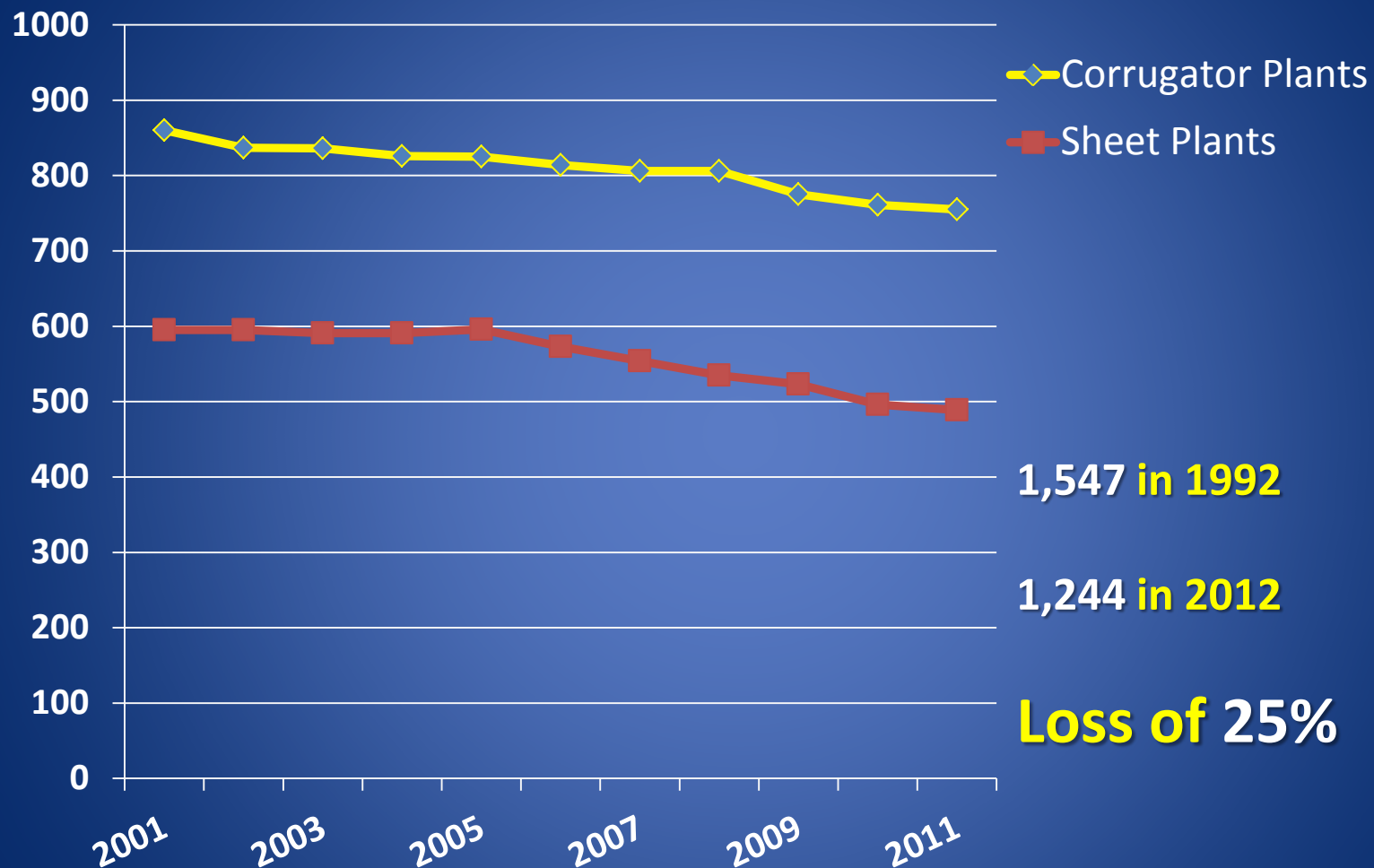
# Declining Share of Total Corrugated Shipments



Sources: RISI, Corrugated Markets End Use Study 2012



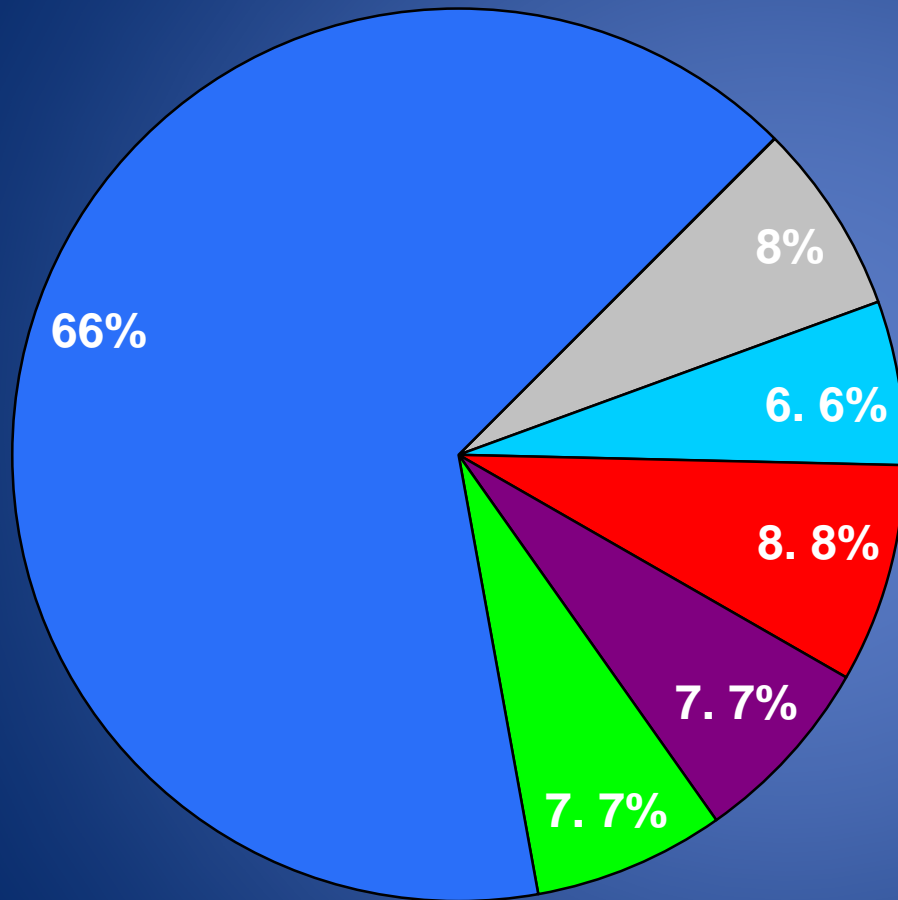
# Number of Plants U.S., 2001-2011



Source: Fibre Box Association, 2011 Annual Report



## US Containerboard Market Share 1984



**Top 5: 34%**

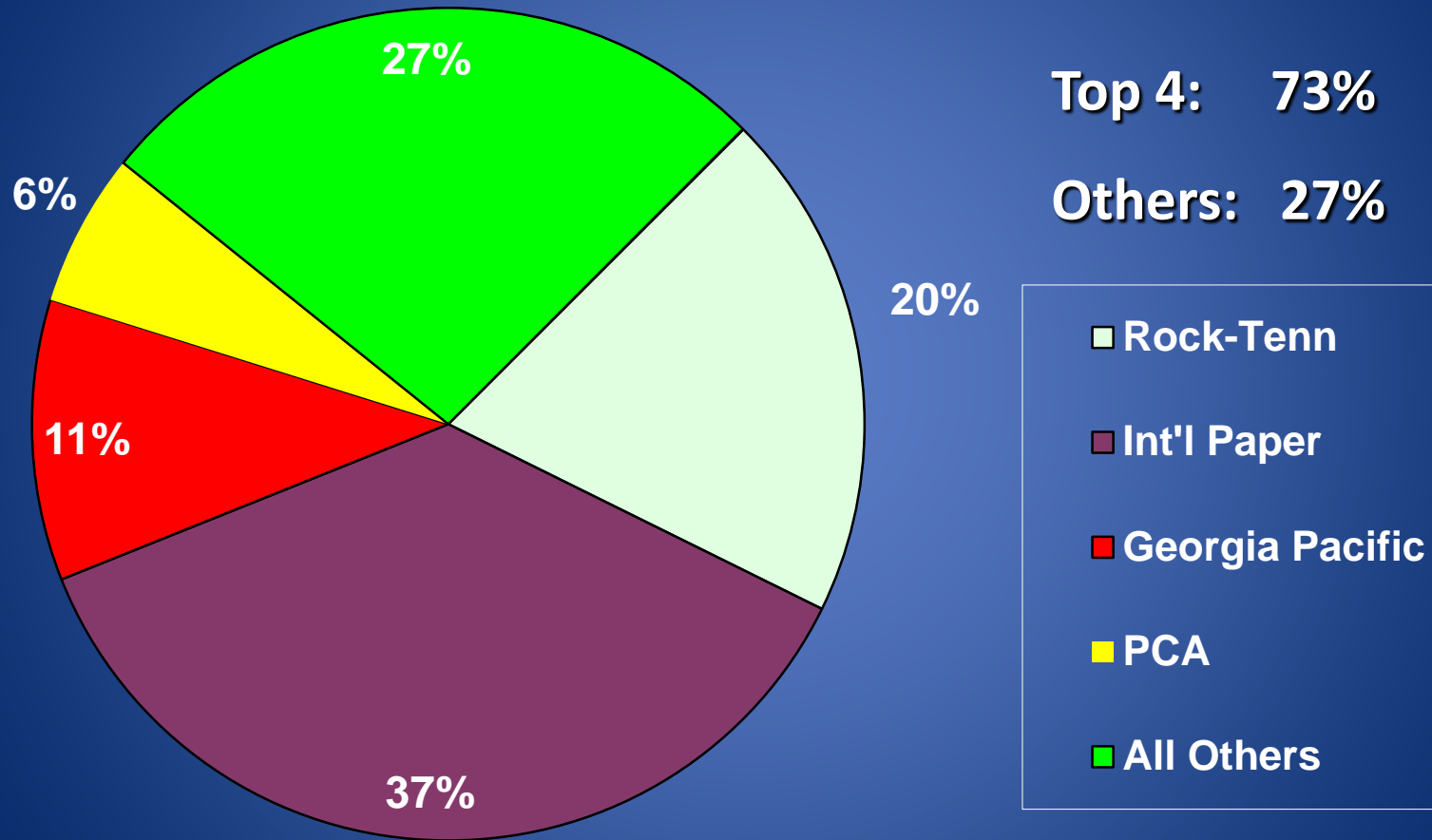
**Others: 66%**

- Stone
- Champion Intl
- Weyerhaeuser
- Intl Paper
- Union Camp
- Others

*Source: Deutsche Bank Securities Inc.*



# US Containerboard Market Share 2012



Source: Deutsche Bank Securities, Inc.



# Mill Closings/Mothballing 2007-2010

4.5 Million Tons Out of Market

| Period  | Company               | Grade             | Location           | Capacity (in tons) | Description   |
|---------|-----------------------|-------------------|--------------------|--------------------|---------------|
| Jan-07  | LongviewFiber         | Corrugated Medium | Longview, WA       | 82,000             | Closure       |
| Jun-07  | Smurfit-Stone         | Corrugated Medium | Carthage, IN       | 52,000             | Closure       |
| Jun-07  | Smurfit-Stone         | Corrugated Medium | Vernon, CA         | 148,000            | Closure       |
| Jul-07  | Banner Fiberboard     | Linerboard        | Wellsburg, WV      | 20,000             | Closure       |
| Oct-07  | International Paper   | Corrugated Medium | Terre Haute, IN    | 200,000            | Shutdown      |
| Oct-08  | Smurfit Stone         | Corrugated Medium | Snowflake, AZ      | 135,000            | Shutdown      |
| Oct-08  | International Paper   | Containerboard    | Albany, OR         | 250,000            | Indef. Idling |
| Nov-08  | Catalyst              | Containerboard    | Campbell River, BC | 131,000            | Shutdown      |
| Nov-08  | International Paper   | Linerboard        | Valiant, OK        | 430,000            | Shutdown      |
| 4Q 2008 | Smurfit Stone         | Corrugated Medium | Matane, QC         | 174,000            | Indef. Idling |
| 4Q 2008 | Smurfit Stone         | Linerboard        | Missoula, MT       | 171,000            | Indef. Idling |
| 4Q 2008 | Smurfit Stone         | Corrugated Medium | Jacksonville, FL   | 170,000            | Indef. Idling |
| 1Q 2009 | Georgia Pacific       | Corrugated Medium | Cedar Springs, GA  | 265,000            | Indef. Idling |
| 1Q 2009 | Georgia Pacific       | Linerboard        | Palatka, FL        | 40,000             | Indef. Idling |
| 3Q 2009 | Smurfit Stone         | Corrugated Medium | Ontonagon, MI      | 280,000            | Indef. Idling |
| Dec-09  | Smurfit Stone         | Linerboard        | Missoula, MT       | 620,000            | Shutdown      |
| Dec-09  | International Paper   | Containerboard    | Albany, OR         | 330,000            | Shutdown      |
| Dec-09  | International Paper   | Containerboard    | Pineville, LA      | 390,000            | Shutdown      |
| 1Q10    | West Fraser (Eurocan) | Linerboard        | Kitimat, BC        | 370,000            | Closure       |

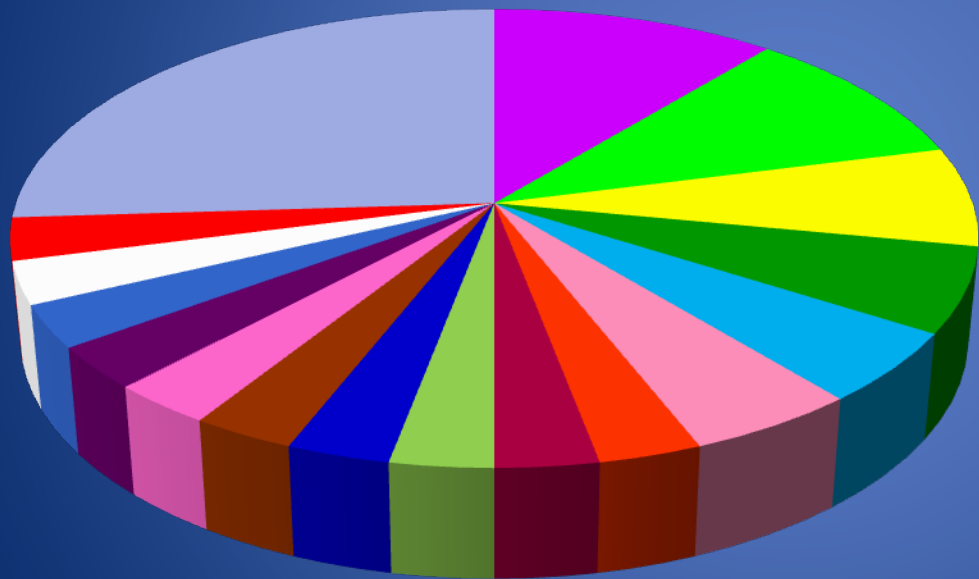
Source: Mill Closings 2007-2010, Pulp and Paper Week



# US & Canadian Corrugated Industry Consolidation

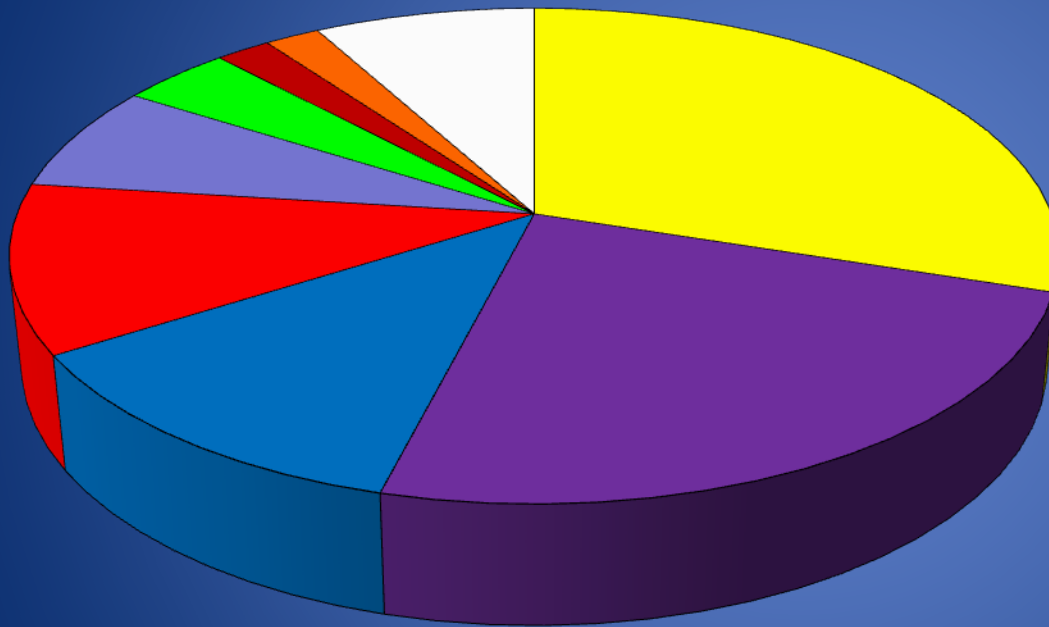
|   |                                |
|---|--------------------------------|
| <b>St. Regis Paper</b>                  | <b>Chesapeake</b>              |
| <b>Continental Can Company</b>          | <b>Bell Packaging Corp.</b>    |
| <b>Owens-Illinois Container Div.</b>    | <b>Weston-Wabash</b>           |
| <b>Container Corporation of America</b> | <b>Stone Container</b>         |
| <b>Pineville Kraft</b>                  | <b>Willamette</b>              |
| <b>Hoerner-Waldorf</b>                  | <b>Gaylord Container Corp.</b> |
| <b>Crown Zellerbach</b>                 | <b>St. Laurent Packaging</b>   |
| <b>Great Northern Nekoosa</b>           | <b>MacMillan Bloedel</b>       |
| <b>Manville Forest Products</b>         | <b>Alton Corrugated</b>        |
| <b>Bathurst Packaging</b>               | <b>Box USA</b>                 |
| <b>Westvaco</b>                         | <b>Mead</b>                    |
| <b>St. Joe Paper</b>                    | <b>Weyerhaeuser</b>            |

# US Corrugated Market Share 1989



- Stone Container - 11%
- Weyerhaeuser - 10%
- IP - 7%
- Union Camp - 6%
- CCA - 5%
- PCA - 5%
- Inland - 3%
- Owens Illinois - 3%
- Willamette - 3%
- Gaylord - 3%
- Mac Millan Bloedel - 3%
- Great Southern - 3%
- Alton - 3%
- Mead - 3%
- St. Joe - 3%
- Hoerner - 3%
- All Others - 26%

## US Corrugated Market Share 2011



- IP 30%
- Rock-Tenn 24%
- GP 12%
- Inland 11%
- PCA 7%
- Pratt 4%
- Norampac 2%
- U.S. Corr 2%
- Others 8%

# Not just for the big guys

Sample transactions, 2010-2012, independent converters

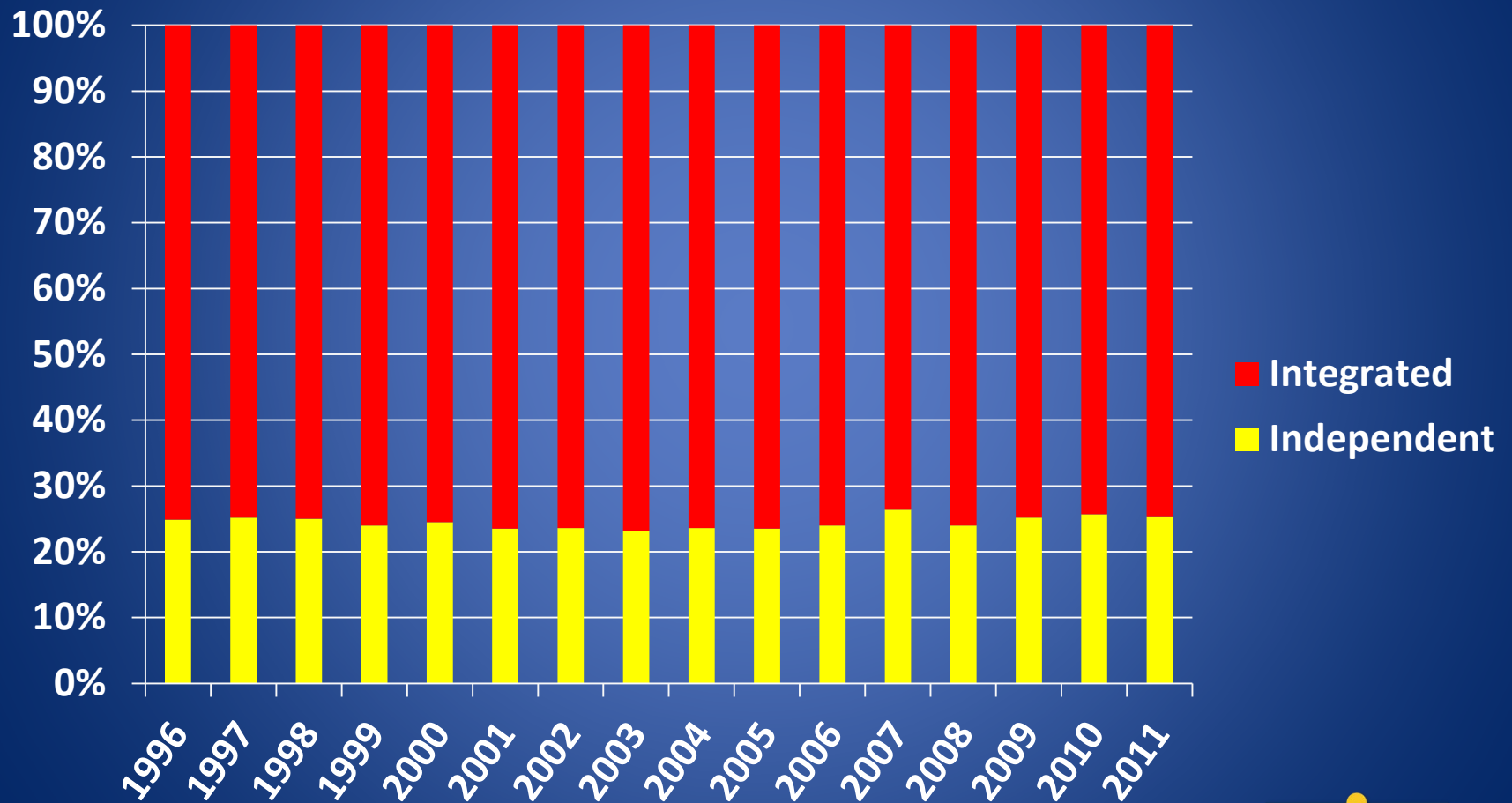
| Date      | Transaction  | Date       | Transaction  |
|-----------|--|------------|--|
| 5/17/2010 | SupplyOne buys Specialty Container                               | 7/25/2011  | Welch Packaging buys Imperial Packaging            |
| 5/31/2010 | Mannkraft Corp. buys Security Packaging                          | 8/29/2011  | Lawrence Paper buys Liberty Carton                 |
| 6/21/2012 | Englander buys Stribling, then DsignPak                          | 12/12/2011 | Coastal Container buys Best Packaging              |
| 1/3/2011  | Romanow buys Allied Industries                                   | 1/1/2012   | Arbor Investments buys Great Lakes Packaging Corp. |
| 6/13/2011 | Pacific Southwest Container buys Proactive Northern              | 2/6/2012   | Menasha Packaging buys Strive Group                |
| 7/11/2011 | Buckeye Corrugated buys Empire State Container and T&T Packaging | 8/20/2012  | SupplyOne buys Albuquerque Packaging               |

Sources: Courtesy of Board Converting News



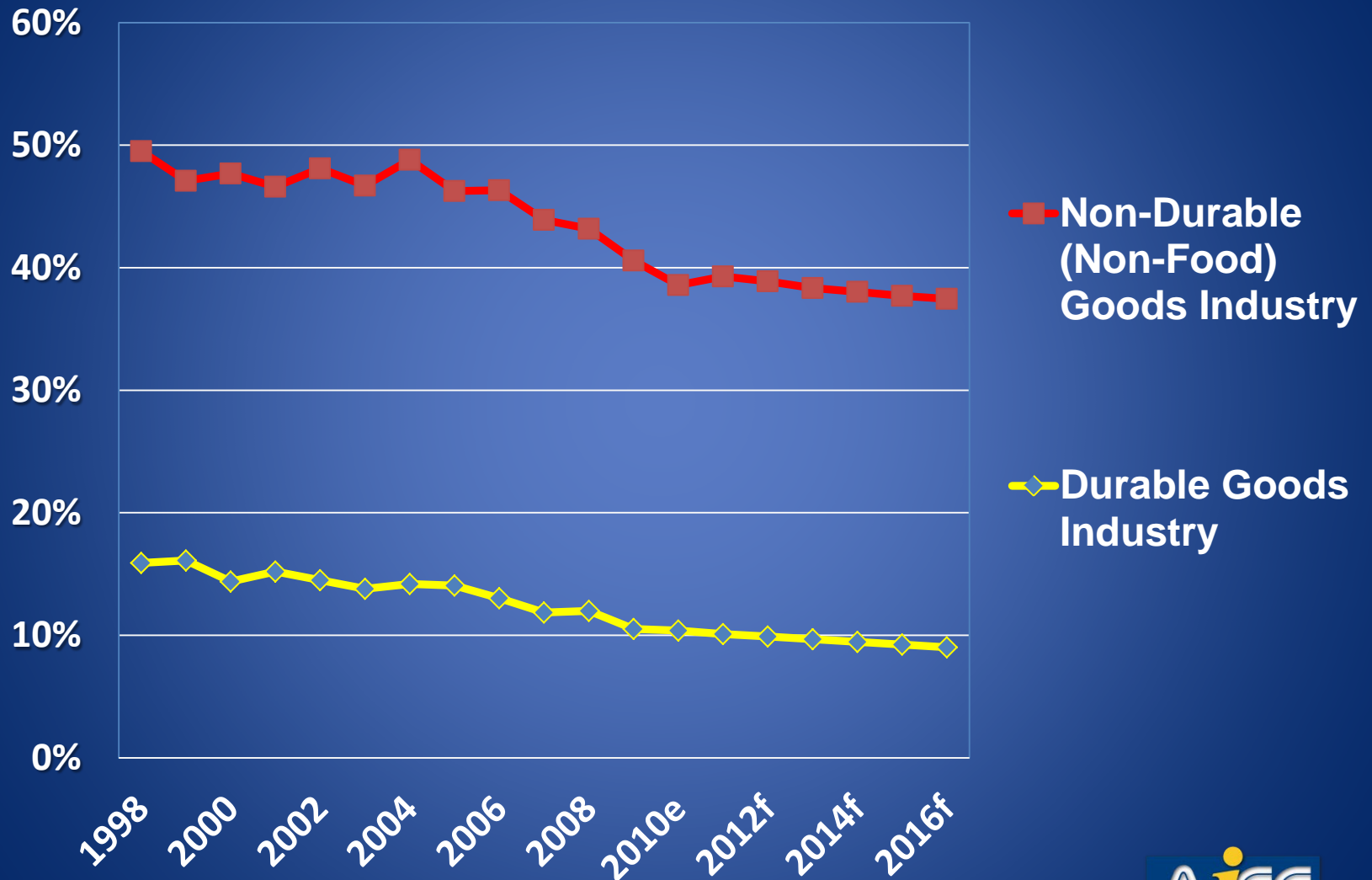
# Independent Market Share

Percent of Total Shipments, 1996-2011



# Opportunities

# Declining Share of Total Corrugated Shipments



Sources: RISI, Corrugated Markets End Use Study 2012



# Food and Beverage





# End-Use Markets

## Classified by Growth Potential

Average Annual Growth in Corrugated Shipments (2012-2016)

### Growth Markets

Beverage Products

5.7%

Fresh Fruit and Vegetables

3.5%

Dairy Products

3.0%

Chemical Products

2.7%

Other Food Products

2.5%

Meat Products

2.3%

Retail Trade

1.2%

Paper, Printing and Allied Products

1.1%

### Stagnant Markets

Metal, Machinery and Transport Equipment

0.8%

Bakery Products

0.7%

Frozen and Canned Food

0.6%

Furniture and Wood Products

0.2%

Services

-0.1%

Sugar and

Confectionary

-0.2%

Textile, Apparel and Leather Products

-0.3%

Wholesale Trade

-0.4%

### Declining Markets

Miscellaneous Manufacturing

-2.0%

Plastics, Rubber and Petro Products

-2.8%

Milled Grain and Oilseed

-3.2%

Mineral Products

-4.1%

Electrical Equipment and

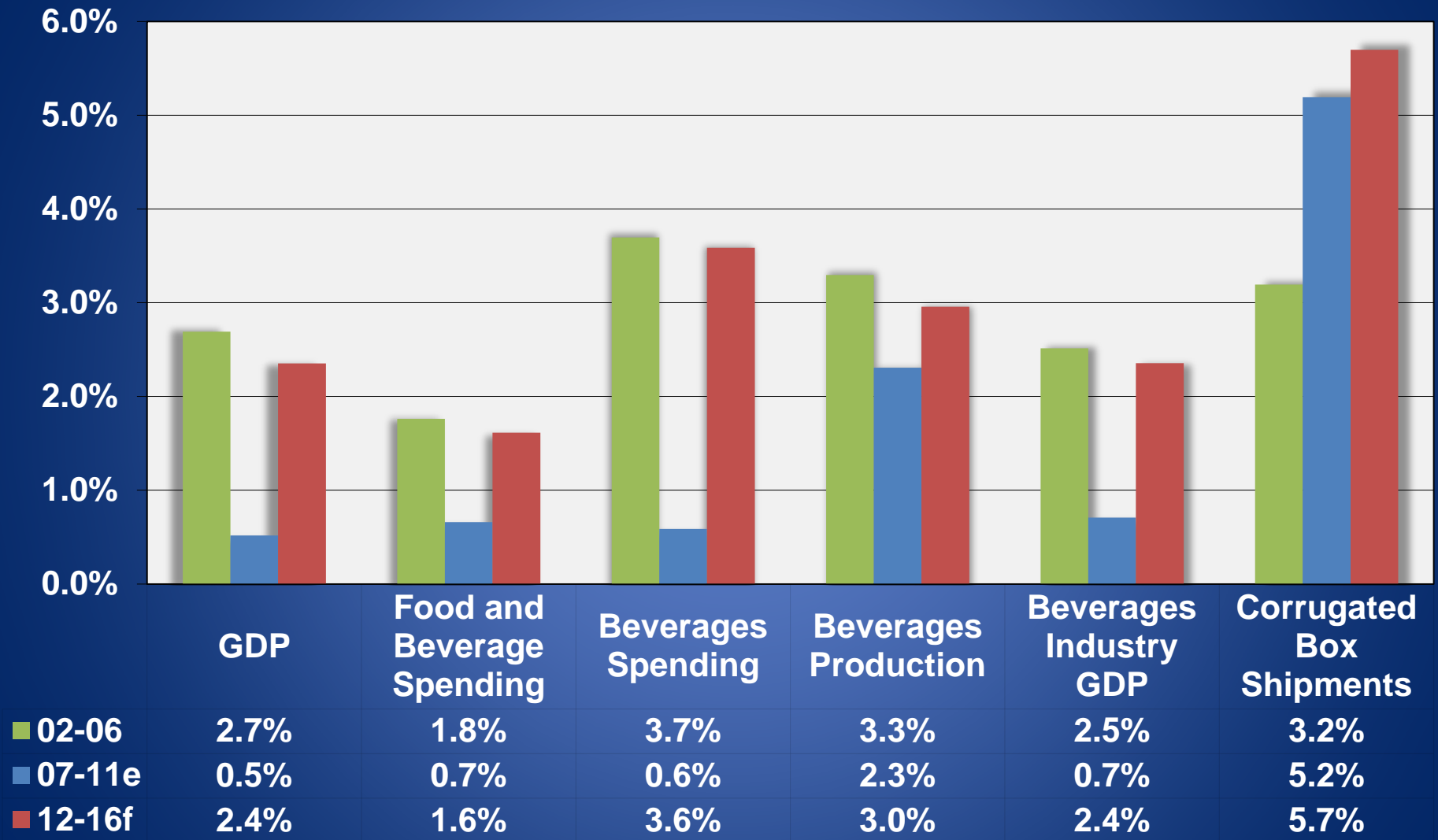
Computers

-4.8%



# Growth Trends in Beverage Products

Five- Year Average Annual Growth Rates



Sources: RISI, Corrugated Markets End Use Study 2012

# Sustainability

# Sustainability

■ Environmental

■ Social

■ Economic



Sustainability Audit

## INTRODUCTION: HOW TO USE THIS DO

AICC's Sustainability Audit Tool is designed to help make your company more sustainable. The following pages you will find checklists for carton converting operations. The tool suggests ways to minimize waste, improve your bottom line. In addition, it suggests ways to improve the social sustainability of your company. The tool is intended to be the definitive guide to sustainability in the carton converting industry. It can be a useful tool to start your sustainability journey.

**INSTRUCTIONS:** With your sustainability team, review the reduction categories, itemize the checklist guidelines and complete or define how you will implement future progress measures.

### A. PAPER: Roll Stock

1. Do you have a paper specification?

Please detail the data is used for the specification.

2. Does your data need to be updated?

Please detail the data is used for the specification.

3. Do you have a paper specification?

Please detail the data is used for the specification.

4. Does your sheet or board specification include a definition of "lightweight" ("Lightweight is defined as anything lighter than 100 gsm")?



Sustainability Audit

v) Are die-cutter blankets rotated and/or trimmed following OEM specifications? Yes ☐ No ☐

w) Is a cutting die maintenance and handling system in place? Yes ☐ No ☐

x) Are cutting dies inspected and repaired between runs? Yes ☐ No ☐

y) Are cutting dies properly stored to prevent damage? Yes ☐ No ☐

z) Are cutting dies delivered to machine in press-ready condition? Yes ☐ No ☐

aa) Are personnel properly trained in cutting die maintenance? Yes ☐ No ☐

bb) Are systems in place to identify converting issues and address them with corrective and preventive action steps? Yes ☐ No ☐

### 3. Printing Plates

a. Are graphics reviewed before printing plates are ordered to fit within equipment operating windows in terms of: Yes ☐ No ☐

- ✓ Number of colors?
- ✓ Color trapping?
- ✓ Minimum positive and reverse line widths?
- ✓ Maximum screen counts?
- ✓ Print to cut registration?

b. Are printing plate specifications in place that insure product quality? Yes ☐ No ☐

c. Are there separate specifications for each board type and grade? Yes ☐ No ☐

d. Has testing been done to establish these specifications? Yes ☐ No ☐

e. Do printing plates have features and systems in place that reduce set-up times? Yes ☐ No ☐

- ✓ Is registration information indicated on plates?
- ✓ Are centerlines clearly marked?
- ✓ Is pin registration be utilized?
- ✓ Are registration marks in place?

2.22.2013 Page 10

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# Retail Ready Packaging

# What is Retail Ready Packaging?

RRP is a system of packaging and merchandising that allows products to move through the retail supply chain and stores most efficiently.

**Source:** Drew Gilchrist, Gilchrist Packaging



# Key Drivers

- Labor – stores are regularly short of planned employees (> 6%)
- Employee turnover is high in the retail sector
- Overtime hours due to labor-intensive activities hurt margins
- Out of stock merchandise results in lost sales and unhappy customers
- Less double-handling of product

Source: Drew Gilchrist, Gilchrist Packaging



# Key Drivers

- Consumers demand convenience, choice, and availability
- RRP is a solution to improve on-shelf availability of products
- Successful RRP solutions increase brand visibility as well as product identification and shop-ability
- Successful RRP adds structure excitement, thus enhancing the customer experience

**Source:** Drew Gilchrist, Gilchrist Packaging



# The Four Categories of RRP



**Shelf Ready  
(SRP)**



**Display Ready  
(DRP)**



**Replenishment  
Ready**



**Infrastructure  
Ready**

**Source:** Drew Gilchrist, Gilchrist Packaging



# Shelf Ready Packaging

Shelf Ready Packaging (SRP) allows a case containing more than one consumer selling unit to be placed on the store shelf in one motion.

Eliminates the need to remove product one at a time from the typical RSC

*Studies have shown a 48% improvement in shelf stocking time with SRP's*

Source: Drew Gilchrist, Gilchrist Packaging



# Shelf Ready Packaging



Source: Drew Gilchrist, Gilchrist Packaging

# Shelf Ready Packaging



Source: Drew Gilchrist, Gilchrist Packaging

# Easy To Identify - On The Shelf



# Packaging Style Guides

## RRP Guidelines for North America



### Retail Ready Packaging 2011 Packaging Toolkit



#### Introduction

These guidelines are designed to provide all Walmart suppliers with general information to maximize the effectiveness of their retail ready packaging solutions and allow them to satisfy Walmart's requirements.

For more detailed information refer to the following additional resources Ready Functional Guidelines as published by the IGD and the Walmart Retail Ready Packaging Global Guidelines.

These guidelines are designed to assist all suppliers in asking all the right questions when they are developing

practical RRP solutions. They do not attempt to prescribe specific solutions or packaging types for any product and primary packaging format. Effective solutions must be developed according to the characteristics of the product and the primary packaging format, with full consultation among all stakeholders in the product supply chain.

Always seek clarity and assistance from the Walmart Packaging Team if you are unsure of our requirements or your product requires solutions outside of these guidelines.

#### Further Information

For the industry position on RRP together with:  
Functional Guidelines  
RRP Assessment Tool  
Go to <http://www.igd.com>

Created 5/13/2011  
Version 1

Business Confidential

## RRP Guidelines

ASDA SAVING YOU MONEY EVERY DAY

Source: Drew Gilchrist, Gilchrist Packaging

## Shelf Ready Packaging

The Kroger Co.  
Shelf Ready Guidelines  
January, 2010 Version 1.0

1

The Kroger Co. 2010 Confidential

**Loblaw**  
COMPANIES LIMITED

## Retail Ready Packaging (RRP) Toolkit



Edition 1  
September 2009



**H-E-B**

## Retail Ready Packaging (RRP) Guidelines

Version 2.0



# Style Guides Not Available?

Download a copy of the Retail Ready Packaging Functional Guidelines from <http://www.ecr-all.org>

## Shelf Ready Packaging (Retail Ready Packaging) Addressing the challenge: a comprehensive guide for a collaborative approach



ECR Europe 2006.11.07

|                               |                                      |   |   |   |                                      |
|-------------------------------|--------------------------------------|---|---|---|--------------------------------------|
| <b>Publication Date:</b> 2006 | <b>Publication Language:</b> English | <b>Publication Country/Region:</b> ECR Europe | <b>Publication Type:</b> Case study, Bluebook, Presentation | <b>Companies involved:</b> Carrefour, Kraft, Albert Heijn, ECR Norway, Reckitt Benckiser, Accenture, Nestlé, ICA, SCA Packaging, Casino | <b>Author:</b> ECR Europe, Accenture |
|-------------------------------|--------------------------------------|---|---|---|--------------------------------------|

by ECR Europe & Accenture (2006)



Click to download:

[Full Report](#) (pdf, 1.4 MB)

[Executive Summary](#) (pdf, 107KB)

[Presentation](#) (pdf, 646 KB)

[Case studies](#)

[SRP solution assessment tool](#)

[SRP business case assessment tool](#)

[SRP store audit checklist](#)

Shelf Ready Packaging appears to be one potential solution to address store operations efficiency, shelf replenishment and product availability, visibility and access. There is currently a multiplication of local and proprietary SRP initiatives in Europe. There is a risk of proliferation of contradictory guidelines, which would endanger the initial vision of bringing more value to the consumer.

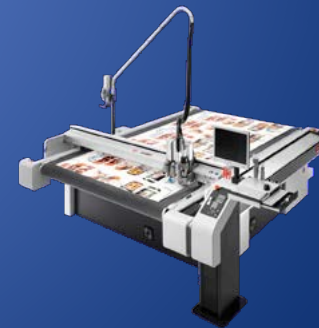
This ECR Europe blue book provides guidance on how to look at the introduction of Shelf Ready Packaging (SRP) collaboratively. It is the culmination of 11 months of work by the ECR Europe Shelf Ready Packaging project team, where manufacturers, ECR national representatives and packaging suppliers worked jointly with retailers, ably supported by Accenture.

# Digital Printing

# Océ Current Solutions for Packaging

## Digital short run

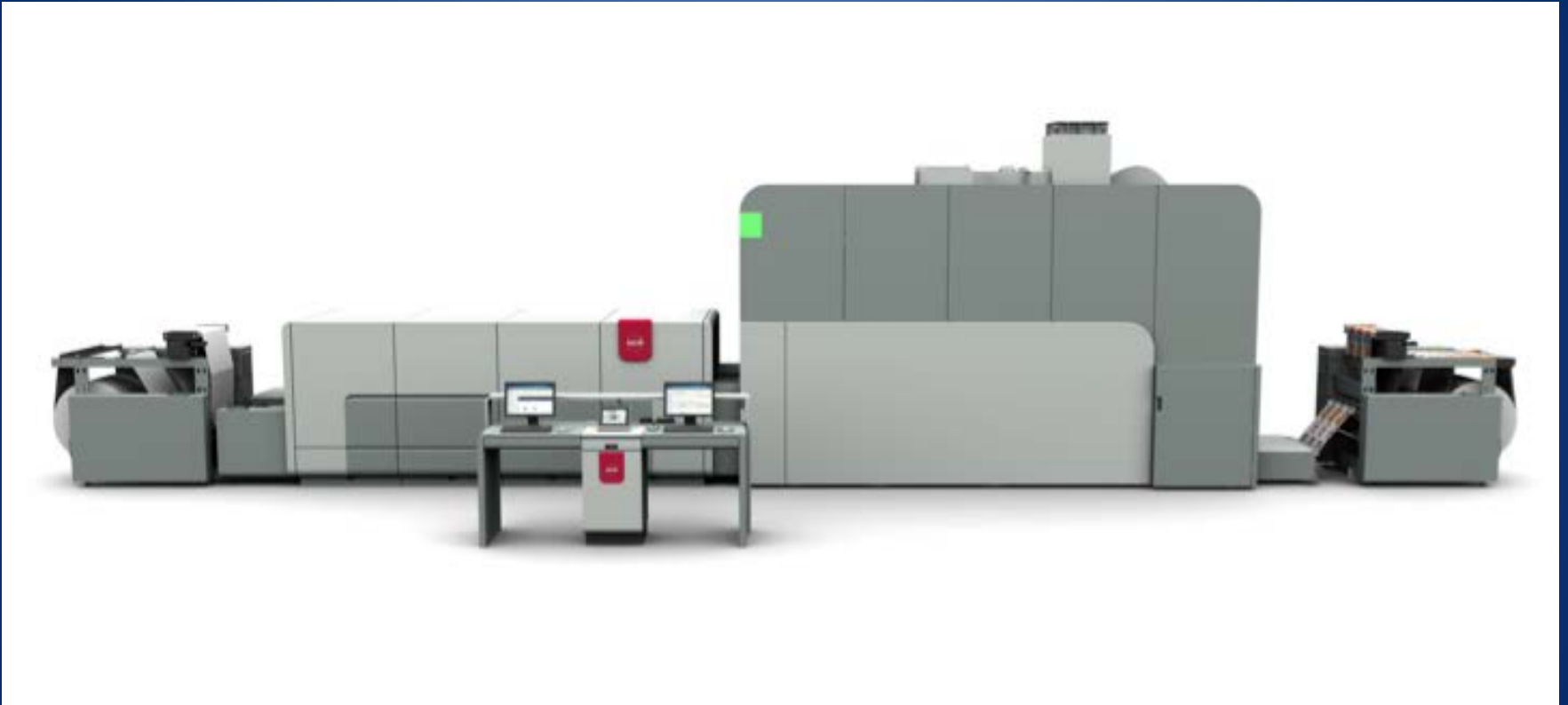
- Océ Arizona series UV flatbed printer
  - Enables printing to rigid substrate including corrugate up to 2" thick
  - 4'x8' or 8'x10' image area
  - Speeds up to 22 4'x8' boards/hour at near photographic quality
- Océ ProCut digital cutter
  - Performs cutting and creasing of printed packaging
  - Integrated print/cut workflow software



**Sources:** *Courtesy of Océ*

# Océ (Canon)

## InfiniStream Folding Carton Press



**Sources:** *Courtesy of Océ*



# Sun Automation



Sources: Courtesy of Sun Automation



# SUN Automation Digital Printing

- Full Width Printing on a 60" x 110" sheet
- Production speeds of 3,000 sheets/hr.
- 70 MSF/hr., 16 hours per day, 6 days per week
- High Density Pigment Inks and Digital Coatings
- 4 process colors (CMYK) cover 85% of Pantone range
- Color management and spot colors possible
- No plates, no set up time, no maintenance



First Printed Display

Taken 011212



# Bobst

“Digital packaging will not take over from one day to another, but will play a key role in the next five to ten years.”

- -- **Jean-Pascal Bobst**, as quoted at PPC's 2012 Fall Meeting, Las Vegas



# Summary

- The digital packaging industry will have a compound annual growth rate of 15.7% between 2009 and 2014
- 
- Demand for innovative ways to differentiate products
- Short runs for regional, local and low-volume products
- 
- Packaging is a growing market and everybody wants in

# Takeaways

- Corrugated shipments down
- Consolidation continues – integrated *and independent*
- Independents must reinvent themselves
- Opportunities in market trends
  - Sustainability
  - RRP
  - Digital print

# Resources

- AICC: [www.aiccbox.org](http://www.aiccbox.org) , or [syoung@aiccbox.org](mailto:syoung@aiccbox.org)
- Drew Gilchrist: [drew.gilchrist@att.net](mailto:drew.gilchrist@att.net)
- ICCA: [www.iccanet.org](http://www.iccanet.org)
- Sun Automation: [www.sunautomation.com](http://www.sunautomation.com)
- Canon (Oce): [www.canon.com](http://www.canon.com)
- Bobst: [www.bobstgroup.com](http://www.bobstgroup.com)
- RRP Functional Guidelines [www.ecr-all.org](http://www.ecr-all.org)