



# the **ESCANABA MILL** at-a-glance

VERSO CORPORATION is a leading North American producer of printing papers, specialty papers and pulp.

## Escanaba, Michigan

Home of Verso's Escanaba Mill, Escanaba is a small community located on Little Bay de Noc in Delta County in Michigan's Upper Peninsula. The Escanaba Mill began making paper in 1911 as the Escanaba Pulp and Paper Company. The people who work at the Escanaba Mill – the largest local employer – take pride in their work, neighborhoods and natural surroundings.

Began operations in  
**1911**

The Escanaba Mill began operating in 1891 as the Escanaba Electric Street Railway Company before the Escanaba Pulp and Paper Company was organized. For more than a century, the Escanaba Mill has undergone expansions and upgrades while continuing to be an influential presence in Escanaba and nearby communities.

The Escanaba Mill encompasses

**2000  
acres**

and has a kraft pulp mill, refiner mechanical pulp mill, three paper machines, a pulp dryer, three off-machine blade coaters, six supercalenders and six winders.

The Escanaba Mill employs approximately

**830  
people**

The Escanaba Mill has the capacity to produce approximately

**730,000  
tons of paper per year**

The mill produces coated freesheet, coated groundwood, specialty and uncoated papers used for catalogs, magazines, annual reports, textbooks and product brochures.

**zero  
injuries goal**

Verso's steadfast commitment to being "safe from the start" – one of our founding principles – permeates our culture and drives our effort to reduce injuries at the Escanaba Mill. Our entire workforce is dedicated to promoting a safe work environment for our employees and the community, with all employees working together to achieve a common safety goal: zero injuries.

# Manufacturing excellence

Verso's operational excellence model is the core of our operations strategy. The model focuses on three key objectives: making best practices common practices, supporting and enabling our managers to lead continuous improvement, and providing an integrated set of tools to aid our improvement efforts.

Benchmarking brings the model to life. At the Escanaba Mill, we benchmark our current manufacturing practices against world-class practices to identify opportunities for improvement, and then develop targeted action plans to close the realizable gap between the two. The end goal is for a highly skilled, fully committed team to provide superior products and services to our customers at the lowest cost and with the absolute simplest of technical and organizational designs.



## 100% sustainability commitment

Papermaking is a resource-intensive business. At the Escanaba Mill, our goal is to use these resources – trees, water, energy and chemicals – as efficiently as possible while assuring that we don't harm the environment along the way. This is the core of our sustainability philosophy ... making the products our customers need while leaving the smallest possible footprint behind. Verso's sustainability principles, which focus on responsible sourcing, environmental and safety improvement, product stewardship, stakeholder partnerships and transparency, serve as guideposts on our path to a sustainable future. Using continuous improvement as the yardstick to gauge our progress, our mill team is dedicated to doing what's right for our company, our community and our planet.

### VERSO'S SUSTAINABILITY PRINCIPLES:

- Procure wood only from sustainably managed forests
- Continue to improve the environmental and safety performance of our operations
- Develop innovative products that provide both economic and environmental benefit
- Partner with customers and other important stakeholders on sustainability issues
- Continue to evaluate and report progress toward our sustainability goals

### OUR COMMUNITY

Together with our employees, the Escanaba Mill supports a wide range of community organizations and events with a focus on education, sustainability and local health and human service needs. The mill's community participation is driven by our employees who generously contribute their time and talents in various company-sponsored and individual volunteer efforts to enhance the quality of life in Escanaba and the surrounding area.

### RESPONSIBLY SOURCED FIBER

Verso actively monitors the forestry practices associated with tree harvests to help assure that the fiber in our products is legally sourced from responsibly managed forests and meets the criteria in Verso's Wood Fiber Procurement Policy, a policy that complies with the harvested wood requirements of the U.S. Lacey Act. Verso is committed to sourcing third-party certified and chain-of-custody (CoC) certified fiber in our products. All of Verso's mills have been independently audited and certified to the Forest Stewardship Council® (FSC® - C014984), Programme for the Endorsement of Forest Certification™ (PEFC/29-31-12) and Sustainable Forestry Initiative® (SFI - 00081) CoC standards.