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MARYVALE MILL PARTNERS WITH GIPPSLAND WATER FACTORY TO REDUCE WATER USAGE

PaperlinX is proud to support Gippsland Water through an association with the “Gippsland Water Factory” which commences construction shortly.

Water is an essential component of its paper making operations at Australian Paper’s Maryvale Mill and the Company is acutely aware of the need to responsibly manage its water usage through water recycling and re-treatment.

As a major customer of this facility on its completion in 2008, the Australian Paper Maryvale site will use recycled water from the Gippsland Water Factory, reducing its draw on freshwater catchments by 13 per cent. The completion of the water factory will follow the \$203 million upgrade of the Company’s Maryvale Pulp Mill which commenced last year, and will manufacture elementally chlorine free (ECF) pulp.

The Maryvale Mill already has extremely efficient water utilisation, with water utilised an average of five times, depending upon the paper machine. The mill has reduced its water use per tonne of paper produced by 64 per cent since 1980 and the current upgrade of Maryvale’s pulp capacity is expected to reduce this further.

“We congratulate Gippsland Water on this innovative development and look forward to continued joint initiatives as part of our commitment to continuously improving our environmental performance in the region,” said Howard Lovell, General Manager, Maryvale Mill. “As a major participant in the local economy we are proud of the progress being made in this area.

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For further information contact: David Shirer, Executive General Manager – Corporate Affairs
PaperlinX Limited. Tel. +61 3 8540 2302

Editors Note: PaperlinX is the world’s leading fine paper merchant, with businesses in Australia, New Zealand, Asia, North America, South Africa and Europe. Through its Australian Paper division, it is also the only Australasian producer of high quality communication papers including Reflex, Australia’s leading copy paper, and a major Australian producer of high performance packaging and industrial papers.