

News Release

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Boise Inc. Mill Celebrates 100th Anniversary in International Falls

Governor Tim Pawlenty and Congressman Jim Oberstar to attend

INTERNATIONAL FALLS, Minnesota – Boise Inc. (NYSE: BZ) announced today a celebration for employees and their community marking 100 years of paper manufacturing in International Falls on Friday, June 25.

“We honor the people who have worked in and around the International Falls mill for generations, helping shape the community and our company,” said Alexander Toeldte, president and CEO, Boise Inc. “We join them in celebrating the tremendous milestone a century of operations represents.”

Minnesota Governor Tim Pawlenty will join community leaders at a celebration breakfast; Congressman Jim Oberstar will also join the breakfast and a commemorative program, briefly breaking away from deliberations in the U.S. House of Representatives to attend. Festivities include activity and display booths in Smokey Bear Park in downtown International Falls, followed by the commemorative program, community picnic, and mill tours.

At the turn of the twentieth century, Minneapolis sawmill owner Edward Wellington Backus viewed the powerful Koochiching Falls on the Rainy River and began to dream of what could be. Workers from around the world came to build and work at the mill. The first paper was made on June 6, 1910, and shipped to a newspaper in Great Falls, Montana.

The mill's history is captured in a book, *The Mill at the Falls – 100 Years of Papermaking on the Border* by Bill Beck, which tells the fascinating story of how the people of the border country made Backus's vision a reality during a century of challenge and opportunity. Employees and retirees will receive copies of the book, and copies will be available for purchase through the Koochiching County Museum in International Falls.

Today the mill at the Falls is the largest employer in Koochiching County, with 830 family-wage jobs. Independent wood suppliers and specialized contractors add another 300 workers to area payrolls.

During its 100-year history the mill has been regularly modernized. It now operates four paper machines complemented by a coater and five sheeters that produce a combined 548,000 tons per year of office papers, specialty, and label and release papers.

About Boise Inc.

Headquartered in Boise, Idaho, Boise Inc. (NYSE: BZ) manufactures packaging products and papers including corrugated containers, containerboard, label and release and flexible packaging papers, imaging papers for the office and home, printing and converting papers, newsprint, and market pulp. Our employees are committed to delivering excellent value while managing our businesses to sustain environmental resources for future generations. Visit our website at www.BoiseInc.com.