

## EUWID Price Watch France

February 2025

Prices in € per tonne free delivered unless otherwise stated	February 2025	January 2025	February 2024
<b>Fine paper</b>			
Woodfree uncoated			
Copy paper 80 g A4 B grade	950 - 1,080	950 - 1,080	970 - 1,130
Copy paper 80 g A4 C grade	900 - 1,030	900 - 1,030	920 - 1,080
Offset sheets 80 g	980 - 1,070	980 - 1,070	980 - 1,110
Offset reels 80 g	900 - 1,000	900 - 1,000	930 - 1,060
Woodfree coated			
Sheets, double coated, 100 g	980 - 1,080	980 - 1,080	970 - 1,110
Reels, double coated, 100 g	910 - 1,020	910 - 1,020	930 - 1,060
<b>Publication paper</b>			
Standard newsprint 45 g	600 - 630	600 - 630	580 - 630
Standard newsprint 42 g	610 - 640	610 - 640	580 - 640
Improved newsprint ISO 68, 52 g	650 - 680	650 - 680	620 - 670
LWC offset 60 g	770 - 830	770 - 830	780 - 850
LWC rotogravure 60 g	780 - 840	780 - 840	810 - 880
SC offset 56 g (A)	670 - 720	670 - 720	680 - 740
SC rotogravure 56 g (A)	670 - 720	670 - 720	700 - 750
<b>Corrugated case material</b>			
Primary fibre corrugated case material			
Unbleached kraftliner 175 g+	720 - 810	720 - 810	640 - 730
Semi-chemical fluting	640 - 700	640 - 700	570 - 630
White-top kraftliner 140 g	840 - 990	840 - 990	770 - 870
Recycled corrugated case material			
Recycled fluting 100 g	640 - 665	580 - 605	520 - 545
Recycled fluting 90 g	650 - 680	590 - 620	530 - 560
Testliner II	660 - 690	600 - 630	540 - 570
Testliner III	650 - 675	590 - 615	530 - 555
White-top testliner, grade B, 140 g	680 - 730	680 - 730	640 - 690
<b>Cartonboard</b>			
GD II	810 - 940	810 - 940	780 - 910
GC II	1,140 - 1,330	1,140 - 1,330	1,100 - 1,280

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Golbey by the end of the first quarter of this year. In the first half of 2025, planned start-ups include the rebuilt PM at Heinzel Laakirchen (500,000 tpy) and the PM at Mondi's Duino mill (420,000 tpy). Towards the end of 2025 or in early 2026, it is expected that the new PM at DS Smith's Porcari site (450,000 tpy) will begin operations, replacing an older PM with 175,000 tpy.

In addition, Kipas Kagit has commenced production on its new PM (650,000 tpy) at the Söke mill in Turkey, as has Partek at its Kayseri facility in central Turkey, where a new PM (240,000 tpy) replaces two older machines with a combined capacity of 50,000 tpy. Eren Paper wants to ramp up production on its new machine at the Shotton mill (750,000 tpy) in Wales next year.

Moreover, there are rebuilds, such as DS Smith's Viana site in Portugal, where kraftliner capacity is increasing by 30,000 tpy, and Mondi's Świecie site, which can also produce more kraftliner (55,000 tpy).

### Discussions about higher GD board prices still ongoing

Players on the French cartonboard market are becoming slightly more optimistic about the future in some cases. Despite the weak economy, some of them have been seeing a few positive demand signals for both fresh fibre board (folding boxboard) as well as recycled board (white-lined chipboard) – but warn these must be interpreted with caution. There has not been much price movement, but the two sides of the GD market continue to discuss potential price hikes.

A few GD suppliers had announced price increases of €50-80/t for GD in recent months and they have been trying to implement these ever since. On occasion, they were reportedly successful. Two producers say they agreed to mark-ups of €40-50/t with some customers in February. However, this price increase has not been implemented throughout the market. Most volumes of

GD 2 were selling at stable prices.

Yet, some suppliers seem very determined to implement their demands in the coming weeks or months. One supplier reported turning down orders with unchanged prices, saying he was rather accepting the loss of a few volumes. "We will remain resolute," he said. Producers insist the mark-up is urgently needed due to cost trends: Energy has become more expensive and recovered paper prices also remain high. A different producer said it was very difficult to introduce higher prices right now, but if demand remained satisfactory, it might be possible to launch another attempt as of March.

The closure of Reno de Medici's cartonboard mill in Barcelona could play into the hands of suppliers. "Customers are seeing what can happen if operations are unprofitable," commented one respondent. Some customers reportedly were in a bit of a scramble following this news because there are

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