

SAPPI LTD
Form 6-K
March 18, 2010

FORM 6-K

SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION
Washington, D.C. 20549

Report of Foreign Private Issuer

Pursuant to Rule 13a-16 or 15d-16

under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934

For the month of March 2010

Commission file number: 1-14872

SAPPI LIMITED

(Translation of registrant's name into English)

48 Ameshoff Street
Braamfontein
Johannesburg 2001

REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA
(Address of principal executive offices)

Indicate by check mark whether the registrant files or will file annual reports under cover of Form 20-F or Form 40-F.

Form 20-F X Form 40-F

Indicate by check mark if the registrant is submitting the Form 6-K in paper as permitted by Regulation S-T Rule 101(b) (1):

Indicate by check mark if the registrant is submitting the Form 6-K in paper as permitted by Regulation S-T Rule 101(b) (7):

Indicate by check mark whether the registrant by furnishing the information contained in this Form is also thereby furnishing the information to the Commission pursuant to Rule 12g3-2(b) under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934.

Yes No X

If "Yes" is marked, indicate below the file number assigned to the registrant in connection with Rule 12g3-2(b):

INCORPORATION BY REFERENCE

Sappi Limited's information below is furnished by the Registrant under this Form 6-K is incorporated by reference into (i) the Registration Statements on Form S-8 of the Registrant filed December 23, 1999, December 15, 2004 and February 2, 2010 in connection with The Sappi Limited Share Incentive Scheme, (ii) the Section 10(a) Prospectus relating to the offer and sale of the Registrant's shares to Participants under The Sappi Limited Share Incentive Scheme, (iii) the Registration Statements on Form S-8 of the Registrant filed December 15, 2004 and December 21, 2005 in connection with The Sappi Limited 2004 Performance Share Incentive Plan and (iv) the Section 10(a) Prospectus relating to the offer and sale of the Registrant's shares to Participants under The Sappi Limited 2004 Performance Share Incentive Plan.

FORWARD-LOOKING STATEMENTS

In order to utilize the "Safe Harbor" provisions of the United States Private Securities Litigation Reform Act of 1995 (the "Reform Act"), Sappi Limited (the "Company") is providing the following cautionary statement. Except for historical information contained herein, statements contained in this Report on Form 6-K may constitute "forward-looking statements" within the meaning of the Reform Act. The words "believe", "anticipate", "expect", "intend", "estimate", "plan", "assume", "positioned", "will", "may", "should", "risk" and other similar expressions, which are predictions of or indicate future events and future trends, which do not relate to historical matters, identify forward-looking statements. In addition, this Report on Form 6-K may include forward-looking statements relating to the Company's potential exposure to various types of market risks, such as interest rate risk, foreign exchange rate risk and commodity price risk. Reliance should not be placed on forward-looking statements because they involve known and unknown risks, uncertainties and other factors which are in some cases beyond the control of the Company, together with its subsidiaries (the "Group"), and may cause the actual results, performance or achievements of the Group to differ materially from anticipated future results, performance or achievements expressed or implied by such forward-looking statements (and from past results, performance or achievements). Certain factors that may cause such differences include but are not limited to: the impact of the global economic downturn, the risk that the European acquisition (the "Acquisition") will not be integrated successfully or such integration may be more difficult, time consuming or costly than expected, expected revenue synergies and cost savings from the Acquisition may not be fully realized or realized within the expected time frame, revenues following the Acquisition may be lower than expected, any anticipated benefits from the consolidation of the European paper business may not be achieved, the highly cyclical nature of the pulp and paper industry (and the factors that contribute to such cyclicity, such as levels of demand, production capacity, production, input costs including raw material, energy and employee costs, and pricing), adverse changes in the markets for the group's products, consequences of substantial leverage, including as a result of adverse changes in credit markets that affect our ability to raise capital when needed, changing regulatory requirements, possible early termination of alternative fuel tax credits, unanticipated production disruptions (including as a result of planned or unexpected power outages), economic and political conditions in international markets, the impact of investments, acquisitions and dispositions (including related financing), any delays, unexpected costs or other problems experienced with integrating acquisitions and achieving expected savings and synergies and currency fluctuations. These and other risks, uncertainties and factors are discussed in the Company's Annual Report on Form 20-F and other filings with and submissions to the Securities and Exchange Commission, including this Report on Form 6-K. Shareholders and prospective investors are cautioned not to place undue reliance on these forward-looking statements. These forward-looking statements are made as of the date of the submission of this Report on Form 6-K and are not intended to give any assurance as to future results. The Company undertakes no obligation to publicly update or revise any of these forward looking statements, whether to reflect new information or future events or circumstances or otherwise.

Fine Paper Europe

Media Release

Brussels, 17 March 2010

Sappi calls for speedy end to Stevedores strike in Finland

Sappi today called upon all parties involved in the Stevedores strike in Finland to redouble their efforts to find a speedy resolution to the impasse which has led to an effective blockade on the export of paper and pulp from Finland since 04 March 2010.

In reaction to the strike Berry Wiersum, the CEO of Sappi Fine Paper Europe said: “The global economic recession of 2009 had a significant impact on Sappi in Europe. However, the subsequent healthy improvement in demand for Sappi’s products confirmed that a sustained recovery was underway. Unfortunately this recovery is weakest in the mechanical coated market which has led to the closure of Sappi’s Kangas Mill. It is therefore very disappointing that the industrial action by the Stevedores threatens to delay this recovery even further.”

Sappi, the leading producer of coated fine paper in Europe and globally, invested some €750 million at the end of 2008 to acquire the coated graphics business of M-Real OYj, thereby becoming one of the largest foreign investors into Finland. Sappi’s Kirkniemi Mill in Lohja, a world class asset producing the Galerie brand of coated mechanical paper for many of the world’s leading magazines and journals, has had to cease production in line with actions taken by the rest of the industry. To minimise the impact on customers once the possibility of a strike became apparent, Sappi shipped orders early and some production was moved to other operations in Europe.

Commenting on the prolonged nature of the dispute, Ralph Boëttger, the CEO of Sappi Limited said: “The pulp and paper industry in Finland has an enviable global reputation for excellence, responsibility and reliability. We therefore very much hope that the strike will be resolved quickly.”

ENDS

Issued by Brunswick South Africa on behalf of Sappi, +2711502 7300

For further information, please contact:

Claudia Hammerich
Manager Corporate
Communications
Sappi Fine Paper Europe

Sappi Europe SA
Chaussée de la Hulpe 154
B-1170 Brussels

Tel: +32 2 676 97 84
Mobile: +32 472 61 89 66
Claudia.Hammerich@sappi.com

SIGNATURE

Pursuant to the requirements of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, the registrant has duly caused this report to be signed on its behalf by the undersigned, thereunto duly authorized.

Date: March 17, 2010

SAPPI LIMITED,

by

/s/ L. Newman

Name: L. Newman

Title: Group Financial Controller