

MEDIA RELEASE

APIA and PVCA SECURE ANOTHER WIN FROM GOVERNMENT: COPY PAPER DUMPING DUTY REMOVED

For immediate release

The Australasian Paper Industry Association (APIA) and the Print and Visual Communication Association (PVCA) have partnered in an advocacy initiative into Federal government and achieved a win for industry with the Minister granting a stay on the anti-dumping duty across A4 Copy Paper.

Following discussion with relevant parties, APIA/PVCA issued a letter to the Anti-Dumping Commissioner, Dr Armstrong, and the Minister for Industry and Science, the Hon. Ed Husic calling on the review, and ultimate lifting, of all tariffs and duties across the importation of A4 Copy Paper imports.

“Given the disappointing closure of the manufacture of A4 Copy Paper and loss of some 200 jobs and 200,000 tonnes of copy paper from our local manufacture, many members were being impacted by a loss of supply and with the duties and tariffs, an inflated price, to complete their orders across print, mail and related sectors using A4 Copy Paper. We responded with immediate collaboration and prompt communication,” commented Kellie Northwood, Chief Executive Officer of the PVCA and Executive Director of APIA.

The formal request was issued on the 5 April 2023, with the Commissioner issuing an urgent, albeit temporary recommendation, to Minister Husic on the 15 April, which he accepted on 20 April.

The recommendation to temporarily exempt imported copy paper from anti-dumping duties has now been communicated to APIA/PVCA following an inquiry across impacted industry sectors that supported without objection. Most notably, the Lottery and Newsagency Association, A&C Paper Group (hand and toilet towel importer) supported a public non-objection. Nippon Paper confirmed they had withdrawn from graphic paper manufacturing and therefore Opal did not oppose the exemption.

That exemption applies to A4 Copy Paper from all countries and retrospectively took effect from 18 January 2023. The retrospective application means any importer who paid an anti-dumping duty post 18 January 2023 can receive a refund.

On 26 April 2023, the Australian Border Force granted a Tariff Concession Order (TCO) for imports of A4 paper under the Tariff Classification code 4802.56.10 (TCO number 2340588) operative from 9 February 2023. All imports meeting the eligibility criteria detailed in the TCO description that enter Australia on or after this date are eligible for tariff free entry.

The Anti-Dumping Commissioner is now initiating revocation reviews to examine whether the anti-dumping measures are no longer warranted long-term.

“This is the second major win for the industry this year, partnering more strongly with like-minded industry bodies, like APIA, to ensure our industry is lobbying with a purpose to outcomes that benefit our members is a key strategic position we stand by. We continue to commit to that mandate for our members and continue to work closely with organisations like APIA on common



agendas. I want to thank the team behind this – Charles Watson, GM – IR, Policy and Governance, as well as the APIA Board Office Bearers who supported the arguments to the Commissioner and Minister. This is not the only matter before government and to continue to secure these results is demonstrating the approach, logic and considered arguments to government is working for our industry’s benefit,” concluded Northwood.

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About the Print & Visual Communication Association

The Print and Visual Communication Association (PVCA) is the recognised peak industry body for the print, paper, publishing, packaging, graphic design, distribution, and media technology industries in Australia, operating for over 130 years.

A registered organisation with direct signatory to the nine (9) Awards across our industry and membership. Offering an end-to-end industry association solution that is relevant in all that it undertakes. Whether advocating the relevance of the established media – print – that we all belong to, developing global partnerships and translating to regional requirements, awarding excellence, investing in products, and arming our industry with sales tools, sustainability collateral, industrial relations representation and more.

The largest print industry body committed to building a stronger united leadership to deliver the goals of our members. United we will lead strong advocacy, government advisory, skills and training programs, protection, and promotion of our industry channels and more to ensure our member’s businesses operate within a future-proofed strategy for success.