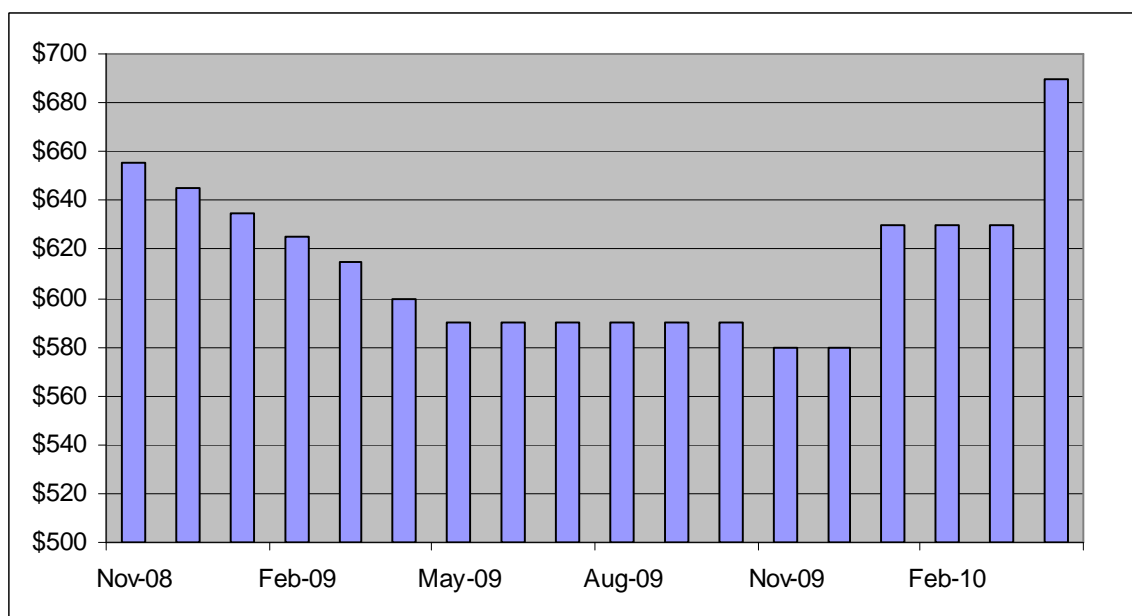




April 29, 2010 – Linerboard Increasing \$60 / Ton

We reported in our last commodities update that linerboard prices were increasing for the first time in 16 months after several months of decreases. Now in just 3 short months we are facing a second increase that will take the list price of East Coast Linerboard to an all time high of \$690 per ton. On the heels of a \$50 per ton increase in February the producers have now successfully passed through a \$60 per ton increase which will translate into an increase of 9% - 12% for cartons and sheets. The cumulative impact of these two linerboard increases is between 16% and 20%.

Pulp & Paper Linerboard Index



There are several reasons cited by the major producers as to the cause of these increases: the continuing export demand, downtime at the mill level, energy costs, and a worldwide shortage of pulp. Pulp production was impacted by both the earthquake in Chile and a strike in Finland. Bottom line is that a tight supply of paper exists, even with lackluster demand, as the paper producers have done an excellent job of curtailing production and managing the supply side.

United Sourcing Alliance clients under contract are protected from these increases until the latter part of May. You can also be assured that each client will have a steady supply of product as our supplier partners are well positioned in the market place to have an uninterrupted supply of board. Please know that we will continue to monitor these markets and this index. We will keep you advised should there be additional movement, up or down.

United Sourcing Alliance actively monitors market pricing to ensure our supplier partners remain competitive with market fluctuations. We will be issuing our more comprehensive Commodities Update in the next few weeks. Please contact Gene Smith at gsmith@usa-llc.com or 704-697-9695 Ext 14 if we can assist you further