

# Fiber Market Update

Pratt Recycling Jake Beeler

# **Today's Topics**



Pratt Overview

• China

Market Pricing

• Future for Recycled Fiber

# Pratt Industries Overview





~\$3.0 Billion and Growing..... Fully integrated, privately-held packaging company

Recycle nearly 3.0 million tons of materials annually ~40 million trees saved annually



5<sup>th</sup> Largest U.S. paper and packaging company – 7,500 employees

Largest 100% Recycled corrugated packaging company in North America



Largest user of mixed paper in North America

4 soon to be 5 -100% Recycled Paper Mills.... Today Mills consume ~10 million pounds/day of recycled paper
68 factories in North America
18 Material Recovery facilities (MRFs)

#### <u>Close-the-Loop Integrated</u> <u>Pratt...a true "Circular Economy" company</u>

















# Wapakoneta New Pratt Recycle Plant



#### Midwest Growth Pratt's New 100% Recycled Papermill Wapakoneta



# State of the Art Technology





# Pratt Recycling in Wisconsin 2018

8,000,000 lbs of Mixed Paper

5,000,000 lbs of Cardboard

#### 13,000,000 lbs of Recyclable Fiber







Fratt Necycling - Fr



# Market Update....Tumultuous Times





# The "Back-Story"

- China "warned us 3-5 years ago "Green Fence"
  - No more "trash" accepted.
  - Self-sufficiency for recycled materials
  - No one took it seriously...contamination got worse
- China 2017 "National Sword"
  - Banned Mixed Paper effective 2018
  - Banned many plastics
  - Set 0.5% contamination level
- China 2018 "Blue Sky, Green Water"
  - Ban is happening
  - Self-inspection eliminated
  - 100% inspection required

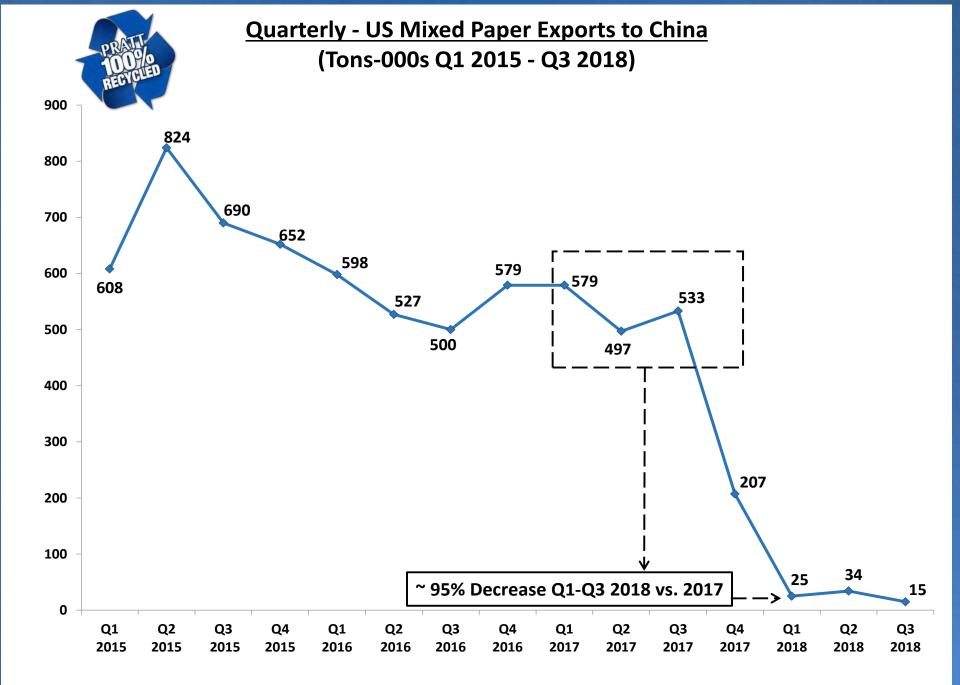
### **China and Export**

- China Ban...Never an issue of "IF" it would happen, but "when"
- No more Mixed Paper from the US
- We did it to ourselves



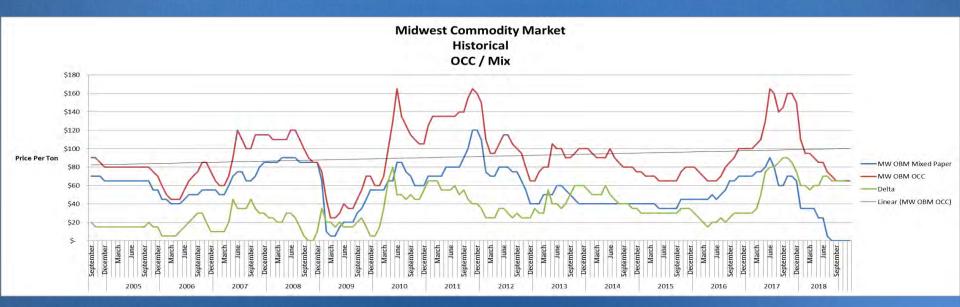


So, where do we go from here?



# Midwest Pricing Volatility







# What is Driving Pricing?

- Generation of Recycled Fiber in the US is HIGH
- E-Commerce
- Excess of Fiber
- Mill Downtime due to lack of roll stock movement
- Thousands of Tons in Warehouses
- Mills cutting off suppliers
- Yellow Sheet on OCC (Cardboard) could possibly fall \$10/ton



# 2020-2021

- 5 new paper mills in the Midwest
- 9 Dragons purchasing closed, old mill, refurb
- Making recycled pulp
- Selling it to China where there is a need



### **Mixed Paper Yellow Sheet very low**

- February 2019 Midwest Market value is \$0.00
- Unprofitable MRFs (material recovery facilities)
  - Closing doors
  - Trying to upgrade any mix that comes in to other grades
- Negative articles daily
  - Consumers losing faith in recycling
- Other mills see \$\$\$ in replacing OCC/DLK for Mixed Paper
- Other countries buying up Mixed Paper tons

# WISHFUL RECYCLING



#### **Consumers also want to "HELP"**



# **Biggest Issue...Contamination!!**

### **Contamination!!**

### Most cities understating level of contamination ✓ Its not 15% 20%

✓ More like 30% 40%

#### **Rejects From Our Papermill**





China now says..."Enough is Enough"

# So, What do we do now...

- Focus on Quality
- Tackle contamination head on
- Master Recycler Classes for your Community
- Bottom Line... Go Back To Basics
- History shows that Markets may Bounce Back

# Thank You