



PACKFORSK

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För immediate publication

PRESS INFORMATION

Sweden's first super institute for research has been created!

From the 1 January 2003, STFI (The Swedish Pulp and Paper Research Institute) and Packforsk (The Institute for Packaging and Logistics) will merge into an international centre for research and development across the whole field of pulp, paper, packaging materials, packaging and logistics. STFI and Packforsk will thus be the first step towards the fulfilment of the ambition of the Government and the industry to establish super institutes covering the Swedish applied research sector.

A changing research market makes higher demands on working methods and on the degree of service provided by both research and consultant activities. Professionalism, profiling, customer orientation and a comprehensive view will therefore be important aspects of the new organization. The new super institute will be active over the whole chain from wood fibres and other raw materials to the final user/consumer and will serve two industrial clusters which are important for Sweden – the forest products industry and the packaging industry.

“Packforsk and STFI together create good conditions for a joint global strength centre for research and development with increasing customer orientation”, says STFI’s president, Prof Thomas Johannesson.

The integration of the knowledge capital of the two institutes is the most important synergy, which as a result of the merger, will provide the customers with an interrelated range of products and services from basic research to service, consultant activities, education and conferences.

Materials technology is the common denominator – a field within which Packforsk and STFI complement each other. In the new organization, the work will be structured into business areas with directions towards:

- fibre and pulp
- new materials and composites
- packaging and logistics
- paper as information bearer
- papermaking
- pilot plants

“The new STFI/Packforsk meets the demand for an institute sector in which the aim is to increase the flow and shorten the time from research to innovations. The merger will play an important role in achieving a greater global competitiveness and a strong economic growth for Sweden”, says Anders Sörås, president of Packforsk.

“The fact that the research is now gathered together under one roof creates a very solid knowledge basis, which leads to an added value for our partner companies and customers, at the same time as our size makes it possible for us to participate in the global competition”, continues Anders Sörås.

The merger marks the creation of the first of the four super institutes that the Government through IRECO and the industry has on its list of targets to make the Swedish industrial research more efficient. In all, there are 16 research institutes which in one way or the other will merge together before 2005.

Initial position

	Packforsk – The Institute for Packaging and Logistics AB	STFI, the Swedish Pulp and Paper Research Institute AB
Number of employees, approx	50	200
Turnover 2001, ca	SEK 50 million	SEK 200 million
Location	Kista	Stockholm - KTH
President	Anders Sörås	Thomas Johannesson

Both institutes are engaged in research, contract assignments, technical service, and information and education.

Shareholders in the new company

Billerud, Holmen, Korsnäs, M-real, Stora Enso, Södra, IRECO, STFI's Association of Interested Parties, the Private Owners' Association Packforsk.

Board members of the parent company STFI, the Swedish Pulp and Paper Research Institute AB

Chairman: Claes-Göran Beckeman, SCA, Hygiene products

Deputy chairman: Bengt Nordin, Rottneros

Members appointed by the direct owners:

Karin Emilsson, Södra Cell (ordinary)

Per Lindberg, Korsnäs AB (ordinary)

Anders Snell, Billerud (ordinary)

Yngve Ståde, Stora Enso (ordinary)

Sven Wird, Holmen (ordinary)

Lars Gädda, M-Real (deputy)

Members appointed by IRECO:

Anders Flodström (ordinary)

Eva Färnstrand (ordinary)

Birgit Erngren Wohlin (deputy)

Members appointed by STFI's Association of Interested Parties:

Reima Kerttula, Metso (ordinary)

Thomas Berglin, Eka Chemicals (deputy)

Members appointed by the Private Owners' Association Packforsk:

Torbjörn Pettersson, Kappa Packaging (ordinary)

Staffan Erenmalm, ABB Ltd. (deputy)

Employee representatives

Pierre Ljungquist, SIF

Jesper Fahlén, CF

President of the new company will be Thomas Johannesson and executive vice president Anders Sörås.

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