



PROPAPER DUBAI 2026
20-22 OCT 2026
Festival Arena, Festival City, Dubai

DRAFT CONFERENCE AGENDA

THEME :

'Weathering the Geopolitical Storm; Strategies of Sustainable Growth in the GCC Paper and Packaging Industry'

DAY 1- TUESDAY, 20 OCT 2026

11:00 – RIBBON CUTTING

11:10 – 12:00 | OPENING PLENARY: 'LEGENDS & LEGACIES' SERIES

- *Opening Remarks:* H.E. Fahad Al Gergawi, Undersecretary, Ministry of Foreign Trade, UAE
- *Keynote: "Beyond Paper: Are We Still in the Paper Industry? From Paper Manufacturing to the Emerging Renewable Materials Economy" :*
AbdelRhman Obaid, GCEO, Union Paper Mills (UPM)
Branch of M.A.H.Y Khoory & Co L.L.C, UAE
- *Keynote: "Localizing Resilience: Manufacturing Capability in a Disrupted Supply Chain":* Hamad Abdulla Al Ghurair, SVP – Special Projects & Commercial, PURL by Al Ghurair, UAE
- *Closing Remarks :* Aejaz Ahmed Munshi, Secretary General – DuPAT, General Manager, Star Paper Mill, UAE

Resilience in Practice: Executive Round Table for Paper Mill CEOs @ Majlis ‘

12:00 – 13:00

Entry by invitation only

Followed by Lunch

Draft Programme, more speakers are being updated

Some speakers may be suggestive in nature, subject to confirmation



12:00 – 12:20 | SESSION 1

Keynote: Current outlook of Paper Industry in Middle East- Exploring the next horizons of growth and optimisation of resources.

- Sami Safran, Vice Chairman, MAF- Manafa Featured Trading Company, Saudi Arabia

12:20 – 12:40 | SESSION 2

Keynote: Redefining Packaging Logistics: Risk Mitigation and Supply Chain Agility

- Oliver Hoelzl, Managing Director, Alexander Global Logistics, UAE

12:40 – 13:10 | SESSION 3

- *‘Analysing key growth drivers of the Corrugated Packaging industry in Middle East’* : Kaunain Shahidi, Group Procurement Manager, ALMARAI, UAE
- *‘Optimizing Reliability: Technical Service Solutions for Starch Performance in Paper & Packaging’* : Johan Schrijver, Senior Vice President - Industrial Starch, PURL by Al Ghurair, UAE

Lunch Break

14:30- 15:30 | SESSION 4

Panel Discussion

‘A boot camp for paper recyclers: From waste to gold; leveraging recycling for sustainable growth and resource security in Gulf’.

Moderated by: Dina Mongy, Head of Corporate Affairs and Sustainability, Nestlé Coastal Arabia

Speakers

- Eman Al Madani, Manager – Responsible Business, Dubai Chambers, UAE
- Dr. Mike Cheetham, Group Chief Sustainability & Corporate Affairs Officer, HOTPACK, UAE
- Paresh Karia, Executive Director – Commercial, BEEAH, UAE
- Sharjas Muhamed, General Manager, Green Arabia, UAE

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DAY 2- WEDNESDAY, 21 OCT 2026

11:00 – 11:40 | SESSION 5

Special Panel Discussion

‘Redesigning the Future: Global Packaging Trends and the Power of Light weighting’

Session Chair: Atul Kaul, Director, Papyrus Consultants, Bahrain

Speakers

- Maroun N. El Khoury, Deputy CEO , Takamul Industries, UAE
- Rahul Khandurie, VP - UAE Business, United Paper Industries Company (UPIC), UAE

11:40- 12:10 | SESSION 6

Keynote: - The ‘Next- BIG Thing’ for Middle East - the business of Paper Sacks & Bags

Speakers

- Ehab Abohashish, MEA Sales Director, ENPI Group, UAE
- Pulkit Bhardwaj, CEO, Ecopack Packaging, UAE

12:10 – 12:50 | SESSION 7

Special Panel Discussion

‘Closing the Loop: GCC Circular Packaging’

Speakers

- Sanjay Khanna ,General Manager-Sales & Marketing , Union Paper Mills, UAE
- Urban Edman, Area Sales Manager, Heinzl Group, Austria
- Ali Motiwala, Managing Partner, Soft & Hygienic Paper Manufacturing LLC, UAE

Lunch Break

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14:30- 15:10 | SESSION 8

Panel Discussion: ‘Global landscape and local impact; Voices of Middle East Tissue Business Leaders’.

Moderator

- Aejaz Ahmed Munshi, Secretary General – DuPAT, General Manager, Star Paper Mill, UAE

Speakers

- M.R. Rajamahendiran, Chief Executive, Emirates Industrial Converting Factory (EICO), UAE
- Ali Jalal, Chief Procurement Officer, Fine Hygienic, UAE
- Andrea Tomei, Area Sales Manager, MAFLEX | Tissue Converting Machinery, Italy

15:10- 15:50 | SESSION 9

Panel Discussion: ‘Future of Mono cartons and FMCG packaging: Advancing innovation, circularity and market Expansion’.

Moderator

- Aaliyah Munshi, ESG Professional - Environmental, Social, and Governance, UAE

Speakers

- Ahmed Hesham, UAE-Sales Director, Interplastic, Qatar
- Shweta Tiwari, Strategic Growth Manager, Gulf Printing & Packaging Co L.L.C (GPP), UAE.
- Alisha Sachdeva, Senior Research Associate- Packaging Development, Himalaya Global Research Centre, UAE

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