When we formed WestRock, we recognized the importance of building a sustainable organization. This commitment is symbolized in our logo that contains five layers—one layer for each of our primary stakeholders—customers, communities, employees, suppliers and investors. We’ve been making great strides with each of these constituencies since our company was created in 2015. We are proud of our progress, and are stepping up to our ongoing responsibility to champion sustainable practices within our company, our industry and in partnerships with our customers.

Our 2016 Sustainability Report includes data and case studies demonstrating WestRock’s commitment to sustainability and how we make sustainability a key part of our long-term business strategy. As we look to the future, we remain focused on the three pillars of our sustainability platform: People, Planet and Performance. We will continue innovating with renewable and recyclable materials to create sustainable packaging solutions that deliver exceptional value for our customers. We will remain dedicated to keeping our forests healthy and productive and reducing our environmental impact wherever we can. Most importantly, we will operate our business in accordance with our core values of Integrity, Respect, Accountability and Excellence each and every day.

We’re pleased with the progress we’ve made as a team since WestRock was created, but there is much more for us to do. I am inspired by what is possible when our teams and our partners work together. I look forward to what we can accomplish together to build an even more sustainable WestRock for the benefit of our customers, communities, employees, suppliers and investors around the world.

Sincerely,

Steve Voorhees
Chief Executive Officer
Who is WestRock?

Our vision is to be the premier partner and unrivaled provider of winning solutions for our customers.

- 8 million tons of recycled fiber recovered annually
- 3,370 patents granted and pending
- 6+ billion beverage cartons produced each year
- 250+ operating and business locations
- 39,000 employees working in 30+ countries around the globe
- 40+ million corrugated containers produced each day
- ~13 million tons of mill capacity annually
- 40+ million corrugated containers produced each day
- ~13 million tons of mill capacity annually
WestRock’s sustainability platform is built on our commitment to what matters—our co-workers and communities, delivering outstanding results for our customers and investors, living by our values and protecting our environment. This platform grew organically from the things we were already doing because they are ethical and responsible, and because they advance our mission to become the industry’s premier paper and packaging solutions provider.

We then challenged ourselves to reach the next level in these areas and translated our findings into our 18 voluntary sustainability targets for 2025. The title of our report, RESPONSIBILITY TO RESULTS, sums up the way we think about sustainability at WestRock: By operating and growing our business in a fiscally, socially and environmentally responsible way, we will produce exceptional results for our stakeholders and ourselves now and into the future.

— Nina Butler, Chief Sustainability Officer
Our Goals Scorecard: 2016 Progress

Target date 2025 unless otherwise noted; baseline 2015

SAFETY
Goal: Reduce our OSHA incident rate by 25%
Progress: Reduced our OSHA incident rate by 1.3%

DIVERSITY & INCLUSION
Goal: Increase participation in our Employee Resource Groups
Progress: Completed vision statement and established new Employee Resource Groups

COMMUNITIES
Goal: Give back to the communities where we live and work
Progress: Established the WestRock Foundation

EMPLOYEE ENGAGEMENT
Goal: Increase and measure employee engagement through periodic surveys
Progress: A subset of the company completed a pulse survey with 84% participation

ETHICS
Goal: Conduct annual ethics and compliance training
Progress: Delivered Code of Conduct training to 11,000 employees

SUPPLIER DIVERSITY
Goal: Increase spend with minority-owned businesses and suppliers
Progress: Expanding our supplier diversity program

CERTIFIED FIBER
Goal: Increase purchases of certified virgin fiber by 25%
Progress: No change from baseline

CHAIN-OF-CUSTODY
Goal: Certify all our wholly owned manufacturing facilities across the globe by 2018
Progress: Certified 99% of manufacturing facilities

GREENHOUSE GAS EMISSIONS
Goal: Reduce our CO2e emissions by 20% per ton of production
Progress: 2.7% increase in CO2e emissions per ton, 2.1% decrease in CO2e total emissions

ENERGY EFFICIENCY
Goal: Increase energy efficiency of purchased fuels by 10% per ton of production
Progress: 5.1% decrease in energy efficiency per ton, 4.7% decrease in total fossil fuel use

WASTE RECYCLING
Goal: Establish waste reduction teams at our largest facilities by the end of 2018
Progress: Established waste reduction teams at 81% of our mills

WATER USE
Goal: Map the water use in our most water-intensive manufacturing operations by 2018
Progress: Completed water risk screening assessments for all of our mills

CERTIFIED LAND
Goal: Increase the amount of land certified to internationally recognized forest management standards
Progress: Certified or re-certified over 70,000 acres

FINANCIAL HEALTH
Goal: Maintain an investment grade credit rating
Progress: Maintained investment grade credit rating

SUPPLIER CONDUCT
Goal: Ensure suppliers comply with the WestRock Supplier Principles of Conduct
Progress: Created WestRock’s Supplier Principles of Conduct

CUSTOMERS
Goal: Provide outstanding customer service and measure performance through customer surveys
Progress: Surveyed nearly 4,500 customers, representing 49 countries and 10 languages

INNOVATION
Goal: Apply sustainable design principles to our product development work
Progress: Established an Innovation Council

CERTIFIED OFFICE PRODUCTS
Goal: Increase our purchases of certified office products
Progress: Implemented tracking program for purchases of certified office products