## Merchant: Quo Vadis?

1. What is your position in the organisation				
	Response Count			
	43			
answered question	43			
skipped question	1			

2. Are you a producer, merchant, printer or other please specify?				
	Response Count			
	42			
answered question	42			
skipped question	2			

3. In what region do you work?				
		Response Percent	Response Count	
Nordic		23.8%	10	
Western Europe		54.8%	23	
Central Europe		57.1%	24	
Southern Europe		31.0%	13	
Eastern Europe		35.7%	15	
Other		14.3%	6	
	Other (ple	ease specify)	5	
	answere	ed question	42	
	skippo	ed question	2	

4. What are your main responsibilities			
		Response Percent	Response Count
Sales		40.0%	14
Purchasing		28.6%	10
Finance		34.3%	12
Supply Chain		20.0%	7
Operations		17.1%	6
Other		37.1%	13
	answered question		35
	skippe	ed question	9

5. What do consider the key benefits of scale? Please sequence in order of significance and impact (1=highest impact, 6=lowest impact)								
	1	2	3	4	5	6	Rating Average	Response Count
Purchasing leverage	51.7% (15)	10.3% (3)	20.7% (6)	13.8% (4)	0.0% (0)	3.4% (1)	2.10	29
International footprint for international customers	6.3% (2)	6.3% (2)	3.1% (1)	28.1% (9)	46.9% (15)	9.4% (3)	4.31	32
Inventory synergies	3.2% (1)	25.8% (8)	29.0% (9)	19.4% (6)	22.6% (7)	0.0% (0)	3.32	31
Cost synergies	10.0% (3)	36.7% (11)	20.0%	26.7% (8)	6.7% (2)	0.0% (0)	2.83	30
Financial strength for growth and acquisition	22.9% (8)	28.6% (10)	28.6% (10)	5.7% (2)	11.4% (4)	2.9% (1)	2.63	35
Other (specify)	22.2% (2)	11.1% (1)	0.0% (0)	11.1% (1)	0.0% (0)	55.6% (5)	4.22	9
Other (please specify)				7				
	answered question				35			
skipped question				9				

6. How many sizeable merchants do you expect to be competing in Europe by 2013?			
		Response Percent	Response Count
1		0.0%	0
2		5.7%	2
3		37.1%	13
4		45.7%	16
5		11.4%	4
	answere	ed question	35
	skipp	ed question	9

7. Do you expect consolidation to have a positive impact on price?				
		Response Percent	Response Count	
Yes		68.6%	24	
No		31.4%	11	
	answere	ed question	35	
	skipp	ed question	9	

8. When do you expect to have completed integration of merger and acquisitions?			
		Response Percent	Response Count
2009		6.3%	2
2010		34.4%	11
2011		18.8%	6
2012		18.8%	6
2013		21.9%	7
	answered question		32
	skipped question		12

9. Institutional ownership of merchants adds a more commercial focus on the relationship with paper suppliers.				
		Response Percent	Response Count	
Agree		74.3%	26	
Disagree		25.7%	9	
	answered question		35	
skipped question		9		

10. Will you be present in more countries by 2013 compared with today?				
		Response Percent	Response Count	
Yes		80.0%	28	
No		20.0%	7	
	ans	wered question	35	
skipped question		9		

11. Are you considering alternative or new operating models (e.g. trading other product, providing new services, producing)?				
		Response Percent	Response Count	
Yes		93.9%	31	
No		6.1%	2	
	answered question		33	
skipped question		11		

12. Are you expecting the new operating model to make a significant impact on business results by 2013?			
		Response Percent	Response Count
Yes		82.4%	28
No		17.6%	6
	answere	ed question	34
skipped question		10	

13. Who do you consider to be the three most successful paper merchants – ranked in order?			
		Response Percent	Response Count
Name 1:		100.0%	32
Name 2:		100.0%	32
Name 3		96.9%	31
	answere	ed question	32
	skipp	ed question	12

14. At what level do you expect average EBIT margins for merchants to be in 2013?			
		Response Percent	Response Count
Below 2%		9.1%	3
2 - 4 %		51.5%	17
4 - 6 %		30.3%	10
6 -8 %		9.1%	3
Above 8 %		0.0%	0
	answere	ed question	33
	skipp	ed question	11

15. Which segment do you consider to have the brightest prospects in terms of growth by 2013?			
		Response Percent	Response Count
Office		3.2%	1
Print		9.7%	3
Packaging		74.2%	23
Other		12.9%	4
	Other (ple	ease specify)	6
	answere	ed question	31
	skipp	ed question	13

16. How significant is Eastern Europe as part of your growth plans? (1=highest, 5=lowest)			
		Response Percent	Response Count
1		30.3%	10
2		39.4%	13
3		21.2%	7
4		6.1%	2
5		3.0%	1
	answere	ed question	33
	skipp	ed question	11

17. Do you expect to have a market position in the top 2 in each market?			
		Response Percent	Response Count
Yes		71.9%	23
No		28.1%	9
	answere	ed question	32
	skippe	ed question	12

18. How has your indent business developed as % of your overall volume since 2003?			
		Response Percent	Response Count
Less		16.7%	5
Same		33.3%	10
More		50.0%	15
	answere	ed question	30
	skipp	ed question	14

19. How do you see your indent business as a % of your overall volume by 2013?			
		Response Percent	Response Count
Less		36.7%	11
Same		26.7%	8
More		36.7%	11
	answere	ed question	30
	skippe	ed question	14

20. What segment has had the most healthy development since 2003?			
		Response Percent	Response Count
Office		16.1%	5
Print		29.0%	9
Packaging		45.2%	14
Other		9.7%	3
	Other (ple	ease specify)	2
	answere	ed question	31
	skippe	ed question	13

21. How will the office segment develop by 2013?				
			Response Percent	Response Count
Grow			37.5%	12
Stable			18.8%	6
Decline			43.8%	14
		answere	ed question	32
		skippe	ed question	12

22. How will the print segment develop by 2013?			
		Response Percent	Response Count
Grow		28.1%	9
Stable		50.0%	16
Decline		21.9%	7
	answer	ed question	32
	skipp	ed question	12

23. How will the packaging segment develop by 2013?			
		Response Percent	Response Count
Grow		90.3%	28
Stable		9.7%	3
Decline		0.0%	0
	answere	ed question	31
skipped question		13	

24. How will other segments develop by 2013?			
		Response Percent	Response Count
Grow		53.6%	15
Stable		32.1%	9
Decline		14.3%	4
	Other (ple	ease specify)	9
	answere	ed question	28
	skippe	ed question	16

25. What are the main value drivers why customers buy from you –please sequence in order of customer preference (1=highest, 7=lowest)					e				
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	Rating Average	Response Count
Broad product portfolio,	33.3% (9)	22.2% (6)	22.2% (6)	3.7% (1)	14.8%	3.7% (1)	0.0%	2.56	27
Quality consistency,	10.7%	50.0% (14)	17.9% (5)	14.3% (4)	3.6% (1)	3.6% (1)	0.0%	2.61	28
Price,	32.1% (9)	17.9% (5)	21.4%	25.0% (7)	3.6% (1)	0.0%	0.0%	2.50	28
Service Levels (e.g. SC Solutions)	17.9% (5)	25.0% (7)	21.4% (6)	28.6% (8)	7.1% (2)	0.0%	0.0%	2.82	28
Financing	7.1% (2)	3.6% (1)	21.4% (6)	10.7%	32.1% (9)	21.4% (6)	3.6% (1)	4.36	28
International footprint	0.0%	7.1% (2)	7.1% (2)	7.1% (2)	17.9% (5)	50.0% (14)	10.7%	5.29	28
Other	0.0%	11.1% (1)	22.2%	11.1% (1)	11.1% (1)	11.1%	33.3% (3)	4.89	9
Other (please specify)					7				
	answered question				28				
							skipped	d question	16

26. Is your pricing to customers made with the benefit of full visibility of customer preferences and actual cost-to-serve (product, service and overhead)?				
		Response Percent	Response Count	
Not at all true		17.9%	5	
Only for major customers		14.3%	4	
Mostly true - many assumptions (customer prefs. & allocation key)		57.1%	16	
True - some assumptions (customer prefs. & allocation key)		7.1%	2	
Absolutely true		3.6%	1	
	answere	ed question	28	
	skipp	ed question	16	

27. To what extent do you have a differentiated approach to customers?				
		Response Percent	Response Count	
Equal service levels for all		11.1%	3	
Premium charge for services		25.9%	7	
Segmented approach for all prices and services		55.6%	15	
Different operating models using separate legal entity		7.4%	2	
	answere	ed question	27	
	skippo	ed question	17	

28. Do more customers represent 80% of your volume now compared with 2003 (assuming equal volume)?				
		Response Percent	Response Count	
More		33.3%	9	
Same		18.5%	5	
Less		48.1%	13	
	answere	ed question	27	
	skipp	ed question	17	

29. Will more customers account for 80% of your volume in 2013 compared with now (assuming equal volume)				
		Response Percent	Response Count	
More		25.9%	7	
Same		22.2%	6	
Less		51.9%	14	
	answere	ed question	27	
	skipp	ed question	17	

30. Are you expecting deeper partnerships with customers by 2013				
		Response Percent	Response Count	
Yes		75.0%	21	
Same		17.9%	5	
No		7.1%	2	
	answere	ed question	28	
skipped question		16		

31. Customers will consolidate further by 2013				
		Response Percent	Response Count	
Yes		100.0%	27	
Same		0.0%	0	
No		0.0%	0	
	answere	ed question	27	
	skipped question		17	

32. Customers will require increased cross country / international service by 2013				
		Response Percent	Response Count	
Yes		96.3%	26	
Same		0.0%	0	
No		3.7%	1	
	answere	ed question	27	
	skipped question		17	

33. Are you expecting customer requirements to increase by 2013				
		Response Percent	Response Count	
Yes		88.9%	24	
Same		11.1%	3	
No		0.0%	0	
	answere	ed question	27	
	skipp	ed question	17	

34. How has the number of paper suppliers you use developed since 2003?				
		Response Percent	Response Count	
Fewer		66.7%	18	
Same		18.5%	5	
More		14.8%	4	
	answere	ed question	27	
	skipp	ed question	17	

35. How will the number be in 2013 in comparison to today?				
		Response Percent	Response Count	
Fewer		74.1%	20	
Same		18.5%	5	
More		7.4%	2	
	answere	ed question	27	
skipped question		17		

36. Are you sourcing more from Asia and the Americas now than in 2003?			
		Response Percent	Response Count
Yes		50.0%	13
No		50.0%	13
	answere	ed question	26
	skippo	ed question	18

37. Will you source more from Asia and Latin America by 2013?			
		Response Percent	Response Count
Yes		85.2%	23
No		14.8%	4
answered question		27	
	skipped question		17

38. How significant do you consider the switching costs to move from 1 supplier to another? (1=very high, 5=very low)			
		Response Percent	Response Count
1		7.4%	2
2		29.6%	8
3		37.0%	10
4		18.5%	5
5		7.4%	2
	answere	ed question	27
	skipp	ed question	17

39. Does this vary by segment? If so, which has the lowest switching cost?			
		Response Percent	Response Count
Office		68.0%	17
Print		28.0%	7
Packaging		4.0%	1
Other		0.0%	0
Other (please specify)		ease specify)	1
	answere	ed question	25
	skipped question		19

40. Will you expect switching costs to fall by 2013?			
		Response Percent	Response Count
Yes		44.4%	12
No		55.6%	15
	answere	ed question	27
	skippe	ed question	17

41. Is your supplier negotiation more sensitive to price, discount, rebate and payment terms today than in 2003?			
		Response Percent	Response Count
Yes		92.6%	25
No		7.4%	2
	answere	ed question	27
skipped question		17	

42. Will your focus on price, discount, rebate and payment terms significantly increase by 2013? (1=very significantly, 5=not at all)			
		Response Percent	Response Count
1		44.4%	12
2		37.0%	10
3		14.8%	4
4		0.0%	0
5		3.7%	1
answered question		27	
skipped question		17	

43. Is there too much redundancy (e.g. inventory, sales offices, brands etc.) in the value chain between supplier and merchant?			
		Response Percent	Response Count
Yes		80.8%	21
No		19.2%	5
answered question		26	
skipped question		18	

44. Are you expecting suppliers to capture more mkt. share by direct sales?			
		Response Percent	Response Count
Yes		70.4%	19
No		29.6%	8
	answere	ed question	27
	skipp	ed question	17

45. Do you now have more SKUs / products than in 2003?			
		Response Percent	Response Count
Fewer		28.6%	8
Same		32.1%	9
More		39.3%	11
answered question		28	
	skipped question		16

46. Will you have more SKUs / products by 2013 compared with today?			
		Response Percent	Response Count
Fewer		67.9%	19
Same		32.1%	9
More		0.0%	0
	answered question		28
	skipped question		16

47. How significant do you think a broad product portfolio is to customer retention? (1=very,5=not at all)			
		Response Percent	Response Count
1		24.1%	7
2		37.9%	11
3		27.6%	8
4		10.3%	3
5		0.0%	0
	answered question		29
	skipp	ed question	15

48. Do you have a standard product portfolio across all countries (customer view)?			
		Response Percent	Response Count
Yes		55.2%	16
No		44.8%	13
answered question		29	
skipped question		15	

49. Do you have a standard product portfolio across all countries (own view)?			
		Response Percent	Response Count
Yes		31.0%	9
No		69.0%	20
	Other (ple	ease specify)	2
	answere	ed question	29
	skippo	ed question	15

50. Is a higher volume sold under your merchant own label now than in 2003?			
		Response Percent	Response Count
Yes		60.7%	17
No		39.3%	11
answered question		28	
skipped question		16	

51. Will the volume from merchant own label increase by 2013?			
		Response Percent	Response Count
Yes		82.8%	24
No		17.2%	5
	answer	ed question	29
	skipp	ed question	15

52. What segment has benefited most from merchant own labels?			
		Response Percent	Response Count
Office		53.6%	15
Print		42.9%	12
Packaging		0.0%	0
Other		3.6%	1
Other (please specify)		1	
	answere	ed question	28
	skippe	ed question	16

53. Has your marketing spend on merchant on labels increased since 2003?			
		Response Percent	Response Count
More		60.7%	17
Same		25.0%	7
Less		14.3%	4
	answere	ed question	28
skipped question		16	

54. Do you expect an increase in expenditure on marketing spend for merchant own labels by 2013?			
		Response Percent	Response Count
More		60.7%	17
Same		17.9%	5
Less		21.4%	6
	answere	ed question	28
skipped question		16	

55. Do you have full view of SKU / product profitability?			
		Response Percent	Response Count
Yes		67.9%	19
No		32.1%	9
	answere	ed question	28
	skipped question		16

56. How high are inventory turns in your company's priorities? (1=highest, 5=none)			
		Response Percent	Response Count
1		30.8%	8
2		53.8%	14
3		15.4%	4
4		0.0%	0
5		0.0%	0
	answere	ed question	26
	skippe	ed question	18

57. Are inventory turns one of your K	Pls for performance bonus		
		Response Percent	Response Count
Yes		79.2%	19
No		20.8%	5
		For whom?	4
		answered question	24
		skipped question	20

58. Have your inventory turns improved since 2003?			
		Response Percent	Response Count
Worse		3.8%	1
Same		19.2%	5
Better		69.2%	18
Significant improvement		7.7%	2
	answered question		26
	skipped question		18

59. How have your inventory write-offs improved since 2003?			
		Response Percent	Response Count
Worse		7.7%	2
Same		30.8%	8
Better		53.8%	14
Significant improvement		7.7%	2
	answere	ed question	26
	skipp	ed question	18

60. Are you presently rationalising your logistic network?			
		Response Percent	Response Count
Yes		88.5%	23
No		11.5%	3
answered question		26	
skipped question		18	

61. Will cross border deliveries from regional warehouses increase by 2013?			
		Response Percent	Response Count
Yes		88.5%	23
No		11.5%	3
	answere	ed question	26
skipped question		18	

62. How have your average drop sizes developed since 2003?				
		Response Percent	Response Count	
Smaller		53.8%	14	
Same		30.8%	8	
Larger		15.4%	4	
Significantly higher		0.0%	0	
	answere	ed question	26	
	skippe	ed question	18	

63. How do expect drop sizes to develop by 2013 in comparison to today?				
		Response Percent	Response Count	
Smaller		32.0%	8	
Same		36.0%	9	
Larger		24.0%	6	
Significantly higher		8.0%	2	
	answere	ed question	25	
skipped question		19		

64. How have your average drop distances developed since 2003?				
		Response Percent	Response Count	
Shorter		8.3%	2	
Same		66.7%	16	
Longer		25.0%	6	
answered question			24	
	skipp	ed question	20	

65. How do expect average drop distances to develop by 2013 in comparison to today?				
		Response Percent	Response Count	
Shorter		23.1%	6	
Same		46.2%	12	
Longer		30.8%	8	
	answere	ed question	26	
	skipp	ed question	18	

66. How significant is the expansion of services and advanced supply chain models (e.g. JIT) for you growth plans? (1=highly significant, 5=none)				
		Response Percent	Response Count	
1		34.6%	9	
2		50.0%	13	
3		11.5%	3	
4		0.0%	0	
5		3.8%	1	
	answere	ed question	26	
	skipp	ed question	18	

67. In which functions are you investing most? – please rank 1-7 with 1 receiving most investment									
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	Rating Average	Response Count
Outdoor sales	37.0% (10)	22.2% (6)	14.8% (4)	7.4% (2)	11.1% (3)	7.4% (2)	0.0%	2.56	27
Indoor sales	19.2% (5)	19.2% (5)	30.8% (8)	3.8% (1)	15.4% (4)	11.5% (3)	0.0%	3.12	26
Product management	0.0%	12.0% (3)	40.0% (10)	20.0%	12.0%	8.0% (2)	8.0% (2)	3.88	25
Marketing	4.5% (1)	13.6% (3)	31.8% (7)	13.6% (3)	18.2% (4)	4.5% (1)	13.6% (3)	3.95	22
Sourcing	15.4% (4)	7.7% (2)	30.8% (8)	15.4% (4)	7.7% (2)	23.1% (6)	0.0%	3.62	26
Logistics (WH & transport	18.5% (5)	37.0% (10)	14.8% (4)	14.8% (4)	7.4% (2)	7.4% (2)	0.0%	2.78	27
Admin, IT & Finance	7.4% (2)	18.5% (5)	22.2% (6)	22.2% (6)	11.1% (3)	3.7% (1)	14.8% (4)	3.81	27
Other	25.0% (1)	25.0% (1)	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	50.0% (2)	4.25	4
Other (please specify)					3				
answered question					27				
							skipped	l question	17

68. What is your average personnel churn rate for recruits of the last 5 years?				
		Response Percent	Response Count	
No idea		24.0%	6	
1-2 years		8.0%	2	
2-3 years		28.0%	7	
3-4 years		20.0%	5	
4-5 years		20.0%	5	
	answere	ed question	25	
	skippo	ed question	19	

69. How do you expect your ratio of indoor to outdoor sales to develop by 2013?				
		Response Percent	Response Count	
Lower		11.5%	3	
Same		34.6%	9	
Higher		53.8%	14	
	answere	ed question	26	
	skipp	ed question	18	

70. For which functions do you provide monetary incentives in the form of bonus?				
		Response Percent	Response Count	
Outdoor sales		92.3%	24	
Indoor sales		69.2%	18	
Product management		30.8%	8	
Marketing		30.8%	8	
Sourcing		34.6%	9	
Logistics (WH & transport		50.0%	13	
Admin, IT & Finance		34.6%	9	
Other		3.8%	1	
	Other (ple	ease specify)	2	
	answere	ed question	26	
	skippe	ed question	18	

71. What key criteria do you use for sales force incentives?				
		Response Percent	Response Count	
Volume		42.3%	11	
Gross margin		69.2%	18	
EBIT		50.0%	13	
Payment days outstanding		53.8%	14	
Other		7.7%	2	
	Other (ple	ease specify)	2	
	answere	ed question	26	
	skippe	ed question	18	

72. What % of the total compensation for your indoor sales force is variable / performance based?			
		Response Percent	Response Count
0		13.6%	3
0-10		68.2%	15
10-30		18.2%	4
30-50		0.0%	0
50-70		0.0%	0
>70		0.0%	0
	answere	ed question	22
	skipp	ed question	22

73. What % of the total compensation for your outdoor sales force is variable / performance based?			
		Response Percent	Response Count
0		0.0%	0
0-10		19.0%	4
10-30		61.9%	13
30-50		19.0%	4
50-70		0.0%	0
>70		0.0%	0
	answered question		21
	skipped question		23