



## **Business Insider**

### **Verso Corporation**

The next time you pop the top on a can of Pringles or read a copy of National Geographic, you have Miami Township-based Verso Corporation to thank. Verso makes the paper that helps create those products and hundreds more. A leading manufacturer of quality paper, packaging and pulp, Verso has seven paper mills that produce more than 3 million tons of paper products every year.

Paper mill machines that can run the length of a football field churn out pulp that becomes items like catalogs, Hallmark cards, advertisements, food labels and food packages. That packet of sweetener you tore open for your cup of coffee is most likely a Verso product.

There are about 200 employees who make their way to the Miami Township corporate headquarters every work day. The company employs about 4,400 people nationwide, operating mills in Michigan, Maryland, Maine, Minnesota and Maryland; all strategically placed in wood-rich regions of the northern United States.

Verso moved its headquarters from Memphis, Tennessee to Miami Township in 2015 after acquiring the New Page Corporation. Executives particularly like the pool of qualified job candidates.

“We liked the university and post-secondary college education system in the area,” Kenny Sawyer, senior vice president of human resources and communications, said. “Miami of Ohio has one of the best pulp and paper science programs in the world, so we like being close-by to recruit new employees.”

Verso offers prospective incoming employees competitive signing bonuses and a student loan payback program worth up to \$20,000. While recruiting for the corporate headquarters is strong, finding qualified truck drivers and tradesmen for the mills is Verso’s challenge.



-more-

“Technical jobs are always in demand. We have paper makers that make \$75,000 a year. Our average employee is 52 years old with 25 years of service, so would you rather become a barista or learn a trade and make a decent salary right out of the box,” Sawyer said.

Sawyer introduced the business community to Verso during a Dayton Area Chamber of Commerce Breakfast Briefing in March. He noted the warm welcome Verso received from the business community and made special note of the extensive bike trail system that runs through the heart of Miami Township. Verso Corporation is located at 8540 Gander Creek Drive in the Newmark Centre development.

###

***Photo: Kenny Sawyer of Verso Corporation speaks to the Dayton Area Chamber of Commerce Business Breakfast March 8, 2019. (Courtesy: Dayton Area Chamber of Commerce)***