

# Olin news

ECUSTA PAPER AND FILM GROUP

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## FORTY YEARS AGO THIS YEAR, LAND ALONGSIDE THE DAVIDSON RIVER WAS CHOSEN AS SITE FOR THE NEW ECUSTA PAPER PLANT



*(This is the first in a series of articles in Olin News highlighting the history of the industrial complex at Pisgah Forest, in commemoration of the announcement in May 1938 that the manufacturing plant would be built adjacent to the Davidson River.)*

In search of the best, founders of the former Ecusta Paper Corporation found the answer to their needs in Transylvania County.

The people of the communities, the endless expanse of forested mountains, and the inviting streams fed by those mountains, held promise that at Pisgah Forest were those qualities with which to build for the moment and for the future. The decades to follow showed the

promise fulfilled, an interweaving of resources and events, communities and industry.

Now, four decades later, the Olin Corporation businesses at Pisgah Forest are makers of products that reach markets the world over. Headquartered alongside the Davidson River are the Ecusta Paper and Film Group and its operating components, the Ecusta Paper and Film plants. Together they provide employment

for 2,800 persons at Pisgah Forest, and an annual payroll in excess of \$36,000,000.

The late Harry H. Straus, founder and first president of the Ecusta Paper Corporation, exemplified Ecusta's corporate responsibilities to the communities by directing that the new company pay Transylvania County ad valorem taxes long before the schedule for payment that had



THE ORIGINAL FOUR paper machines of the Ecusta Paper Corporation had been completed when

this photo was taken in 1939. Transylvania's largest industry, it was expanded over the years to

today's industrial complex employing some 2,800 persons with an annual payroll in excess of \$36,000,000.