



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Pat Jolley
Product Manager of Forisk's Mill Capacity Database
Forisk Consulting, LLC
770.725.8447
pjolley@forisk.com

Quarter over quarter capacity declined for pulp/paper and plywood mills in North America. Capacities for OSB mills were flat, while capacities increased for lumber and pellet mills.

WATKINSVILLE, GEORGIA – February 22, 2024 – Q1 2024 adjustments for forest product sector mill capacities are mixed. Quarterly analysis of Forisk's [North American Forest Industry Capacity Database](#) observes pulp/paper mill capacities for North America declined 3% from Q4 due to mill closures in the South, totaling 1.5 million tons of production removed. These closures represent 5.5 million tons of wood demand. Plywood manufacturing capacity declined by 0.7%, OSB capacity was stable, and pellet mill capacity increased the most at 1.4%. "In light of lower demand for pulp and paper products, the pellet industry continues to complete capital projects," notes Pat Jolley, Product Manager of Forisk's Mill Capacity Database. He explains "The Forisk Mill Database had changes to 291 mills over the quarter and 17% of those were pellet mills."

Sawmill capacity increased since Q4 2023 due to mill expansions and new builds, which offset mill closures in the West and South. "As markets remain tight, forest industry manufacturers rationalize capacity to close less efficient mills and start greenfield projects or expansions in favorable timber markets. So far in 2024, 3 new sawmills started operating in the U.S. South that will directly affect local markets, and 6 sawmills announced closures in North America," says Amanda Lang, Forisk Vice President of Client Services.

Forisk's [North American Forest Industry Capacity Database](#) ("Mill Capacity Database") compiles mill capacity for softwood and hardwood lumber, structural panels (OSB and plywood), engineered wood products, pulp, veneer, wood pellets, and chip mills by region across five North American geographies – U.S. North, U.S. South, U.S. West, Eastern Canada, and Western Canada. The underlying data, which is updated quarterly, includes mill-by-mill details for over 2,200 facilities, including location, mill type, wood use estimates, and species, with ownership and capacity data by year for 2012-2023 and estimates for 2024 and 2025. Forisk's Mill Capacity Database is available as an annual subscription or as a one-time purchase.

For more information or to subscribe to Forisk's Mill Capacity Database, contact:
Heather Clark, hsclark@forisk.com, 770.725.8447.

About Forisk Consulting: Forisk delivers forecasts and analysis of forest industry markets and timberland investments. Firms participate in Forisk's research program by subscribing to the *Forisk Research Quarterly (FRQ)*, *Forisk Wood Fiber Review*, or the North American Forest Industry Capacity Database; supporting benchmarking studies related to forest operations and mill capacities; and attending educational workshops. www.forisk.com.