

**For immediate release**

## **Koehler Group Welcomes 2022 Trainees and Students**

- **34 school leavers are beginning their training or dual work-study program within the Koehler Group**
- **CEO Kai M. Furler welcomes the new trainees and students in person**
- **Two new training programs from the start of the September 2022 training year**

**Oberkirch, Germany, 09/08/2022** – On the first day of training on September 1, CEO Kai M. Furler welcomed 30 new trainees and students in the ‘Halterhof’ in Oberkirch-Ödsbach. This year, the Koehler Group is training IT systems integration specialists, industrial managers, mechatronics engineers, machine and system operators, and paper technologists. In addition, one student started their dual work-study program in business information systems and a paper technologist began their “Studium plus” (Study plus) program, company-based training with a course of study at the Paper Center in Gernsbach. One trainee began their training to become a paper technologist at the KATZ subsidiary at the Weisenbach site and another two began their training at the Greiz site.

### **Two New Training Programs at the Company Headquarters in Oberkirch**

Training is important for Koehler, and the company takes a forward-looking and long-term approach by training up its own future specialists. The start of the new training year also sees Koehler training IT systems integration specialists in Oberkirch for the first time, as well as machine and system operators. “We are delighted that yet again this year we have been able to inspire a large number of young people to undertake training at Koehler and also that we have been able to add two new training programs. This means that we are investing in our future employees,” says Stefan Grözinger, Head of HR Development and Training and Occupational Health Management at Koehler.

### **Active Induction Days at the Start of the Training**

The trainees and trainers were able to get to know one another on two open induction days at the start of the training programs. Following the official welcome by the trainers, Kai M. Furler, CEO of the Koehler Group, personally welcomed the new trainees: “We are proud to be able to welcome all our new trainees to the Koehler family, our hope is that you will all stay at Koehler in the long term. We ask that you make the most of the demanding training program at Koehler and remain open to whatever comes your way during the program.” In addition to time spent getting to know one another, the induction days also include the necessary compulsory training sessions and team-building games and exercises to strengthen team spirit. The second day featured introductory sessions by the Works Council and the representatives for young people and trainees to familiarize the new trainees and students with the work of the Works Council and the German industrial union for Mining, Chemicals and Energy (IG-BCE). The

induction days were then rounded off on Friday afternoon with an enjoyable barbecue for the new trainees and their trainers. They are all now looking forward to the official start of the first year of training.



*Figure: The Koehler Group's trainees and dual students at the start of the 2022 training together with Kai M. Furler, CEO, Stefan Grözinger, Head of HR Development and Training, and Elke Brückner, Training Coordinator.*

*Source: Koehler Group*

## About the Koehler Group

The Koehler Group was founded in 1807 and has been family-run from that moment to the present day. The group's core business activity lies in the development and production of high-quality specialty paper. This includes—among others—thermal paper, playing card board, drinks coasters, fine paper, carbonless paper, recycled paper, decor paper, wood pulp board, sublimation papers, and also innovative specialty papers for the packaging industry since 2019. In Germany, the Koehler Group employs around 2,500 people across five production sites, with three additional sites in the USA. The group operates internationally, with an export share of 70% in 2021, and brings in an annual turnover of around 1 billion euros.

As an energy-intensive company, Koehler invests in renewable energy projects such as wind energy, hydropower, photovoltaics, and biomass with its Koehler Renewable Energy business unit. The Koehler Group has set a goal of producing more energy from renewable sources by 2030 than is required for its paper production operations.

In addition, with its Koehler Innovative Solutions business unit, Koehler is dedicated to developing new business areas outside of special paper production and energy production.

Find more information at: <https://www.koehler.com>

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