

**For immediate release**

## **SPD Minister Tiefensee Visits Koehler Paper Plant in Greiz as Part of His Summer Tour**

- **Significant reduction in CO<sub>2</sub> emissions thanks to switch from lignite to fine wood fraction as fuel**
- **Decarbonization is part of the Koehler Group's climate strategy**
- **Tiefensee impressed by Koehler's innovative capacity and entrepreneurial vision**

**Greiz, Germany, 19/08/2022**—This year's summer tour is focusing on the topic of "decarbonization and sustainability". As part of his summer tour, Wolfgang Tiefensee, Thuringia's Minister for the Economy, Science and Digital Society, visited Koehler Paper's Greiz site. During his visit, among other things, he found out about the progress of decarbonization at the Koehler site in Thuringia. Only a few weeks previously Anja Siegesmund, Thuringia Minister for the Environment, Energy and Nature Conservation, visited Koehler Paper at its Greiz site to assess the situation for herself.

### **Significant Reduction in CO<sub>2</sub> Emissions**

Koehler Paper's Greiz site will be switching its power plant from lignite dust to wood fine fraction fuel before the end of the year. As large volumes of energy are needed for paper processing and drying, the company started up its own combined heat and power plant at the site in 2010. It has a rated thermal input of 16.7 MW and generates up to 19 metric tons of steam according to demand, as well as electricity to supply the production plant. The switch to fine wood fraction fuel is part of the Koehler Group's climate strategy. Koehler has set itself the goal of producing more energy with its own renewable energy facilities from renewable sources than is required for its paper production operations by 2030. Switching from lignite to fine wood fraction will enable savings of more than 24,000 metric tons of CO<sub>2</sub> emissions per year at the Greiz site. The Koehler Group has spent a generous 6.5 million euros on the entire conversion. "By investing in the power plant conversion, the company is underlining once again that its sustainable strategy is about more than just sustainable products," says Udo Hollbach, Managing Director of Koehler Paper at the Greiz site.

**Koehler Holding SE & Co. KG**

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### More on Koehler Paper's Greiz Site and its Products

The Koehler Group currently employs approximately 122 personnel at its Greiz site. Seven employees ensure the combined heat and power plant runs seamlessly around the clock. The Greiz plant, purchased in 1998, produces high-quality recycling papers using 100% secondary fiber material. During a tour of the site, the Minister was able to get an impression of the progress of the building work and of the production process. In addition to first-class paper recycling, the plant also uses advanced color technology that allows high-grade recycled paper with an unparalleled range of colors to be produced. As a result, products manufactured in Greiz bear the “Blue Angel” and EU ecolabels among others. Wolfgang Tiefensee was impressed by Koehler’s innovative capacity and entrepreneurial vision.



**Figure:** Thuringia’s Minister for the Economy, Science and Digital Society, Wolfgang Tiefensee, was impressed by the Koehler Group’s sustainable corporate policy and the investment into Koehler Paper’s Greiz site in Thuringia. / Source: Koehler Group

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## 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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