

For immediate release

The Last Piece of the Puzzle for More Sustainable Packaging: Board Games Manufacturer Ludo Fact Opts For Koehler Paper

- Flexible packaging paper replaces plastic packaging for puzzle pieces
- »Koehler NexPlus® Seal Pure« facilitates easy switching to commonly used packaging machines
- Collaboration between Ludo Fact and Koehler Paper focuses on sustainable development

Oberkirch, 09/26/2023—Since the middle of the year, Ludo Fact has been packing its puzzle pieces in paper instead of plastic. The flexible “Koehler NexPlus® Seal Pure 40 g/m²” packaging paper from Koehler Paper is the final piece in the games manufacturer’s quest to offer its customers 100% recyclable and sustainable products, entirely free from plastics, for both games and puzzles. The card decks for the board games “CATAN” and “Halli Galli”, which were originally wrapped in cellophane, switched to flexible packaging paper from Koehler Paper back in 2022.

Sustainable Packaging Paper “Koehler NexPlus® Seal Pure” Boasts Excellent Running Properties

Like all other Koehler NexPlus® papers, “Koehler NexPlus® Seal Pure” is also heat-sealable, and its sturdiness characteristics make it ideally suited for further processing on all commercially available packaging machines. “We can produce approx. 120,000 puzzles per week—from puzzles for small children to puzzles for adults with 6000 pieces. The stability of the packaging paper from Koehler Paper enables us to pack the products at the same speed as plastic film, for example“, says Marcel Riehle, Director Of Operations at Ludo Fact, explaining the decision to switch to paper. Ludo Fact produces up to 17 million units per year for around 200 games publishing companies worldwide. The company is the first manufacturer on the market that has been able to introduce sustainable paper packaging for its products in large runs and at optimal costs.

“Koehler NexPlus® Seal Pure” can be used as secondary and primary packaging, if no additional barriers are required. “Our packaging paper is designed in such a way that it is technically very well suited for material recycling and the production of recycling paper. It also significantly reduces the carbon footprint in comparison to conventional plastic packaging. Since there is an excellent recycling stream already in place for paper, it also contributes to a sustainable circular economy,” adds Jürgen Leber, Sales Manager and Technical Customer Service for flexible packaging papers at Koehler Paper, highlighting further advantages offered by the “Koehler NexPlus® Seal Pure” packaging paper.

Sustainable packaging: Innovative paper solutions with ‘NexFlex®’ from Koehler Paper

The research and development team from Koehler Innovation & Technology worked with the experts from Koehler Paper to develop the NexFlex® product range, a unique and 100% recyclable generation of flexible

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packaging papers. The aim here is to replace plastic in packaging by using so-called barrier paper wherever possible. The range covers a broad spectrum: It includes standard coated and uncoated papers used in laminates for pouches, sachets, and other applications, making them suitable for a wide range of packaging for food and non-food products. The next generation of papers for flexible packaging are sustainable barrier papers with functional surfaces for product-specific protection (Koehler NexPlus®). The NexFlex® product family also includes papers coated on one side with good dimensional stability and high smoothness (Koehler NexCoat®), as well as uncoated paper with a natural appearance (Koehler NexPure®). Various flexible packaging papers from Koehler Paper were awarded a score of 19 out of a possible 20 points by the environmental service provider Interseroh, along with the 'Made for Recycling' seal.

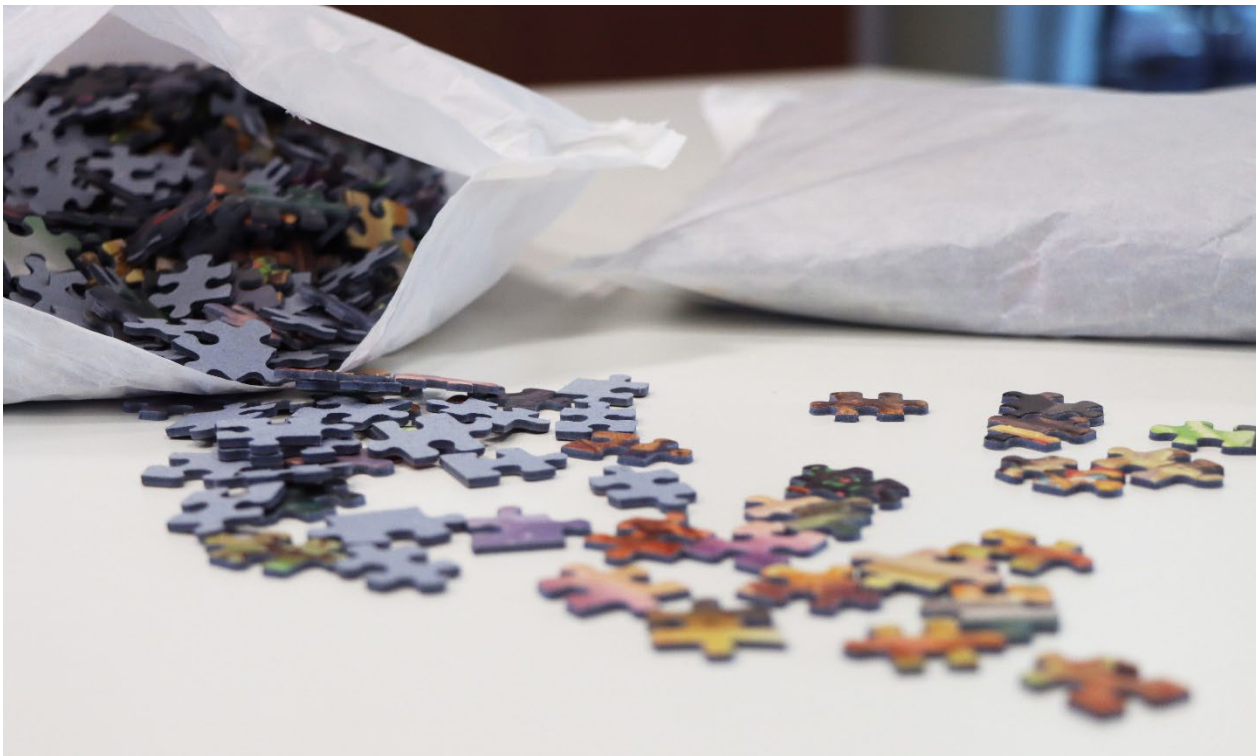


Figure: Koehler NexPlus® Seal Pure packaging paper can be used to pack puzzle pieces safely and sustainably / Source: Koehler Group

About LUDO FACT

The LUDO FACT business group is an ever-expanding medium-sized company headquartered in Jettingen-Scheppach. It employs over 900 people at eleven sites across the globe and produces more than 70,000 board games a day at its biggest site in Jettingen. Ludo Fact measures its own carbon footprint annually, identifies potential avenues to reduce it, and, since 2020, has been offsetting its CO₂ emissions as well. The “Games & Puzzles” business division includes besides LUDO FACT in KG in Jettingen-Scheppach, logistics company LUDO PACKT GmbH & Co., Höhn Display + Verpackungen GmbH in Ulm, digital printing company Friedmann Print Data Solutions, LUDO FACT USA LLC, the wooden components for board games manufacturer LUDO Ligna SRL in Romania and the joint venture O.K. Oriens Karton in the Czech Republic. For more information, please visit www.ludofact.de

More about the Koehler Group

The Koehler Group was founded in 1807 and has been family-run to this day. The Group’s core area of business is the development and production of high-quality, specialty paper, including thermal paper, playing card board, drink coasters, fine paper, carbonless paper, recycled paper, decor paper, wood pulp board, sublimation paper, and, since 2019, innovative specialty paper for the packaging industry, too. In Germany, the Koehler Group, with its around 2,500 employees, has five production sites, as well as three more in the USA. The Group operates on an international level, with an export ratio of more about 75% in 2022 and annual revenue of 1.3 billion euro.

As an energy-intensive enterprise, Koehler invests with its unit Koehler Renewable Energy in renewable energy projects such as wind energy, hydroelectric power, photovoltaics, and biomass. The Koehler Group has committed itself to producing more energy from renewable sources than is needed for paper production by 2030.

With the business unit Koehler Innovative Solutions, Koehler collaborates with start-ups to promote innovations in the core business areas of paper and renewable energy.

More information is available here: <https://www.koehler.com>

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