

For immediate release

Innovation in the non-food packaging sector: Together with Schneider Electric, Koehler Paper is introducing sustainable and flexible product packaging made of paper for the first time

- **Koehler Paper is meeting the demand for sustainable and flexible primary packaging for the non-food sector**
- **Excellent running properties on converting and packaging machines ensure a smooth transition from plastic to paper packaging**
- **'Koehler NexPlus® Seal Pure' awarded the 'Made for Recycling' seal by environmental services provider Interseroh**

Oberkirch/Germany, 04/25/2023 – Koehler Paper, part of the Koehler Group, is expanding the application area of its flexible packaging papers and is implementing sustainable and flexible paper packaging in the non-food sector for the first time. In addition to various flexible packaging papers for the food sector, with Koehler NexPlus® Seal Pure the company is offering a sustainable packaging option for products where no additional barriers are required: These include screws, electronic components and parts, processors, and LEDs—with Koehler NexPlus® Seal Pure in grammages of 35, 40, 45, 65 or 80 g/m², products are equipped with tear-resistant, sturdy, and sustainable packaging. In May 2023 Koehler Paper will present its first screw packaging at the Interpack trade fair in Düsseldorf and launch its new packaging solution.

'Koehler NexPlus® Seal Pure' enables a smooth transition to sustainable product packaging in the non-food sector

Like all other Koehler NexPlus® paper, Koehler NexPlus® Seal Pure is also heat-sealable, and its strength properties make it very well suited for further processing on all commercially available packaging machines. Brand-name manufacturers and packing companies looking to change to recyclable paper packaging often do not have to absorb significant investment costs. In many cases, all it takes to optimize, for example sealing temperatures or sealing times on existing packaging machinery, and therefore the packaging result, is adjusting a few parameters. "Together with our partner Schneider Electric, we implemented a pilot project over the last few months and put the new Koehler NexPlus® Seal Pure through its paces for the non-food sector. It is very strong yet still supple, and another standout feature is its excellent printability, for example for product illustrations or application instructions. It can also be used on existing packaging machines at high cycle frequencies," explains Christoph Wachter, the Head of flexible packaging papers at Koehler Paper, with regard to the product benefits. In addition, flexible packaging papers significantly reduce carbon footprint compared to conventional plastic packaging and achieve a positive image transfer to both the product and company brand.

Koehler Holding SE & Co. KG

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

With the NexFlex® product range, Koehler Paper has developed a unique and 100 per cent recyclable generation of flexible 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 (NexPlus®). The NexFlex® product family also includes papers coated on one side with good dimensional stability and high smoothness (NexCoat®) as well as uncoated paper with a natural appearance (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: Together with Koehler Paper, Schneider Electric has tested and launched Koehler NexPlus® Seal Pure for the non-food sector. / 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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