

**For immediate release**

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

- **Thirty-five young people start their training or dual work-study program with Koehler Group**
- **CEO Kai Furler welcomes the new trainees and students in person**
- **Training program to be enhanced with new training center in Willstätt in 2024**

**Oberkirch, Germany, 11/09/2023**—At the start of September, CEO Kai Furler welcomed 34 new trainees and students in the “Halterhof” in Oberkirch-Ödsbach to mark the first day of their training program. This year, Koehler Group will be training up electronics technicians specializing in industrial applications, industrial managers, industrial mechanics, mechatronics technicians, machine and system operators, and paper technologists. Two dual-study students also started their training programs, with one studying Commercial Informatics and the other studying for a “Bachelor of Engineering Sustainable Science and Technology”. The Sustainable Science and Technology course has been redesigned and now places even greater focus on the subject areas of bio-economy, sustainability, and digitalization. One trainee also started their training as a paper technologist at Koehler Paper’s Greiz location.

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

Training is a significant factor in Koehler’s success, and the company takes a forward-thinking and long-term approach by training up its own specialists. The training programs kicked off with two induction days to give the trainees and trainers the chance to get to know each other. After an official welcome from the training management team, Kai Furler, CEO of the Koehler Group, welcomed the new trainees in person. Stefan Grözinger, Head of Training, is pleased with the new recruits at Koehler: “It is great to see that, once again this year, we have been able to attract so many young people to train at Koehler. “We are proud to be able to welcome you to the Koehler family.” Grözinger emphasized in his welcome speech how Koehler is investing in the employees of tomorrow with its training program. In addition to time spent getting to know one another, the induction days also include the necessary compulsory training sessions plus team-building games to strengthen team spirit. The Works Council and representatives for young people and trainees also made use of the event as an opportunity to introduce themselves. At the end of the first induction day, a barbecue was held for the new trainees and their trainers, giving them the chance to mingle.

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*Figure: The Koehler Group's trainees and dual students at the start of the 2023 training program together with Kai Furler, CEO (third from the right) and the training team.*

*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 around 75% in 2022, and brings in an annual turnover of around 1.3 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.

With its Koehler Innovative Solutions division, Koehler is collaborating with start-ups to promote innovations in the core business segments “paper” and “renewable energy”.

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

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