

For immediate release

Koehler Paper Supports New Research Group seRo.inTech As a Member of the Advisory Board and a Practice Partner

- **seRo.inTech—Using innovative technologies to develop secondary raw material sources in Thuringia**
- **The initiative aims to develop high-quality secondary raw materials and identify potential for decarbonization**
- **Partnership underscores the company’s sustainable ethos**

Oberkirch, 04/11/2023—Koehler Paper’s Greiz site is supporting new research group seRo.inTech “Using innovative technologies to develop secondary raw material sources in Thuringia,” led by Prof. Ariane Ruff and Prof. Robert Wudtke, as a member of the advisory board and a practice partner. The research group aims to mobilize the materials flows for bulky waste, mixed construction waste, and used textiles by implementing targeted collection strategies. The subsequent processing aims to develop concepts and procedures for providing high-quality secondary raw materials for practical use.

Producing High-Quality Secondary Materials and Identifying Potential for Decarbonization

The research project is being worked on by the project participants, Nordhausen University of Applied Sciences (HSN), Weimar Institute of Applied Construction Research gGmbH (IAB), and the Bauhaus-Institute for Infrastructure Solutions (b.is). The project is being supported by an industrial advisory board composed of six regional and national practice partners: these are waste management service Südharzwerke Nordhausen, local administrative office Landratsamt Nordhausen, Koehler Paper Greiz, LINETECHNOLOGY GmbH, Heinz-Werner GmbH Aschara, and ReSales GmbH. By collaborating with these companies, the project aims to develop practical solutions for real-world problems. The focus here is on the use of innovative technologies. The objective is to develop high-quality secondary raw materials for use in practice and to identify potential for decarbonization.

Partnership Underscores the Company’s Sustainable Ethos

Decarbonization of the power plant by switching from lignite to fine wood fraction was an important milestone for Koehler Paper’s Greiz site. Udo Hollbach, CEO of Koehler Paper Greiz, sums up as follows: “The decarbonization of our power plant not only underscores the sustainable philosophy behind our products, but also demonstrates that we are on the right track. Becoming a member of research group seRo.inTech, both as a practice partner and on the advisory board, provides us with an important platform for exchanging ideas with other project partners about the latest secondary raw materials trends, and for expanding our sustainable alignment even further.” Recycling and recovery of recyclable materials are key issues in many sectors due to the scarcity and increasing prices of raw materials.

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Figure: In February, led by Prof. Ariane Ruff and Prof. Robert Wudtke, new research group seRo.inTech “Using innovative technologies to investigate secondary raw material sources in Thuringia” met with the members of the industrial advisory board in the council hall at Nordhausen University of Applied Sciences. The hybrid kick-off event was attended by representatives of the Thuringian Ministry for Economy, Science and Digital Society and the Thüringer Aufbaubank. Source: Nordhausen University of Applied Sciences

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, beverage coasters, fine paper, carbon-less paper, recycled paper, decor paper, wood pulp board, sublimation paper, and also innovative specialty paper 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 67% 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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