

For immediate release

Thuringian Minister-President Bodo Ramelow (Die Linke) Visits Koehler Paper at its Greiz mill

- **The energy-intensive family business has made investments in renewable energy for over ten years and is a pioneer in playing a sustainable part in Germany's energy transition**
- **Koehler Paper's Greiz mill serves as a model example for Thuringia's economy**
- **Bodo Ramelow welcomes the Koehler Group's ambitious climate strategy**

Oberkirch, 07/12/2024 – The Thuringian Minister-President, Bodo Ramelow (Die Linke), visited the Koehler Paper site in Greiz as part of his summer tour together with Holger Steiniger, Chairman of the Greiz City Council, Alexander Frieß and Leon Walter, direct candidate (Die Linke). The talks centered on the local, but also national needs of the paper manufacturer, which sells its high-quality recycled paper to the whole world from its site in Greiz. The company's climate strategy was also a subject of discussion.

Koehler Paper's Greiz mill serves as a model example for Thuringia's economy

Bodo Ramelow was enthusiastic about the sustainable corporate policy: "We need companies like Koehler that are committed and courageous. I'm pleased that Koehler has helped to boost Thuringia's status as a sustainable business location." During a tour of the site, the Minister-President was able to get an impression 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. Products made in Greiz bear the "Blue Angel" ecolabel as a result. "With your work, you are making Greiz known in the world and that makes us very proud," added Ramelow.

Bodo Ramelow Welcomes the Koehler Group's Ambitious Climate Strategy

The Thuringian Minister-President appeared to be impressed by what he saw in Greiz, declaring that the entire Koehler Group is a great example of how sustainability and profitability can go hand in hand. The family business, which employs around 2,500 people worldwide, has been investing in renewable energy for over ten years already. Converting the power plant at Koehler Paper's site in Thuringia to fine wood fraction will save more than 24,000 metric tonnes of CO₂ per year and represents another step towards achieving the goals set out in the Koehler Group's Climate Strategy.

Recycling and recovery of recyclable materials are key issues in many sectors due to the scarcity and increasing prices of raw materials. That is why the Koehler Paper site in Greiz is supporting the new research group seRo.inTech "Using innovative technologies to develop secondary raw material sources in Thuringia" as a member of the advisory board and a practice partner. "Becoming a member of research group seRo.inTech, both as a practice partner and on the advisory board, provides us with an important platform

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for exchanging ideas with other project partners about the latest secondary raw materials trends, and for expanding our sustainable alignment even further. Koehler is demonstrating in impressive fashion how even energy-intensive companies can make a major contribution to achieving climate neutrality in Germany,” says Udo Hollbach, Managing Director of the Koehler Paper site in Greiz.



Picture: The Minister President of the Free State of Thuringia Bodo Ramelow (Die Linke) visited Koehler Paper at the Greiz site as part of his summer tour. From left to right: Lars Helge-Peters, Plant Manager Koehler Paper Greiz site, Bodo Ramelow (Linke), Minister President of the Free State of Thuringia and Udo Hollbach, Managing Director Koehler Paper Greiz site. Figure: Source: Koehler Group



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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