

For immediate release

Working Safely in Tight Spaces: Koehler Paper Kicks Off Advanced Training Course Series with “SICHERWERK auf Achsen” Training Truck

- **Fall protection and confined space rescue advanced training**
- **Training truck brings hands-on real-life training directly to Koehler Paper premises in Kehl and Oberkirch**
- **Koehler Paper is always improving safety at the workplace**

Oberkirch, 04/23/2025 – MAUEL’s “SICHERWERK auf Achsen” (“SAFETY STATION on Wheels”) training truck is being used to provide training courses that simulate real-life scenarios on a regular basis between February and November 2025 at Koehler Paper’s premises in Kehl and Oberkirch. The truck – in effect a mobile training station provided by the aforementioned training service provider – will serve to provide training focusing primarily on safe work practices in confined spaces.

Training designed to prepare employees for emergencies

The training truck, a 40-metric ton truck converted into a mobile safety training station, is used to combine theoretical and practical training in a whole-day course. Participating employees will be learning both how to use fall protection equipment (fall protection PPE) and how to rescue people from containers. “The training truck is providing us with an amazing opportunity to train with our protective equipment and simulate rescues in a scenario that closely resembles real-life conditions. The goal is to prepare our employees for emergencies and make sure they will be confident in case such an emergency should ever arise,” says Lucas Riegger, lead safety engineer at the Koehler Paper Kehl site. In addition, this training will contribute to the Koehler Group’s sustainability strategy, as one of its goals is to reduce workplace accidents to zero by 2030.

Special focus will be placed on rescue practices for typical industrial facilities used in the paper industry, such as drying cylinders. These cylinders have an especially small access opening, which can entail certain hazards as soon as a person enters the confined vessel in order to perform maintenance or repair work. This is the kind of scenario for which the training course will run realistic rescue drills under professional guidance.

Greater safety in day-to-day work

This training is intended especially for employees working on paper machines and servicing and maintenance personnel. During the course of the year, a total of about 400 employees will be undergoing this training, with around half of them already having completed it. Koehler Paper knows that it can count on MAUEL to deliver, as the latter has well-established paper industry know-how and provides custom-

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tailored training offerings for operational needs. And the first two training weeks have already yielded results: To put it simply, investing in modern safety training pays for itself – all while ensuring greater safety in day-to-day work.



Figure: Koehler employees during a realistic rescue exercise from a confined space under professional guidance in the “SICHERWERK auf Achsen” training truck. Source: Koehler Group



2030 Sustainability Strategy

With this training course, the Koehler Group is helping achieve sustainable development goals in the area of “People, the Key to Success.”

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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, 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. 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 70% in 2023, and brings in an annual turnover of around 1.1 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.

With its Koehler Innovative Solutions division, the Koehler Group 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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