

**For immediate release**

## **2025 Training Year Kicks Off at the Koehler Group as 41 Young Individuals Start their Professional Journeys**

- **41 apprentices and students in dual-study programs started their journeys in twelve professions on September 1st**
- **Orientation week with welcome speeches from CEO, HR Director, and Head of Training**
- **Training rate of more than 4% – sustainability and recruitment and training for young talent on solid ground**

**Oberkirch, Germany, 09/03/2025** – 41 young individuals just started a new chapter in their lives on September 1st, 2025, with their training at the Koehler Group kicking off at the latter's German sites in Oberkirch, Kehl, Willstätt, Weisenbach, and Greiz. The kickoff event took place in Willstätt, where the new apprentices and students were given an official welcome as part of their orientation week by a number of people, including CEO Kai Furler, Corporate Director HR & Legal Department Elke Renz, and Head of HR Development and Training Simone Wölfle.

### **Twelve professions at five sites**

The new apprentices will be pursuing a large variety of career paths, including as mechatronics technicians, electronics technicians specializing in industrial applications, industrial mechanics, paper technologists, machine and system operators, print media technologists, and industrial administrators. Moreover, the range of options also includes a business administration dual-study program. And for the first time ever, a media designer will be receiving training at Koehler Group subsidiary CC Coaster – an option that will be offered every three years in the future.

Training for general technical professions will be provided at the state-of-the-art training center – the Koehler Group Campus – at the Koehler Group's Willstätt site. Meanwhile, papermaking-specific training will be imparted at the Koehler Paper Campus at the company's headquarters in Oberkirch. Both training centers are new and will ensure that young talent receives the latest in training coupled with development focused on real-life applications. Training, it is worth adding, that is not only known to be of extremely high quality, but also guaranteed in that regard by the BEST PLACE TO LEARN® seal of approval that the company received once again in the spring of this year. The seal will continue to be valid until 2028 and underscores the role played by the family business as a leading training provider.

New apprentices also saw their professional journeys take off at other Koehler Group sites: A wastewater management environmental technologist and a warehouse logistics specialist began their training in Greiz, while two paper technologists started it at Koehler Group subsidiary KATZ, in Weisenbach.

**Koehler Holding SE & Co. KG**

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### Training as a key sustainability strategy element

Training is an integral element of the Koehler Group's sustainability strategy. With 115 apprentices and dual-study program students across all training years as of this writing, the company has already exceeded its training rate target of 4% that was originally set for 2030 – unmistakable proof of the commitment that drives the Koehler Group. "At Koehler, training and apprenticeships are much more than just a way to get started with one's professional journey – they're a key element of our sustainable business strategy. Modern learning environments and a dedicated instructor team are how we create optimal conditions that ensure that our young talent gets the personal and professional development it deserves," said Elke Renz during her official welcome speech.



*Figure: On September 1st, 41 apprentices and dual students started their careers at the Koehler Group.  
Source: Koehler Group*



#### **2030 Sustainability Strategy**

*With its focus on training, the Koehler Group is helping achieve sustainability objectives 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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