

For immediate release

Koehler Group Awarded Business Medal by the State of Baden-Württemberg

- **Minister of Economic Affairs Dr. Hoffmeister-Kraut bestows honor amid festive mood**
- **Recognition for extraordinary business achievements**
- **Award presentation speech highlights innovative capacity and resolves to push transformation processes forward**

Oberkirch, Germany, 14/11/2025 – Dr. Nicole Hoffmeister-Kraut, the Minister of Economic Affairs, Labor, and Tourism of the State of Baden-Württemberg, awarded the state’s business medal for extraordinary business achievements and exceptional contributions to the economy of Baden-Württemberg to the Koehler Group at the grand Neues Schloss Baroque palace in the German city of Stuttgart.

Honoring “the best of Baden-Württemberg”

Since 1987, the Business Medal of the State of Baden-Württemberg has been presented to individuals and companies who have made extraordinary contributions to the state’s economy. In addition, this recognition is also awarded for services – within the context of business organizations, unions, workers’ representation bodies, employers’ organizations, and training and education – that help boost the state’s economy and help the community. This year, three companies and twelve individuals were presented with the medal.

During the presentation ceremony, Minister Hoffmeister-Kraut praised the aforementioned individuals and companies: “Today, we are honoring recipients who, without a shadow of a doubt, belong to best of Baden-Württemberg: Family businesses that started from humble beginnings and have become global market leaders. Courageous founders who developed new products and business models through their visionary drive and incredible passion. Companies that are simultaneously a fixture of their respective regions and players in global markets. Small and medium enterprises for which business success, social responsibility, and a lived commitment to humankind are one and the same. Dedicated unionists who have left their very own personal stamp on the collaborative labor–management relations that shape our state. Twelve individuals and three companies, all inspiring trailblazers with fascinating success stories, who serve as role examples that encourage us to take risks and give us confidence.”

Business medal confirms the Koehler Group’s innovative capacity

Minister Hoffmeister-Kraut made it clear that the spectrum of award winners was impressive proof of the diversity and breadth of Baden-Württemberg’s economic base. This will continue to grow in importance in the future, and the Koehler Group is a prime example of the characteristics that will be absolutely indispensable as things continue to change: inventiveness, quality, precision, and new ways of thinking

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combined with fresh perspectives. Frank Lendowski, CFO of the Koehler Group, received the award from the hands of Minister Hoffmeister-Kraut and had the following to say in his acceptance speech: “The Koehler Group, which is currently being headed by the family’s eight generation, stands for consistency and lived family traditions. I’m tremendously happy to accept this Business Medal on behalf of the company, as it confirms that our strategy of betting on sustainability and innovation is the right one.”

During her award presentation speech, the Minister mentioned that the Koehler Group continues to prove time and time again that companies from traditional industrial sectors that rely heavily on raw materials can be extremely innovative and play an active role in shaping transformation processes, as evidenced by the countless areas in which the company is engaged today.



Figure: Frank Lendowski, CFO of the Koehler Group, accepted the award honoring the Koehler Group with the Business Medal of the State of Baden-Württemberg from Dr. Nicole Hoffmeister-Kraut, Minister for Economic Affairs, Labor and Tourism.

Source: Uli Regenschreit

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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 2024, 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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