For immediate release

Thuringia's Environment Minister Kummer visits Koehler Paper Greiz mill as part of his summer tour

- **Parties hold discussion revolving around the current challenges at the mill**
- **Sustainability and innovation as strategic focuses**
- **What it means for the region and labor market**

Greiz, Germany 08/03/2026 - As part of his summer tour this year, Thuringia's Minister for Environment, Energy, Nature Conservation and Forestry, Tilo Kummer, visited the Koehler Paper Greiz mill for the first time. The visit highlights the special importance of the tradition-rich mill for the region and industrial value creation in Thuringia.

Parties hold discussion revolving around the current challenges at the mill

The focus of the discussions was on the current challenges that the Greiz mill must face. Speaking directly with the executive board and mill management, Minister Kummer was informed of the general economic conditions, the development of the paper markets, as well as site-specific topics and prospects for the future.

Sustainability and innovation as strategic focuses

One special focus was on the Koehler Group's sustainability strategy. The Greiz mill is actively contributing to the implementation of company-wide climate goals and relies on resource-conserving production processes as well as innovative technologies. Minister Kummer recognized the company's dedication in the field of environmental and climate protection.

Another focus of the visit was on the mill's power of innovation and continuous development. Koehler Paper is making targeted investments in new products and procedures to remain competitive in the long term, and to tap into new market potential.

What it means for the region and labor market

"The Greiz mill is an important regional employer and contributes significantly to local value creation," emphasized Minister Kummer during his visit. With its jobs and regional commitment, the mill is a key component in the local economic structure.

The company was also delighted by the visit: “We are very excited about Minister Kummer’s interest in our mill. The direct discussion about the challenges and opportunities of our industry is very important to us,” says Udo Hollbach, Managing Director of Koehler Paper Greiz mill.

The visit marked an important step in the dialog between politics and industry, highlighting the joint objective of strengthening the Greiz mill in the long term and positioning it for the future.

Picture: As part of his summer tour this year, Thuringia’s Minister Kummer visited the Koehler Paper mill in Greiz, Thuringia for the first time. From left to right: Gabriel Schwarze (Deputy Head of the Weida Forestry Office), Jonas Maximilian Gröger (Deputy Head of Department, Thüringenforst Headquarters), Corinna Geißler (Member of the Executive Board, Thüringenforst Headquarters), Alexander Schulze (Mayor of the City of Greiz), Tilo Kummer (Minister for Environment, Energy, Nature Conservation and Forestry of Thuringia), Udo Hollbach (Managing Director of Koehler Paper Greiz), Prof. Dr. Dieter Sell (Managing Director of ThEGA), Gabriel Sand (Koehler Renewable Energy), Christian Beuchel (Plant Manager of Koehler Paper Greiz), and Nicolas Christoph (Koehler Renewable Energy).
Source: Koehler Group

2030 Sustainability Strategy

The thematic focuses of sustainability and innovation during the visit are also reflected in our sustainability objectives, which are firmly anchored in our strategy up to 2030. With this strategy, we are actively advancing the sustainable further development of our mill. For more details on the current progress of our sustainability strategy, please visit https://www.koehler.com/en/sustainability.

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, carbonless 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 is committed to generating, on an annual basis, more energy from renewable sources than is required for its paper production operations by 2030.

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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