

For immediate release

National Vocational Training Week: Offenburg Employment Agency Chairwoman Visits the Koehler Group

- **National “Vocational Training Week” campaign in Germany**
- **Theresia Denzer-Urschel visits “Koehler Group Tech Campus” training center**
- **Exchange focuses on importance of training for Ortenau district economy**

Oberkirch, Germany, 03/24/2026 – The German Federal Employment Agency’s (BA) national “Vocational Training Week” campaign started on March 16 of this year. The campaign, which is running under the slogan of “Achieving More Together – Explaining Vocational Training!” this year, will continue through the 20th and has the Offenburg Employment Center as one of its participants. Theresia Denzer-Urschel, the Chairwoman of the Board at the Offenburg Employment Agency, visited the Koehler Group’s site in the German municipality of Willstätt within this context. The resulting exchange focused on the importance that vocational training holds for the economy of the Ortenau district.

Under the aforementioned slogan of “Achieving More Together – Explaining Vocational Training!”, companies and young individuals are being brought together during this “Vocational Training Week” so as to provide the latter with a good start in their careers and help businesses nurture the skilled workers they need. Against the backdrop of this campaign, Theresia Denzer-Urschel got the opportunity to get an impression of the Koehler Group’s new training center for technical professions – the Koehler Group Tech Campus. “Young people can choose from 328 different career paths with dual studies alone, and 218 of those are offered in the Ortenau district. That obviously comes with enormous variety, and among that variety, one can find paper technologist spots at Koehler Paper. It should go without saying that this by itself has already made my visit here tremendously exciting. But it’s also important to mention that apprenticeships and vocational training are and will continue to be the most important pillar when it comes to tackling skilled labor shortages and providing young people with bright prospects. In fact, you can clearly see this in the unemployment rate for unskilled workers, which is 14.2% in our region. Professional qualifications are simply the most effective way to reduce the risk of becoming unemployed, with the rate in this case being a mere 2.2%. So we’re making sure to bring attention to that fact during this year’s Vocational Training Week from March 16th through 20th. The simplest way to put it is that if you fail to provide training to young people today, you won’t have the skilled workers you need tomorrow,” Denzer-Urschel mentioned during her tour of the state-of-the-art campus.

Investing in training is the key to the skilled workers of tomorrow

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 exceed-

ed 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,” pointed out Elke Renz, the Corporate Director of HR & Legal Department at the Koehler Group, during the joint tour of the facilities.



Figure: Thrilled with the unparalleled quality of training provided by the Koehler Group: Theresia Urschel-Denzer, Chairwoman of the Board at the Offenburg Employment Agency (2nd from left), together with Sandra Schmidt, Spokeswoman for the Offenburg Employment Agency (2nd from right), during her exchange with Elke Renz, Corporate Director of HR & Legal Department at the Koehler Group (right), and Simone Wölfle, Head of Training and Continuing Education at the Koehler Group (left).

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, 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 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>

Your contact person:

Alexander M. Stöckle

Koehler Group press contact

Phone: +49 7802 81-4749

E-mail: alexander.stoeckle@koehler.com