

Press release **WEPA Group**

Arnsberg, 11 January 2024

WEPA Professional Accelerates UK Market Growth Through Acquisition of Star Tissue UK

WEPA Professional, a leading European hygiene specialist, has announced the successful acquisition of Star Tissue UK, a prominent British hygiene paper provider based in Blackburn, Lancashire. The newly acquired entity will operate under the name 'WEPA Professional UK', signaling WEPA's strategic commitment to further growth in the UK's professional hygiene market.

Andreas Krenzel, CEO Business Unit Professional of the WEPA Group, expressed enthusiasm about the acquisition, stating, 'WEPA stands for the production of high-quality tissue paper, and the UK market is strategically important for us. We are delighted to continue the impressive growth of Star Tissue with Managing Director Khalid Saifullah and his team as WEPA Professional UK.'

Under the leadership of Khalid Saifullah, who will remain as Managing Director, WEPA Professional UK aims to drive the integration process and foster continued growth. Khalid Saifullah stated, 'In WEPA Professional, we have found a partner that shares our values and stands for high-quality products and first-class customer service.'

Star Tissue has a significant market position with three state-of-the-art fully automated converting lines, a warehouse and modern office space. Thanks to the acquisition, customers will benefit from an expansion of the product portfolio and an international production network of the WEPA Group in the UK and at 12 other locations in Europe. Customers and partners can expect business as usual, with the same dedication to quality, service, and sustainability.

In conclusion, both WEPA Professional and Star Tissue UK are committed to a seamless transition, maintaining operations, and retaining the current workforce. The acquisition sets the stage for a successful collaboration, combining the strengths of both companies for the benefit of customers, employees, and the overall industry.

Press release WEPA Group

About Star Tissue:

Founded in 2003 as a family business, Star Tissue has grown to become one of the UK's leading independent manufacturers of hygiene paper products. The Blackburn site, with 130 employees, produces a wide range of high-quality tissue products, including the Sirius, Bliss, Kleenall, and Softelle brands, known for their recognition in the UK market. The Blackburn plant has a converting capacity of 27,000 tons per annum. Star Tissue featured in the London Stock Exchanges list of 1000 most dynamic and fast growing companies in 2016, and Most Inspiring Companies in Europe in 2017. In 2022, it won the HIVE Manufacturing Excellence Award.

About WEPA:

WEPA Professional is a leading hygiene specialist in Europe, offering sustainable and innovative washroom hygiene solutions. With brands like BlackSatino and Satino by WEPA, the company caters to the needs of companies and institutions in public spaces. The range includes everything that makes a hygiene experience safe and convenient: hygiene paper, intelligent dispenser systems, air fresheners and hand sanitiser solutions. WEPA Professional is part of the WEPA Group, a family business headquartered in Germany, with 13 European production sites. The UK presence includes a site in Bridgend, Wales, for the Consumer Business Unit.

Photo gallery



Khalid Saifullah, former Managing Director and shareholder of Star Tissue UK and future Managing Director of WEPA Professional UK (left), and Andreas Kregel, CEO Business Unit Professional of the WEPA Group, are looking forward to a successful collaboration.

Photo: WEPA

Press release **WEPA Group**

Contact

WEPA Hygieneprodukte GmbH

Rönkhauser Straße 26

D-59757 Arnsberg

www.wepa.eu

Group Communications

Tim Vormweg

T +49 (0) 151 1652 4742

E pr@wepa.eu

WEPA Group

The WEPA Group is a future-oriented European family business specialising in the production and distribution of sustainable hygiene paper. WEPA offers sustainable and innovative hygiene solutions that provide a safe feeling of hygiene and contribute daily to the well-being of millions of people. With more than 4,000 employees, the WEPA Group manufactures hygiene products such as toilet paper, paper towels, tissues and napkins at 13 European sites. WEPA is among the three largest European manufacturers and leading the market in the production of hygiene paper from recycled fibre. Its annual turnover is roughly 1.6 billion euros. In the Consumer business area, WEPA is a private-label specialist for European retailers. The Professional business unit with the brands BlackSatino and Satino by WEPA stands for sustainable and professional hygiene solutions which are used, for instance, in public washrooms, the industry, offices or health care facilities. The WEPA Group has its registered office in Arnsberg, North-Rhine Westphalia, Germany.