

PRESS RELEASE



WEPA GROUP ACQUIRES LUCART FRANCE SAS

Joint press release from WEPA Group and Lucart Group

March 2, 2015. In February 2015 Lucart S.p.A. and WEPA International GmbH agreed on the transfer of the ownership of 100% of Lucart France SAS shares. As of March 1, 2015 WEPA Group takes over the plant in Troyes and the consumer business related to the products manufactured in the same plant. The company's name has already been changed into WEPA Troyes SAS.

Lucart Group will continue its activity in the French market through its other French company, Novatissue sas, concentrating on the developing of the Away From Home business and on the production of recycled tissue products for the consumer market.

The motivations for the acquisition, stated Martin Krengel, CEO of WEPA Group, "are linked to the strategic goal to further strengthen WEPA's market position in the Consumer private label sector on the French market and to increase our paper production and converting capacity".

Massimo Pasquini, CEO of Lucart s.p.a., declared that the sale of Lucart France is part of a strategic project finalized to refocusing Lucart Group activities on its core business.

WEPA Group and Lucart Group are managing the relationship with all the ex-Lucart France customers with the common intent to avoid any possible inconvenience generated from the transaction.



About WEPA Troyes SAS

WEPA Troyes SAS (former Lucart France SAS) is a French company located in Troyes in the region of Champagne-Ardenne. The Troyes mill has an annual production capacity of 32,000 tons of tissue, a converting capacity of 40,000 tons and employs more than 150 people. The company is mainly dedicated to the French private label consumer business.

About WEPA Group

WEPA Group is a family-owned company, employing personnel of approximately 3,000 in eleven locations throughout Europe. Founded in 1948, WEPA produces convincing hygiene papers and offers solutions for their customers. A total amount of 640,000 tons of high quality toilet paper, kitchen rolls, handkerchiefs, facial tissues, napkins, industrial rolls and towelling paper are produced by 16 paper machines. The WEPA Group has a turnover of approximately 1 billion EUR, which represents an European market share of 8 percent in the area of hygiene papers. The products are mainly sold to the consumer sector, predominantly as Private Labels to the European retailers. For more info visit www.wepa.de

About Lucart Group

Lucart Group is an Italian Group with a production capacity of 300,000 t/y of tissue and MG paper, a turnover of 400 million euro and more than 1,200 employees in 6 plants. The group is the leader in the Italian Away From Home tissue market and in the European market of light weigh recycled MG paper. Lucart Group is also the main producer of recycled tissue products for AFH and Consumer markets in south Europe. For more info visit www.lucartgroup.com

WEPA Group
Rönkhauser Straße 26
D-59757 Arnsberg
www.wepa.de

Corporate Communication
Silvia Kerwin
Phone: +49 2932 30 71 94
email: silvia.kerwin@wepa.de