

## PRESS INFORMATION

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### **A mechanical engineering company active contributing to increased sustainability**

#### **Kiefel receives the ABB European Value Provider Award in the Sustainability category**

*Freilassing, 01.02.2022.* The commitment to sustainability of KIEFEL GmbH, a market leader for thermoforming and joining technology, continues to pay off. Automation group ABB presented Kiefel with the international European Value Provider Award in the "Sustainability" category yesterday. This recognizes the development achievement of the NATUREFORMER KFT 90 machine, on which products made from natural fibers can be formed.

"We are very pleased to be the first company to win this award in the sustainability category," emphasizes Thomas Halletz, CEO of KIEFEL GmbH, at the award ceremony in the company's own technology center. "This underlines the great innovative strength that underlies our technologies." Andrea Cassoni, Managing Director of the General Industry division at ABB, adds: "As a mechanical engineering company, Kiefel is exemplary in terms of sustainability. The technology of the KFT 90 is an example of this, because the machines can be used to produce packaging from renewable and biodegradable raw materials or plant waste - combined with the highest possible energy and resource efficiency."

In certain fields of application, the packaging can be an alternative to conventional plastic packaging. In 2020, Kiefel was the only German company to win the award from a total of four winners, back then in the "Outstanding Performance" category.

#### **Various building blocks for more sustainability**

"We have always attached great importance to the most energy-saving and resource-saving technologies in our machines. In the last two years, however, we have integrated the sustainability aspect even more into our actions," explains Cornelia Frank, Head of Sustainability at Kiefel. One result was the expansion of material processing expertise from polymers to natural fibers and the introduction of the associated new machine technology for fiber thermoforming within two years.

With the KFT 90, Kiefel was the only machine manufacturer to make it into the finalists of the renowned German Sustainability Award for Design in December. The award recognizes groundbreaking contributions to the transformation into a sustainable future and bases its criteria on the goals of the 2030 Agenda.

#### **Anchored in corporate strategy**

"The award recognizes our technology in the natural fiber sector, but Kiefel is increasingly committed to sustainability on many levels," adds Cornelia Frank, Head of Sustainability at Kiefel. That is why the company also participates in

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various initiatives to improve the recyclability of plastics, such as HolyGrail and PrintCYC. In addition, Kiefel takes part in the independent, international sustainability certification from EcoVadis and continuously optimizes activities related to products, technologies and companies.

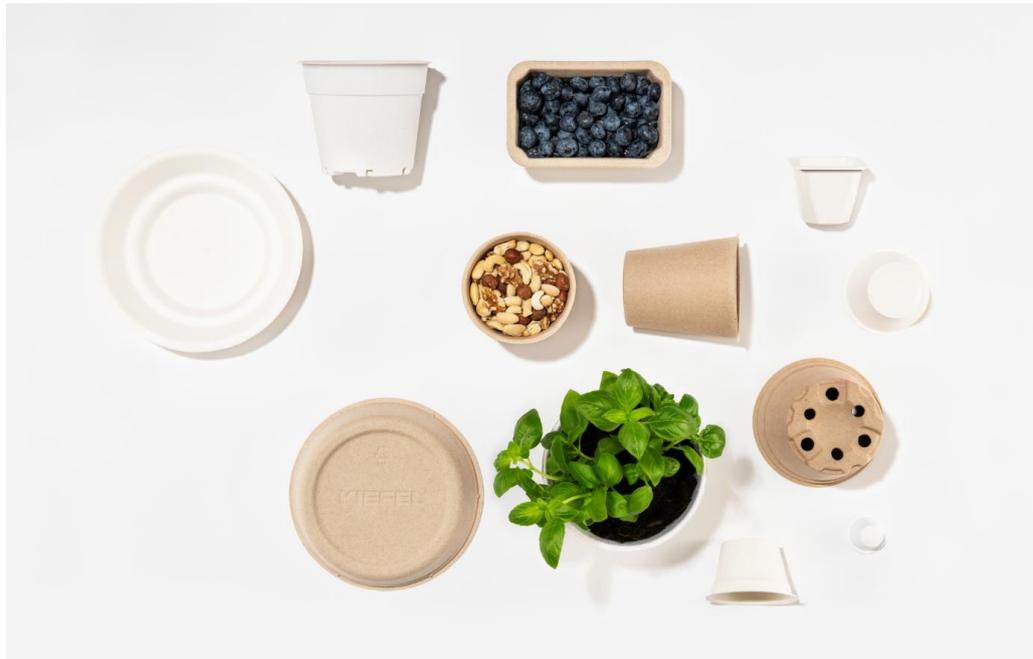


*From the left: Gabi Guter-Johansen, Local Business Manager General Industry at ABB, and Andrea Cassoni, Managing Director Business Line General Industry, hand over the Sustainability Award to Thomas Halletz, CEO of Kiefel, and Cornelia Frank, Head of Sustainability at Kiefel. © KIEFEL GmbH*



*The NATUREFORMER KFT machine series was also among the finalists for the German Sustainability Award for Design. © KIEFEL GmbH*

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*A wide variety of packaging can be produced from a wide variety of natural fibers on machines from the NATUREFORMER KFT series. © KIEFEL GmbH*

### **About KIEFEL GmbH**

*KIEFEL GmbH develops and produces high quality machines for processing plastics recycled and, bio-based materials and natural fibers. Kiefel's customers include well-known manufacturers from the medical engineering, refrigerator and packaging industries. With its own technology and material centers, the company offers turnkey solutions and provides support in partnership from product development through machines and tools to service.*

*Kiefel has a global presence thanks to our own sales and service teams in the USA, France, the Netherlands, Russia, China, and India, as well as our sales and service partners in more than 60 countries.*

*Kiefel owns the Dutch thermoform toolmaker Kiefel Packaging BV, as well as the Austrian company KIEFEL Packaging GmbH, a supplier of tools and automation solutions.*

*Kiefel and its subsidiaries employ around 1,000 staff. KIEFEL GmbH is a member of the Brückner group, based in Siegsdorf, which is a family owned group of medium-sized enterprises active in machinery and plant engineering with around 2,600 employees at 23 different locations worldwide.*

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