Press Release

# Koenig & Bauer and BIRKAN strengthen commitment to the consumables segment and introduces new printing blanket

Problem-solving competence through close cooperation between machine builder and converter

* Koenig & Bauer Banknote Solutions and BIRKAN signing a strategic partnership
* To mark the launch of the new partnership the new “MasterSECURE“ printing blanket is introduced

Lausanne, 05.10.2023
In line with the mission of supporting its customers as a full-service provider in all matters relating to the production of banknotes and high-security printing products, Koenig & Bauer Banknote Solutions is signing a strategic partnership with BIRKAN GmbH to expand its portfolio in the area of consumables and strengthen the ambition of a unique printing ecosystem for the special needs of high-security printers.

Koenig & Bauer Banknote Solutions will gradually offer its customers optimized and certified consumables.

BIRKAN GmbH, with its almost one hundred years of tradition in the manufacture and finishing of printing consumables, is characterized by its cooperation with internationally recognized suppliers. In this partnership, BIRKAN GmbH is responsible for the procurement and finishing of printing blankets as well as other consumables and advises Koenig & Bauer Banknote Solutions and its customers in the lean provision of printing blankets and other consumables.

Advantages for you as customer of Koenig & Bauer BNS:

* Qualified and certified products (for your K&B BNS machine) from a single source
* Secure supply chain and stability for production
* Problem-solving competence through close cooperation between machine builder and converter
* Strengthened responsiveness to customer requests
* All-round advice on printing technology issues

To mark the launch of the new partnership, the teams from BIRKAN and Koenig & Bauer Banknote Solutions are launching the new “MasterSECURE“ printing blanket for the Super Simultan and Super Orlof Intaglio (collector cylinder) machine classes, which was developed and extensively tested as a replacement for the predecessor product discontinued by the manufacturer.

This product is characterized by the following features and thus stands out from the predecessor product:

* consistent printing results
* excellent sheet release
* higher production stability and longer service life
* excellent print reproduction
* sustainability indicators and conformity with EU regulations (manufacturing process)

This product is now available exclusively from Koenig & Bauer Banknote Solutions. “MasterSECURE“ can be customized for any format and (if needed) equipped with tension bars.

Koenig & Bauer Banknote Solutions is committed to its customers and aims to ensure the best possible production results. The use of consumables certified by Koenig & Bauer is a contribution to stable production with comprehensive support.

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#### Photo:

Pleasure at the conclusion of the strategic partnership between Koenig & Bauer Banknote Solutions and BIRKAN GmbH (left to right): Tina Floder, Product/Process Manager Consumables Koenig & Bauer Banknote Solutions, Dominik Sterk, Manager Service Products Koenig & Bauer Banknote Solutions, Stefanie Klein, Managing Director BIRKAN GmbH, Josef Wittenberger, Managing Director Operation BIRKAN GmbH

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**About Koenig & Bauer**
Koenig & Bauer is a globally active printing press manufacturer with headquarters in Würzburg (Germany). It supplies machines and software solutions covering the entire printing, finishing and converting process, with a particular focus on packaging. Machines from Koenig & Bauer are capable of printing on practically all substrates – the portfolio ranges from banknotes to board, corrugated, film, metal and glass packaging, and includes book, display, coding, decor, magazine, advertising and newspaper printing. With a history extending back more than 200 years, Koenig & Bauer is the oldest printing press manufacturer in the world and is today at home in virtually all printing processes. Together, the group companies count a total of around 5,500 employees. Koenig & Bauer operates manufacturing plants at eleven locations in Europe, alongside a global sales and service network. The annual revenue in the 2022 financial year was around €1.2bn.

Further information can be found at [www.koenig-bauer.com](http://www.koenig-bauer.com)