

LUIGI LAZZARESCHI, CEO OF THE SOFIDEL GROUP, IS OFFICIALLY INDUCTED IN THE PAPER INTERNATIONAL HALL OF FAME, THE GLOBAL ELITE OF THE TISSUE PRODUCTION INDUSTRY

Sofidel's CEO is the first Italian to become part of the small number of big names in the global tissue production industry. An induction that rewards his efforts in pursuing sustainable development and in expanding the business of the Group.

Porcari (LU), Italy. October 5, 2018 – With a ceremony held on the evening of Thursday 4th October in Appleton, Wisconsin (US), the **CEO of Sofidel, Luigi Lazzareschi, has been inducted in the Paper International Hall of Fame (PIHF)**, the small number of big names in the global tissue production industry. **Mr. Lazzareschi is the first Italian to be tributed with this honor.**

Over the years, the Sofidel Group **went from being a national player** in the hygienic and domestic paper industry (especially known for its Regina brand) **to become a multinational with operations in 13 countries, more than 6,000 employees and net sales of EUR 1,724 million / USD 1,947 million (2017), with a production capacity of more than one million tonnes (2017).** Sofidel is now the sixth biggest industry manufacturer in the world and the second across Europe.

*"It's an honor for me to join the Paper International Hall of Fame. A tribute I am especially proud of because it comes from a panel of experts who are well aware of the challenges that the production of this material, which is so important in the everyday lives of billions of people, implies," said **Luigi Lazzareschi, CEO of Sofidel.** "I consider it a reward for all the people who over the years have supported me, first and foremost the co-founder, along with my father Giuseppe, and the current President of Sofidel, Emi Stefani".*

The Paper International Hall of Fame is an organization founded in 1992 in the United States, and has been created to raise awareness of the values, the know-how and the benefits that the paper industry contributes to people's everyday lives. Since its foundation, the PIHF has inducted **135 personalities from around the world** into the Hall of Fame.

Sofidel has made sustainability a strategic lever for development and growth, with the aim of reducing the impact its business has on the environment and of boosting the benefits it produces for society. To date, **the Group has reduced its direct emissions of CO₂ into the atmosphere** by 20.6% (measured as the reduction of carbon intensity between 2009 and 2017 per kg of paper manufactured). Moreover, **Sofidel has limited the consumption of water in its manufacturing processes** (7.1 l/kg compared to an industry benchmark of 15-25 l/kg) and **sources all the pulp it uses in production from independent suppliers that are officially certified** (FSC[®], FSC Controlled Wood, SFI[®], PEFC[™]).

On Wednesday 3rd October, **Sofidel has inaugurated in the US its first greenfield manufacturing plant overseas in Circleville, Ohio**. The plant also happens to be the Group's largest, most modern and sustainable to date.

The Sofidel Group

The Sofidel Group is one of the leading manufacturer of paper for hygienic and domestic use worldwide. Established in 1966, the Group has subsidiaries in 13 countries – Italy, Spain, the UK, France, Belgium, Germany, Sweden, Poland, Hungary, Greece, Romania, Turkey and the USA - with more than 6,000 employees, net sales of EUR €1,724 million / USD 1,947 million (2017) and a production capacity of over one million tonnes per year (1,098,000 tonnes in 2017). "Regina", its most well-known brand, is present on almost all the reference markets. Other brands include: Softis, Le Trèfle, Sopalin, Nouvelle, Thirst Pockets, KittenSoft, Nalys, Cosynel, Yumy, Soft & Easy, Volare, Onda, Lycke, Forest, Nicky, Papernet. A member of UN Global Compact and the international WWF Climate Savers program, the Sofidel Group considers sustainability a strategic factor with regards to growth and is committed to promoting socially and environmentally responsible development.

Sofidel Press Office

Hill+Knowlton Strategies

Anna Bellini – +39 335 6417883 – anna.bellini@hkstrategies.com

Daniele Rurale – + 39 346 5011546 - daniele.rurale@hkstrategies.com



Sofidel is a WWF Climate Savers member