

MORE HYGIENIC WASTE WATER AFTER 6 MONTHS: SOFIDEL PRESENTS THE RESULTS OF A PROJECT UNDERTAKEN WITH THE COMUNE OF PECCIOLI

Thanks to a pilot project to test the effective sanitising properties of Papernet Bio Tech toilet paper, the industrial tests already performed have been verified in the field.

A significant reduction in the Total Bacterial Count and concentration of Staphylococcus Aureus detected at the end of the experiment.

The project aimed at testing the sanitising properties of Papernet Bio Tech toilet paper in a real-world setting has come to an end. This innovative, biologically active paper is produced by the Sofidel Group, a world leader in hygienic and household tissue paper, and, thanks to the presence of enzymes, sanitises the plumbing, reducing blockages and unpleasant odours.

During the period of observation, **analysis demonstrated a statistically significant reduction in the Total Bacterial Count and concentration of Staphylococcus aureus.** These are the results of the testing commissioned by the company, known in Italy for the Regina brand in particular, from the University of Pisa's Chemistry and Industrial Chemistry and Biology Departments and conducted in collaboration with the Comune of Peccioli (Pisa). **The results were communicated to Ecomondo**, the international green technology expo, currently running in Rimini, where Papernet, a Sofidel Group brand in the Away from Home segment with a particular focus on offering value added in terms of hygiene and respect for the environment for bars, restaurants, hotels and communities, is in attendance with a stand (Hall B7 – Stand 144).

The data that has emerged confirms what already highlighted in previous pilot tests conducted by the SGS Institut Fresenius GmbH (DE) laboratory. **The careful selection of a mixture of spores present in Papernet Bio Tech toilet paper** – for which Sofidel is the exclusive European rights holder – makes **the degradation of the organic material more effective**, helping to minimise fouling, blockages and unpleasant odours.

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Sofidel is a WWF Climate Savers member

Sofidel supplied all of the Comune of Peccioli's families, who have for some time been involved in collaborative technological and scientific research experiences, with BioTech toilet paper free of charge throughout the experiment, lasting six months.

"This first pilot project in the field has confirmed the evidence we recorded in the industrial tests carried out," stated **Domenico Prestia**, Sofidel Marketing Manager – AFH. *"Papernet Bio Tech toilet paper, according to the figures, has enabled a consolidation of the hygiene levels for waste water throughout the comune, biologically improving the sewage with a potential reduction in maintenance costs."*

"We're particularly pleased and satisfied," stated the Mayor of Peccioli, **Renzo Macelloni**, *"to learn of the positive results from the experimental project promoted by the Sofidel Group with the aim of testing, in our Comune, the effective sanitising properties of its Papernet BioTech toilet paper. As a Council, we are therefore satisfied that we have collaborated actively in this project, which allowed our residents to benefit, during the experiment, from the positive effects that using this toilet paper has on the plumbing, sewers, septic tanks and manholes, thus making a real contribution to residents and research in the delicate field that is the environment."*

"The most important result obtained in the study commissioned by Sofidel, and conducted with the collaboration of the Comune of Peccioli, concerns the reduction in bacterial load and in Staphylococcus aureus that, according to the observations during the period analysed, can be achieved thanks to the use of Papernet Bio Tech toilet paper," stated **Prof. Annalaura Carducci** of the Biology Department and **Prof. Roger Fuoco** of the Chemistry and Industrial Chemistry Department at the University of Pisa, who effected the analysis. *"More complete and detailed results can only be obtained through a multi-seasonal study, planned on the basis of the results already obtained."*

In addition to its commitment to hygiene, **Sofidel places sustainability at the heart of its business strategy**, with relentless efforts to limit climate-changing emissions – through signing up to the international WWF Climate Savers programme – to responsibly manage water resources and to procure cellulose certified by independent third parties with forestry certification schemes.

It is precisely this issue on which **Sofidel will make its contribution at Ecomondo on Wednesday, 8 November** (2.30 p.m., Tiglio Room Hall A6) as part of the "Forests and United Nations Sustainable Development Goals. FSC® certification as a tool for achieving the SDGs" conference.



To date, 100% of the consumer products sold in Italy, the United Kingdom, Spain, France and Benelux (Belgium, the Netherlands, Luxembourg) have the FSC mark, while 100% of the cellulose procured by the Group is certified by independent third parties with forestry certification schemes such as FSC[®], FSC Controlled Wood, SFI[®] and PEFC[™].

Porcari (Lucca), 07 November 2017

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 5,500 employees, a consolidated turnover of 1,842 million Euros (2016) and a production capacity of over one million tonnes per year (1,058,000 tonnes in 2016). “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 programme, the Sofidel Group considers sustainability a strategic factor with regards to growth and is committed to promoting socially and environmentally responsible development.

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