

Press release

## **SOFIDEL IS TO START UP TWO NEW VALMET ADVANTAGE NTT 200 MACHINES IN CIRCLEVILLE (OHIO) WITHIN Q3 2018**

**The announcement was made yesterday by Sofidel CEO Luigi Lazzareschi in his speech at the Tissue Seminar during the RISI North American Conference currently under way in San Diego, USA**

Luigi Lazzareschi, CEO of Sofidel Group, announced yesterday during his opening speech at the Tissue Seminar at the RISI North American Conference currently under way in San Diego, USA, that within Q3 2018 Sofidel America - Sofidel's US subsidiary - will be starting up two new Valmet Advantage NTT 200 tissue technology machines in the plant currently under construction in Circleville (Ohio).

In his speech, the CEO briefly recalled some of the milestones in the history of the Group, and then outlined what are to be the key elements in Sofidel's growth strategy in the United States.

The Advantage NTT 200 machine produced by Valmet, leading global developer and supplier of technologies, automation and services for the pulp, paper and energy industries, is designed to manufacture both conventional tissue as well as textured paper. The technology will enable Sofidel to increase its production capacity significantly, further to enhance the quality of its product offering and also to improve its energy efficiency further still.

With a 5.5 m size, a speed of 2,000 m/min and a production capacity of 70,000 tons per annum each, the two machines will be operational at two different points in time. The first by Q1 2018. The second within Q3 of the same year.

*"With the implementation of the two new Valmet NTT machines, we will increase our production capacity in the United States significantly. This is a necessary and vital step in our growth strategy. This decision is also consistent with Sofidel's unwavering focus on the most innovative and high-performance technologies"* stated Luigi Lazzareschi, CEO of Sofidel Group.

*"Our fruitful relationship with Sofidel goes back many years and covers eleven conventional tissue machine installations. We are now excited to continue our journey together and are convinced that the Advantage*

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     #Sofidel50



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*NTT technology is the key to the future which will help Sofidel succeed in the premium market segment*  
added Jan Erikson, VP Sales, Valmet.

Porcari (LU), 5 October 2016

### **The Sofidel Group**

The Sofidel Group, a privately held company owned by the Stefani and Lazzareschi families, is a world leader in the manufacturing of paper for hygienic and domestic use. 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. With a consolidated turnover of 1,809 million Euros (2015), Sofidel is the second ranking group in Europe in terms of production capacity in the tissue sector (1,058,000 tons per annum - 2015). “Regina”, its most well-known brand, is present on almost all the reference markets. Other brands include: Softis, Le Trèfle, Sopalín, Nouvelle, Thirst Pockets, KittenSoft, Nalys, Cosynel, Yummy, Soft & Easy, Volare, Onda, Lycke, Nicky, Papernet, Heavenly Soft. 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.

### **Sofidel America**

Sofidel America is a subsidiary of the Sofidel Group. It was established in 2012 through the acquisition of the Cellynne tissue company which was founded in 1988 with three production sites in the USA – Haines City (FL), an integrated plant where the head office was based, Green Bay (WI) and Henderson (NV). The company is now active in 6 States – the original three already listed, as well as Oklahoma (Tulsa), Mississippi (Hattiesburg) and Pennsylvania (Philadelphia) where Sofidel has corporate office. The company serves both the Away-From-Home and Consumer lines of business and represents 10.3% of Sofidel's turnover (2015). A new integrated plant is currently under construction in Ohio (Circleville).

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