

SOFIDEL AMERICA RECEIVES 2020 FOREST STEWARDSHIP COUNCIL LEADERSHIP AWARD

Global tissue manufacturer recognized for its forest management, conservation efforts

Porcari, Italy (Nov. 13, 2020) – Sofidel America, the U.S. subsidiary of Sofidel Group, a global leader in the manufacturing of tissue paper for hygienic and domestic use, announced today it has been awarded the 2020 FSC® (Forest Stewardship Council) Leadership Award, which recognizes organizations that contribute toward responsible sourcing and forest management.

The award recognized Sofidel for promoting FSC® to its retail partners, estimating that more than half of its finished products sold in 2020 will carry the FSC® logo.

*“Sofidel has adopted what is commonly known as the ‘gold standard’ for responsible forest management and has actively championed the strategy with existing and new partners,” said **Derek Dafoe, vice president marketing and sales in the U.S.** “Our strategy has helped our partners provide leadership in the realm of sustainability and continues to distance Sofidel from our competitors. We are committed to a sustainability focused growth strategy that includes utilizing responsibly managed natural resources in the North American market.”*

Sofidel Group places strategic importance on **sustainability as a lever for growth and development**. The Group has set objectives to **minimize its impact on natural capital** – in line with the UN Agenda 2030 sustainability goals – and to **maximize social benefits**, with the goal of creating shared value for all stakeholders.

The Group carefully assesses its supply of raw material and monitors its suppliers on the performance of the factories producing pulp, as well as on the origin of the wood. In 2019, **100% of the cellulose purchased by Sofidel was certified by independent third parties with forest certification systems**. Sofidel has also signed the Vancouver Declaration, a pledge promoted by FSC® to work towards more sustainable forest products.

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Sofidel is a WWF Climate Savers member

*"We are proud to be recognized by such an authoritative institution like FSC for our responsible forest management system," said **Anthony Burton, quality system director in the U.S.** "This is one of the pillars of our sustainability strategy, together with energy efficiency and optimized use of water and sustainable packaging, aimed at creating increasingly efficient products with a more and more reduced environmental impact."*

This award is an added recognition of Sofidel's sustainability efforts. Recently, the Group had its **emissions reduction targets approved by the Science Based Targets initiative (SBTi) as consistent with levels required to meet the goals of the Paris Agreement.**

Specifically, Sofidel has committed to **reduce its scope 1 and scope 2 emissions by 40% per ton of paper, its scope 3 emissions from its pulping suppliers' process by 40% per ton of paper by 2030, and its remaining scope 3 GHG emissions by 24% per ton of paper by 2030 from a 2018 base year.**

The Sofidel Group

The Sofidel Group is one of the leading manufacturers of paper for hygienic and domestic use worldwide. Established in 1966, the Group has subsidiaries in 12 countries – Italy, Spain, the UK, France, Belgium, Germany, Sweden, Poland, Hungary, Greece, Romania and the USA – with more than 6,000 employees, net sales of 1,919 million Euros (2019) and a production capacity of over one million tonnes per year (1,308,000 tonnes in 2019). "Regina", its most well-known brand, is present on almost all the reference markets. Other brands include: Softis, Le Trèfle, Sopalin, Thirst Pockets, KittenSoft, Nalys, Cosynel, Lycke, Nicky, Papernet. A member of the 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 reducing its impact on natural capital and maximising social benefits, setting as objective the creation of shared added value for all stakeholders. Sofidel's greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions reduction targets to 2030 have been approved by the Science Based Targets initiative (SBTi) as consistent with reductions required to keep warming to well-below 2°C, in line with the goals of the Paris Agreement.

Sofidel America

Sofidel America is a subsidiary of the Sofidel Group, having been established in 2012 through the acquisition of the Cellynne tissue company which was founded in 1988. The company currently has six manufacturing facilities strategically located across the United States with plans for future expansion. Manufacturing facilities are located in Oklahoma (Inola), Mississippi (Hattiesburg), Ohio (Circleville), Florida (Haines City), Wisconsin (Green Bay), and Nevada (Las Vegas) with our American headquarters located in Horsham, Pennsylvania.

Forest Stewardship Council (FSC®)

Founded in 1994, FSC® is an independent, non-profit, non-governmental, international organisation, which brings together producers, converters and environmental associations. Through inspections, its purpose is to certify the compliance of forests, plantations and products derived from them with standards for responsible use of the resource. According to the latest figures for 2019, the certified forest area covers over 200 million hectares around the world, just over half of which is in Europe.

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