

## SOFIDEL ACQUIRES A NEW PRODUCTION PLANT IN THE UNITED STATES

*It is a paper mill. Acquired from ST Paper it is located in Duluth, in Minnesota. Technologically advanced, with a capacity of 65 thousand metric tons per year, it will enable the Group to immediately meet the ongoing increase in demand in the country*

**Porcari (LU), 4 January 2024 - Sofidel**, a world's leading manufacturer of paper for hygienic and domestic use, is **once again accelerating its growth path in the United States**.

**The paper manufacturing group**, best known in Italy and Europe for its Regina brand, **has acquired from ST Paper a paper mill in Duluth, in Minnesota, in the Upper Midwest**.

The plant has a production capacity of 65 thousand metric tons per year and has eighty employees.

**The technology is advanced**, and the machine, an Andritz, was started up last January and is highly efficient and fully operational.

*"This is an important acquisition, allowing us to immediately meet the growing demand, which saw a significant upturn in 2023. What we are acquiring is a **technologically advanced plant** that further improves our geographic coverage and creates the conditions to strengthen and sustain growth in what is our main market"* said **Luigi Lazzareschi, Sofidel CEO**.

The new investment comes a few months after Sofidel made an organic growth investment **to expand its integrated plant in Circleville, Ohio**. The project, which has already been launched, involves the construction of a new building to house a **new machine** (with a production capacity of 70,000 metric tons per year), which is scheduled to come into operation in the third quarter of 2025. By that time, **with 200 thousand metric tons of annual capacity, Circleville will become Sofidel's largest production site worldwide**.

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Sofidel is a WWF Climate Savers member

### **Sofidel Group**

The Sofidel Group, headquartered in Porcari (Lucca), is one of the world leaders in the production of paper for hygiene and household use. Founded in 1966, the Group operates in 13 countries – Italy, Spain, the United Kingdom, Ireland, France, Belgium, Germany, Sweden, Poland, Hungary, Greece, Romania, and the United States – with over 6,500 employees, a consolidated net turnover of 2.801 billion euros (2022), and a production capacity of over one million tons annually (1,440,000 tons in 2022). "Regina" is its most well-known brand, present in the majority of target markets. Other brands include Sopalín, Le Trèfle, Hakle, Softis, Nalys, Cosynel, KittenSoft, Lycke, Nicky, and Papernet. As a member of the Global Compact and the international WWF Climate Savers program, the Sofidel Group considers sustainability a strategic factor for growth and is committed to reducing impacts on natural capital and maximizing social benefits, aiming to create shared added value for all its stakeholders. Sofidel's greenhouse gas emissions reduction targets for 2030 have been recognized by the Science Based Targets initiative (SBTi) in line with the levels required to limit global warming well below 2°C, as stipulated in the Paris Agreement.

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