

Press release

Lenzing Aktiengesellschaft Werkstraße 2 4860 Lenzing, Austria www.lenzing.com

Phone +43 7672 701 2743

Fax +43 7672 918 2743

E-mail media@lenzing.com

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Lenzing speeds up energy transition at its site in Heiligenkreuz

- Lenzing acquires biomass power plant to supply the Burgenland lyocell plant
- Strategic investment in energy independence, site security and CO₂ reduction
- Strengthening the eco-responsible specialty fiber portfolio

Heiligenkreuz – The Lenzing Group, a world-leading provider of specialty fibers for the textile and nonwovens industries, signed a contract for the acquisition of the 43 MW biomass power plant of ENERGIE 42 Beteiligungs GmbH located in the Heiligenkreuz business park (Burgenland). The execution of the transaction is in particular subject to regulatory approvals and is expected in the second quarter of 2023. This strategic investment will significantly reduce the dependence on fossil energy at the Lenzing production site in Heiligenkreuz. Around 50 percent of the natural gas currently used can be replaced by energy from renewable sources in the future.

The Lenzing Group produces eco-responsible TENCEL™ and VEOCEL™ branded lyocell fibers as well as a variety of premium fibers such as TENCEL™ branded fibers with REFIBRA™ technology or carbon-zero TENCEL™ Lyocell fibers for the textile and nonwovens industries at Heiligenkreuz. Previously, the site was heavily dependent on natural gas with a share of renewable energy through biomass and biogasless than ten percent. The exclusive use of biomass from the nearby power plant will enable the site to reduce its CO₂ emissions associated with energy use by around 50,000 tons of CO₂ per year. Lenzing's specialty fibers contribute to significantly lower CO₂ emissions throughout the supply chain and help Lenzing's customers, especially brands and retailers, achieve their climate and sustainability goals.

"With this strategic investment, we are making an important contribution to site security and strengthening our range of eco-friendly specialty fibers. In the future, we will invest even more in sustainable energy concepts to further reduce our CO₂ emissions in line with our ambitious climate target," says Christian Skilich, Chief Pulp Officer and Chief Technology Officer of the Lenzing Group.



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In line with the Paris Agreement and the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals, Lenzing made a strategic commitment in 2019 to reduce its CO₂ emissions per ton of product by 50 percent by 2030. Lenzing also aims to achieve carbon-neutrality by 2050. The Science Based Target Initiative validated the target against scientific criteria, making Lenzing the first manufacturer of wood-based cellulosic fibers with an approved science-based target.

With the acquisition of the biomass power plant, Lenzing is accelerating the transition to renewable energies and, thus, also the achievement of its climate targets. This consistent step also opens up opportunities to develop other renewable energy sources, such as photovoltaics, to a greater extent in the future.

Photo download:

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Your contact for Public Relations:

Dominic Köfner

Vice President Corporate Communications & Public Affairs Lenzing Aktiengesellschaft Werkstraße 2, 4860 Lenzing, Austria

Phone +43 7672 701 2743

E-mail media@lenzing.com

www.lenzing.com

Daniel Winkelmeier

Communications Manager Lenzing Aktiengesellschaft Werkstraße 2, 4860 Lenzing, Austria

Phone +43 7672 701 2871

E-mail media@lenzing.com

Web www.lenzing.com



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About the Lenzing Group

The Lenzing Group stands for ecologically responsible production of specialty fibers made from the renewable raw material wood. As an innovation leader, Lenzing is a partner of global textile and nonwoven manufacturers and drives many new technological developments.

The Lenzing Group's high-quality fibers form the basis for a variety of textile applications ranging from elegant clothing to versatile denims and high-performance sports clothing. Due to their consistent high quality, their biodegradability and compostability Lenzing fibers are also highly suitable for hygiene products and agricultural applications.

The business model of the Lenzing Group goes far beyond that of a traditional fiber producer. Together with its customers and partners, Lenzing develops innovative products along the value chain, creating added value for consumers. The Lenzing Group strives for the efficient utilization and processing of all raw materials and offers solutions to help redirect the textile sector towards a closed-loop economy. In order to reduce the speed of global warming and to accomplish the targets of the Paris Climate Agreement and the "Green Deal" of the EU Commission, Lenzing has a clear vision: namely to make a zero-carbon future come true.

Key Facts & Figures Lenzing Group 2022

Revenue: EUR 2.57 bn

Nominal capacity (fibers): 1,145,000 tonnes Number of employees (headcount): 8,301

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