

Sustainability

Products People New solvent-free laminating system 4
Sustainable packaging 6
Swiss printing inks 7
Wipf Autumn Festival 8





#### **Dear customers**

Welcome to the latest edition of our customer magazine Flash. As we enter 2025, we can look back with pride and confidence on a year full of change, development and shared successes.

As the Wipf Group, we are particularly delighted to have received a significant award: Gold status in the Best Managed Companies programme confirms that we have been operating at the highest level for years – strategically, innovatively and responsibly. This recognition fills us with joy and motivates us to continue consistently on the path we have chosen – with long-term thinking and entrepreneurial foresight.

Our strength lies in the interplay between technological progress and active responsibility. With the further expansion of our photovoltaic system, we are sending a strong signal for energy independence, sustainability and  ${\rm CO_2}$  reduction. At the same time, we are investing in state-of-the-art manufacturing technologies, such as our new 5-axis milling machine, which ensures maximum precision and flexibility in the production of complex injection moulding tools. This enables us to create the ideal conditions for customer-specific, efficient packaging solutions – "Swiss-made" and ready for international markets.

But it is not only internal processes that count. We also work with our partners to develop future-oriented solutions. One example of this is the innovative mono-PP stand-up pouch for wet food, which we have developed with Landguth – recyclable, gentle on the product and functional down to the last detail. The project impressively demonstrates that sustainability, product protection and efficiency can go hand in hand.

We also face regulatory challenges. The new Swiss Printing Ink Ordinance brings more responsibility, but also more clarity. For us, this means the highest standards in quality and documentation – and active engagement in the industry for practical implementation. In this way, we are working together to strengthen trust along the entire supply chain.

In this issue, you will find exciting insights into our work – innovative, collaborative and forward-looking.

I hope you enjoy reading it. Yours sincerely,

Oliver Fankhauser CEO

## **SHORT NEWS**







#### Wipf Group awarded gold!

The Wipf Group was awarded gold status in the Best Managed Companies
Programme 2025, once again ranking among Switzerland's best-managed companies.

The award is presented annually by Deloitte in collaboration with SIX Swiss Exchange, Julius Bär and the University of St. Gallen. It recognises medium-sized companies that excel in strategy, innovation, corporate culture, governance and finance.

Gold status is a special milestone that is only awarded to companies that have consistently performed at the highest level for at least four years.

Wipf AG has also contributed significantly to this success. As an integral part of the Group, it actively shares the common focus on quality, responsibility and the future.

## Wipf AG relies on solar power

Since 2021, Wipf has been consistently investing in the expansion of its photovoltaic system – with measurable success. With the latest expansion, the system now comprises a total of 1,613 solar modules and achieves an impressive output of 651 kWp.

The third expansion stage, which went into operation in the 2024/25 financial year, has been a resounding success: 546 MWh were produced – a new record! This means that Wipf now covers around 10% of its total electricity consumption with its own sustainable solar energy.

Continuous investment in renewable energy sources is part of the company's long-term sustainability strategy. Producing your own energy makes you less dependent on external electricity suppliers, protects the climate and significantly reduces your carbon footprint. The electricity generated from solar energy flows directly into the company's own grid, where it is used efficiently - another milestone on the road to a resource-efficient, sustainable energy supply. For Wipf, one thing is certain: sustainable action is not a project - it is a conviction. And that is precisely what makes the difference.

# New milling machine: greater precision and flexibility

We have expanded our machine park with the high-precision 5-axis Mikron Mill S 600 U G milling machine.

With its 10-fold pallet changer and a tool magazine for 168 tools, the system offers maximum productivity and flexibility. The powerful spindle with 42,000 rpm enables the machining of even the most demanding materials with the highest precision.

A particular highlight is the internal tool cooling with up to 80 bar, which guarantees optimum chip removal and extended tool life. In addition to milling work, the machine can also perform grinding processes – for perfect surfaces and the highest demands on component quality.

With this investment, we are focusing on state-of-the-art manufacturing technology in order to respond even more efficiently and flexibly to customer requirements. The Mikron Mill S 600 U G stands for innovation and quality – ready for your demanding projects!

## **NEW SOLVENT-FREE LAMINATING SYSTEM**

### A significant milestone on our path to decarbonisation



Since mid-February 2025, Wipf AG has taken another major step forward in the field of sustainable packaging: with the commissioning of our new solvent-free M08 triplex laminating machine, we are sending a powerful signal for innovation, quality and climate protection.

This state-of-the-art facility is not just a technical upgrade – it is a symbol of the change we are actively shaping. At a time when ecological responsibility is becoming increasingly important, the M08 enables us to create complex packaging solutions even more efficiently and in a more environmentally friendly manner. The ability to laminate solvent-free 3-ply laminates (known as triplex laminates) in a single step opens up additional perspectives – both in production and in product development.

This is not just about process or technical innovation, but above all about our next contribution to the decarbonisation of the packaging industry. The M08 symbolises our commitment to actively reducing emissions and sustainably reducing the ecological footprint of our products through concrete investments in forward-looking technologies and equipment.

#### A TECHNOLOGICAL QUANTUM LEAP

The M08 is a special laminating machine – the first of its kind in our production facility: a second-generation triplex 1Shot laminating machine. Supplied by renowned manufacturer Nordmeccanica, it combines state-of-the-art technology with high energy efficiency. Unlike previous machines,

the M08 makes it possible for the first time to produce solvent-free three-layer laminates (triplex laminates) in a single step – a milestone in laminating technology.

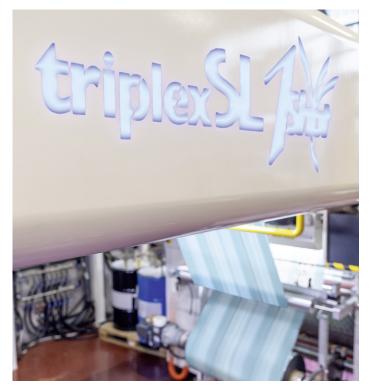
This new technology replaces several production runs in lamination with just one, which not only conserves resources but also shortens production times. In addition to classic two-layer laminates, we can now respond to our customers' increasing demands for more complex and environmentally friendly packaging solutions without compromising on quality or functionality.

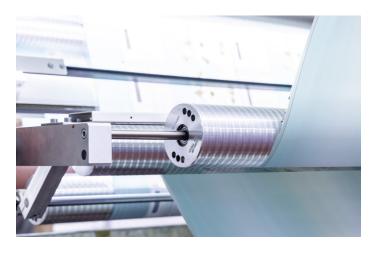


#### SOLVENT-FREE - BUT HIGH-PERFORMANCE

In combination with newly developed solvent-free adhesives, the M08 delivers laminates that will set new standards in terms of performance and further processing. For example, products for sensitive contents such as food or pharmaceutical applications can be packaged even more sustainably and securely – without the use of solvents.

By avoiding the use of solvents, we are making a significant contribution to reducing  $\rm CO_2$  emissions. This means that every roll produced pays off twice: for our customers and for the climate.





#### **TEAM SPIRIT AND TECHNICAL SUCCESS**

Behind every new technology are the people who bring it to life. Our dedicated team at M08 has already successfully started production and is mastering the challenging technology with flying colours. The first series productions went smoothly, and the resulting triplex laminates meet the highest quality standards.

We would like to thank the entire team for the successful start and wish them continued success – as well as enjoyment of this groundbreaking technology, which not only complements our portfolio of solvent-free packaging solutions, but will also revolutionise it in the long term.

## **TRADE FAIR DATES 25/26**

Find out about our innovations in the field of sustainable bags at these trade fairs:



Global Pack 10–12 Novembre 2025, Athens



International Coffee and Chocolate Exhibition 02–06 Decembre 2025, Riyadh



Specialty Coffee Expo 10–12 April 2026, San Diego



Interpack Processing & Packaging 07–13 May 2026, Düsseldorf



World of Coffee 25–27 June 2026, Brussels

## SUSTAINABLE PACKAGING

## Project by Landguth and Wipf AG



In a forward-looking joint project, Landguth and Wipf AG have developed an innovative packaging solution for wet dog food: a Retortable, ultrasonically sealed mono-PP stand-up pouch with a Viewing window – specially tailored to the requirements of the pet food segment.

#### WET DOG FOOD

Until now, wet food products have mostly been packaged in cans, trays or aluminium laminate bags, which require high temperatures of around 130 °C for sterilisation. Together, Wipf and Landguth have succeeded in implementing an alternative solution: the food is sterilised at gentler temperatures without compromising quality in terms of shelf life or product safety. The newly developed mono-PP laminate with a ceramic barrier ensures excellent oxygen and water vapour barrier properties, enabling a long shelf life even without aluminium.

#### **ULTRASONIC TECHNOLOGY**

A key element of the innovation is the bag manufacturing process at Wipf AG. A modern Bag making line is used here, on which the bags are sealed using Ultrasonic sealing. The advantage: the sealing process is short and only generates heat in the sealing area. This prevents the mono-PP laminate from shrinking – a typical challenge with conventional thermal sealing – and the bags retain their excellent flatness. The result is stand-up pouches that can be easily destacked on packaging lines and efficiently filled and further processed.

#### **BAGS WITH WINDOWS**

The process also benefits from ultrasonic technology in the final packaging stage: Landguth seals the bag precisely and without distortion in the Top seal, which is not only visually appealing but also functional – especially for bags with windows.

#### MONO-PP

An additional advantage is that the bags are recyclable and generate almost 40 % less  $\mathrm{CO}_2$  than alternative 300 g bags with a conventional material structure. This solution therefore offers a clear ecological advantage over traditional bags containing aluminium. The window also allows for attractive product presentation.

The project proves that sustainability and product protection are not mutually exclusive in the pet food sector.

The first product from a brand manufacturer using this innovative bag will be launched on the European market before the end of this year – another milestone for responsible packaging solutions.



## SWISS PRINTING INKS

## Wipf on the revised regulation

Since the beginning of 2024, a stricter printing ink regulation for food contact materials has been in force in Switzerland.

The Commodities Ordinance has been supplemented by the new Annex 15 "Declaration of Conformity for Printing Inks". Article 35a stipulates for the first time a binding declaration requirement for printing inks, which applies to all stages of production with the exception of retail. The aim is to improve consumer protection and increase legal certainty along the entire supply chain. The transition period ends on 1 February 2026.

Only substances listed in Annexes 2 and 10 of the Regulation may be used. Substances not listed are only permitted if their migration into food is less than 0.01 mg/kg. Cancerogenic, mutagenic and reprotoxic substances (CMR) are prohibited for intentionally added and non-listed substances (zero tolerance). Non-intentionally added substances (NIAS) must undergo a careful risk assessment. As a leading Swiss packaging converter, Wipf AG closely follows these legal requirements. Using modern gravure and digital printing technology, Wipf produces high-quality packaging and supports customers in material testing and the preparation of the necessary declarations of conformity.

In autumn 2024, the Federal Food Safety and Veterinary Office (FSVO) published an FAQ on the regulation on its website. In addition, the Swiss Packaging Institute (SVI) worked with the industry to develop practical guidelines to support market participants in implementing the regulation. Wipf has been actively involved in this working group.



For Wipf, the stricter printing ink regulations mean careful and comprehensive testing and documentation of all raw materials, the use of only approved substances, and strict control of the migration of non-listed substances. Thanks to close cooperation with authorities, suppliers and other partners, Wipf ensures that our packaging meets the highest standards, not only in technical terms but also in terms of regulatory compliance.



Charlotta Jung Regulatory Affairs und Compliance



## **AUTUMN FESTIVAL 2025**



Despite the rain, our autumn festival on 26 September 2025 was a resounding success and a pleasure for everyone involved. Employees of Wipf AG and Michel Werkzeugbau AG, as well as retirees, gathered on our company premises to spend a pleasant evening together.

The food trucks provided culinary delights: delicious burgers and fine Thai specialities offered some-

thing for every taste.







The event was rounded off with delicious cocktails prepared by our colleagues at Michel Werkzeugbau AG, which were very well received.

A particular highlight was the presentation of our values, which included two films we

A particular highlight was the presentation of our values, which included two films we made ourselves to represent passion and entrepreneurship, and a humorous presentation on reliability, which brought our corporate culture to life in an inspiring way.



# **WE ARE** the new...



Trainees above, from left to right: Dein Durmisi, Blenard Hoxha, Gjon Lecaj, Adam Miljkovic, Beisa Kurteshi Trainees below, from left to right: Sipan Anez, Lorena Ferrarini, Fatlind Velijaj, Joelle Alborn, Yafed Tesfay, Lason Dauti

## **WELCOME**

## to Wipf AG

- Lorena Ferrarini, Business Administrator EFZ
- Beisa Kurteshi, Business Administrator EFZ
- Joelle Alborn, Polygraph EFZ
- Lason Dauti, Packaging Printer EFZ
- Sipan Anez, Packaging Printer EFZ
- Fatlind Velijaj, Packaging Printer EFZ
- Blenard Hoxha, Plant Operator EFZ
- Dein Durmisi, Plant Operator EFZ
- Gjon Lecaj, Plant Operator EFZ
- Yafed Tesfay, Plant Operator EFZ
- Adam Miljkovic, Plant Operator EFZ

At the start of the new apprenticeship year, we welcome eleven new apprentices to Wipf AG. Full of enthusiasm, curiosity and fresh energy, they are embarking on their professional future. We are delighted to accompany them on this important journey and support them in four exciting and varied apprenticeships. We are currently training 25 apprentices at Wipf AG and three at Michel Werkzeugbau AG in a range of exciting professions. This year, for the first time, we are also training a polygraph EFZ.

Each of these professions offers varied tasks and excellent prospects for personal and professional development. We are convinced that our apprentices at Wipf not only gain technical knowledge, but also accumulate valuable experience that will accompany them in their future.

Those who train at Wipf benefit from more than just expertise:

- √ 6 weeks of holiday per academic year
- ✓ Bonus for good performance
- Coverage of costs for teaching materials & participation in laptop
- ✓ The annual apprentice outing a hit every year

This year: crisps, virtual reality and team spirit
This year's trip was all about enjoyment, technology and community: it started with a visit to Zweifel Chips – including a look behind the scenes and, of course, lots of delicious snacks. This was followed by a real highlight: action in the virtual reality arena! Whether exciting games or tricky challenges – teamwork was required here, and fun was guaranteed.

With curiosity, motivation and lots of potential, our learners are now embarking on a new phase in their lives. We are delighted to accompany them on this journey and wish them all a successful start, many successes and, above all, enjoyment in what they do. Welcome to the Wipf team – together we can make the future a reality!

## **WE AT WIPF**

## are committed to...



#### **CIRCUS MONTI**

For decades, Circus Monti has been thrilling audiences with its imagination, precision and humanity – values that are also important to Wipf. That is why we are once again sponsoring the new 2025 tour. What's particularly nice is that our packaging accompanies the popular Willisauer Ringli biscuits from HUG AG in the circus cafés.

A strong symbol of Swiss culture that combines tradition, innovation and community. And a commitment from Wipf that shows how important it is to us to support such projects.

#### **PUMPTRACK VOLKETSWIL**

Whether on a bike, scooter or skateboard, the pump track in Volketswil gets everyone moving. As a sponsor, we are delighted to support this place full of energy, community spirit and fun. For young and old, for action and socialising, everything here revolves around fun and exercise.

The facility is more than just a sports ground – it is a meeting place full of dynamism, joie de vivre and community. It's great to be part of this project!



#### **VOLTIGE FUN TOURNAMENT**

On 25 October 2025, the Gmeiwerch riding hall in Turbenthal was transformed into a stage full of energy, creativity and elegance. Wearing make-up and imaginative costumes, young talents presented impressive vaulting performances on horseback – a harmonious combination of sport, acrobatics and art.

Wipf AG was delighted to sponsor this fantastic event and thus contribute to promoting young talent.

In addition to these projects, we are also involved in numerous other initiatives that strengthen social cohesion and enrich people's lives. We support them not only because we believe in their value, but also because they are close to our hearts – and because we deliberately only sponsor local projects that are relevant to our employees.

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