Press release

For immediate release

Fiberdom and Kiefel form partnership to accelerate fiber-based packaging innovation with advanced dry forming technology

As packaging regulations become increasingly stringent, the new strategic partnership aims to accelerate the shift toward sustainable alternatives by expanding the scope of fiber-based solutions available to manufacturers and converters. The collaboration will unlock scalable, cost-effective applications that deliver high performance and functionality while ensuring full compliance with evolving environmental standards.

VANTAA, Finland (September 18th, 2025) Fiberdom, a pioneer in wood fiber material innovation, is entering a strategic partnership with Kiefel, a global leader in packaging machinery and molding technology, to accelerate the development and commercialization of fiber-based, fully recyclable, and home compostable packaging. The collaboration combines Fiberdom's breakthrough Duranova™ material with Kiefel's advanced dry fiber forming technology to deliver high-performance packaging solutions that can be manufactured cost-effectively with streamlined, resource-efficient processes.

Fiberdom's patented technology transforms FSC-certified pulp and paperboard into a durable, moldable, and fully plastic-free material, Duranova™. Already commercially proven, the material is used in 100% plastic-free, home-compostable single-use cutlery available through leading retailers and B2B wholesalers in Finland. The partnership builds on Fiberdom's market entry with the single-use cutlery and sets the stage for expanding Duranova™'s application to new packaging formats and new markets.

The partnership will initially focus on solutions that are ideally suited to dry forming technology, requiring high material strength and formability in 3D structures, as well as low weight and material efficiency. For example, certified home compostable beverage cup lids, margarine container lids, and single-use cutlery. Several market-ready applications are already possible, with final testing and fine-tuning currently underway in Kiefel's laboratories. Here, through R&D, the scope of the technology is also being explored to identify additional applications to replace non-essential plastics with fiber-based alternatives.

"The partnership with Kiefel is a strong endorsement of our material technology and shows we're ready to scale up with major partners taking on the critical sustainability challenges the packaging sector faces today," says **Tomi Järvenpää**, General Manager of Fiberdom. *"Lots of products on the market talk about compostability, but many are only industrially compostable. They also usually have additives that inhibit recyclability. Fiberdom's Duranova is fully recyclable and home compostable. By adding our*

advanced materials to Kiefel's manufacturing and molding expertise, we're unlocking exciting potential for new fiber-based packaging applications that are simultaneously highly formable and truly sustainable, while remaining competitive and cost-effective."

Packaging applications with complex shapes and high-performance requirements are traditionally produced using a wet forming process to prevent cracks and wrinkles during forming. However, Kiefel's dry forming technology offers distinct advantages for certain types of packaging applications, providing an efficient solution for products with specific geometric requirements. By combining Duranova material with Kiefel's dry forming machinery and molding expertise, the partnership can deliver eco-friendly solutions that optimize resource efficiency for appropriate applications. For example, for certain product geometries, dry forming processes in conjunction with Fiberdom's superior formability and bending resistance can result in significant water use reductions, energy efficiency improvements, and enhanced material cost-effectiveness.

The partnership sees Kiefel, a global leader in packaging machinery and molding technologies with over 70 years of expertise, advance its offering in fiber-based packaging applications. Kiefel has also filed several patents for process and tooling technologies that enable high-quality product forming even with simple and cost-efficient roll-fed materials. This makes the technology even more economical while broadening the range of raw materials available for sustainable packaging solutions.

"Together with Fiberdom, we're excited to expand our comprehensive technology portfolio by adding new capabilities that complement our existing solutions, said **Sven Engelmann**, Vice President - Technology at Kiefel. *"This strategic partnership allows us to offer market-ready dry forming solutions that support recyclability, compostability, and cost efficiency for applications where this technology excels, while maintaining our full spectrum of forming technologies to serve the complete range of packaging requirements without compromising performance."*

The collaboration addresses critical market demands as the packaging industry faces increasing pressure from evolving legislation, such as the European Union's Packaging and Packaging Waste Regulation (PPWR), which mandates increased recyclability of materials and reductions in the amounts of conventional plastic packaging. At the same time, consumer demand for environmentally responsible packaging is continuing to rise. As a result, the fiber-based packaging market is forecasted to expand from USD 406 billion in 2025 to USD 566 billion by 2034, growing at a CAGR of 3.85% from 2025 to 2034.

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For additional information:

Media kit with pictures

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Fiberdom

Founded in 2019, Fiberdom is a Finnish materials innovation company that has created Duranova,™ a unique supermaterial from FSC-certified wood fibers. Fiberdom's novel pulp and paperboard-based materials are 100% plastic-free, high-performance, strong, formable and durable, lightweight and cost-effective, recyclable and home-compostable.

Fiberdom's technology can be utilized in various applications in food-contact materials, durable packaging and storage, and interior design and furniture – just to name a few. Working with partners, Fiberdom is scaling its technology and advancing new applications, enabling the shift to a plastic-free and circular society.

Today, Fiberdom's commercial pilot factory in Vantaa, Finland, produces this supermaterial, with home compostable cutlery as a first-in-market product. The cutlery is being sold across Finland with some of the biggest retailers in the market. Fiberdom has raised €3.5M in funding and is backed by industry leaders such as Heino Group, Nordic Foodtech VC, and Holdix.

Read more: www.fiberdom.com

KIEFEL TECHNOLOGIES

Headquartered in Freilassing, Bavaria, Kiefel is a global market leader in innovative and sustainable thermoforming and joining technologies for polymers and natural fibers. Kiefel develops and manufactures high-quality machines and system solutions for leading manufacturers in the packaging, medical technology, pharmaceutical and refrigerator industries for processing plastics, recycled and bio-based materials, as well as natural fibers.

Kiefel creates future-proof solutions for the processing of polymer and fiber-based materials in close collaboration with customers at its research centers – the Customer Innovation Center and the Material R&D Center.

Globally leading, locally rooted: With over 70 years of experience and a strong global sales and service network, "Made by Kiefel" stands for quality, innovation, expertise, and long-term partnership. Kiefel is represented worldwide with dedicated sales and service teams in the USA, France, the Netherlands, China, India, and Thailand, as well as with partners in over 60 countries.

Kiefel is one of four business units within the Brückner Group – a globally leading corporate group in engineering and machinery for plastics and alternative materials, headquartered in Siegsdorf, Bavaria. With approximately 2,900 employees across 13 countries, the group has stood for technological excellence, entrepreneurial independence, and value-based collaboration for more than 60 years. www.kiefel.com