

Press release

TRIAL RUN / TEST OPERATION STARTED - STATE-OF-THE-ART CORRUGATED SHEETBOARD PLANT READY FOR LAUNCH

Landau / Eisfeld, 8 November 2019 - On 6 November at 1pm the first corrugated board stacks rolled off the production line at Progroup AG's new corrugated sheetboard plant PW13. This meant that the trial run to test the operation of the plant started on time. This will run through to the end of the year as planned, and regular operation should start after this.

"We are dedicating this much time to trial operation because it is important to us to make sure that all sections work together reliably hand in hand so that our customers will receive the level of quality from us that they are used to when production starts," stresses Chief Operating Officer Philipp Kosloh.

During trial operation, all six units involved are "brought together" to create an overall process. From the supply of efficient energy and the glue kitchen, production, conveyor technology and the high-bay warehouse through to dispatch, all production steps are rigorously tested. The employees on site will also receive support from the Progroup "Proteam". This team is made up of recognised experts who are specialists in all relevant fields and therefore also play a key role in the commissioning of new plants.

Around 60 Progroup employees from several different plants are on site as part of the start-up team. In addition, about 30 employees from partner companies are involved in the extensive tests.

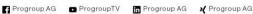
The aim is to ensure that everything runs smoothly at the start of production, which is scheduled for the beginning of next year. When production commences, the plant will then produce around 175,000 tonnes of corrugated sheetboard per year and thus increase Progroup's total capacity to approx. 1.5 million tonnes.

About Progroup

Progroup AG, located in Landau in the German state of Rhineland-Palatinate, Germany, is one of the leading manufacturers of containerboard and corrugated board in Europe. Since it was founded in 1992 in Offenbach/Queich, the company has been pursuing a consistent growth strategy which, in addition to technological leadership, is also based on the use of innovative and environmentally friendly production technologies. Progroup operates production sites in six countries in Central Europe. Currently boasting two paper factories, ten corrugated sheetboard plants, a logistics company, its own power plant and

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approx. 1150 employees, in 2018 the company generated sales of around 966 million euros.

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