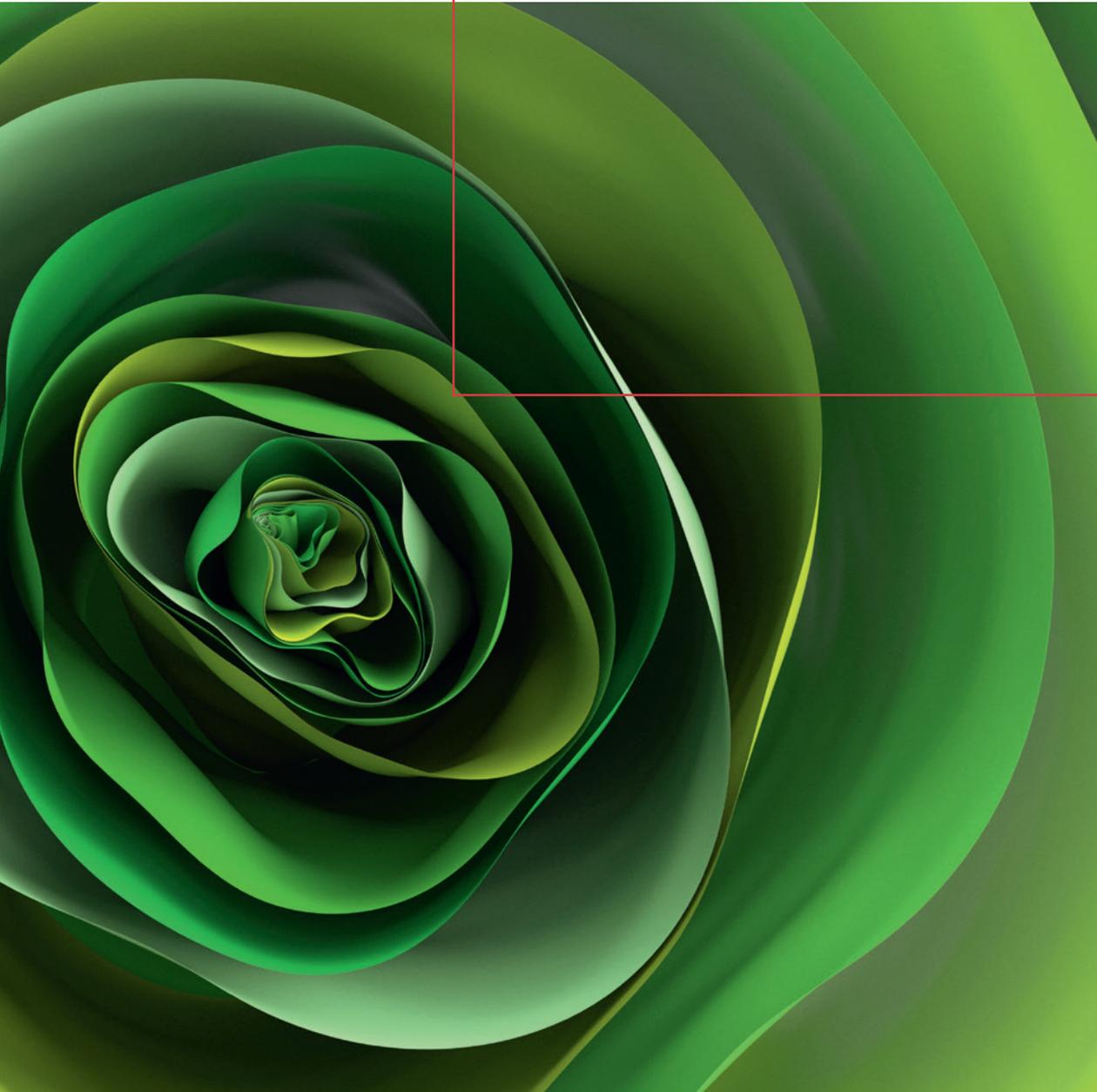


RESPONSIBILITY

# Sustainability Needs Innovations



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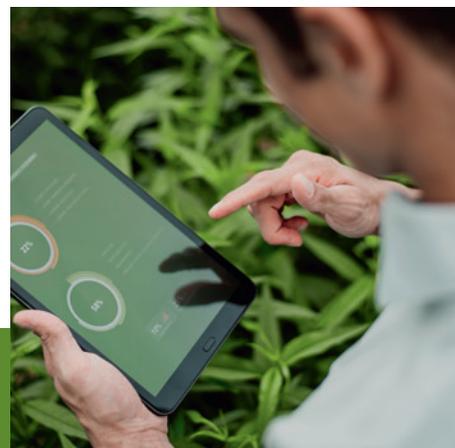
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## Sustainability Needs Innovation

With the climate protection agreement adopted at the UN Climate Change Conference in Paris in December 2015, 195 countries committed to curbing climate change and to a climate-friendly reorganisation of the global economy. Switzerland is one of these countries - and is in good progress, as international studies show. Switzerland consistently ranks among the leaders in comparison with other countries. In 9<sup>th</sup> place in the Environmental Performance Index (EPI) 2022\* or 5<sup>th</sup> place in the Swisscanto country rating 2023\*\*.

Protecting the environment and climate has long been a central issue in Swiss everyday life. The need for sustainable thinking and action runs through all areas of life. Because we bear responsibility for future generations as individuals, as a company, as a society. This calls for solutions that are ecologically, economically and socially sustainable. At local, regional, national and international level.

As a traditional Swiss company and packaging pioneer, Wipf AG wants to play its part in protecting the climate and the environment. As a specialist for customised and sustainable packaging, we develop solutions that take equal account for environmental and climate aspects as well as product and consumer requirements. We work towards further optimising our packaging in terms of recycling, reusability and compostability – as just a few of many necessary steps in being conscious for future generations' worth of living.

\* Source: 2022 Environmental Performance Index (epi.yale.edu)

\*\* Source: <https://www.dpn-online.com/esg-anlagen/staatenrating-im-ueberblick-108732/>

“For us, ecological, economical, and social responsibility are interlinked and inseparable.”



#### SUSTAINABILITY MEANS RESPONSIBILITY

In a world in which the call for sustainability is becoming ever louder, Wipf AG is positioning itself as a pioneer in the development of future-orientated, environmentally friendly packaging solutions. Our commitment to a greener future is deeply rooted in our corporate philosophy. Driven by the conviction that ecological responsibility, economic efficiency and social well-being are inextricably linked. This is reflected in our business activities starting with the careful selection of our raw materials through to the energy efficiency of our production processes.

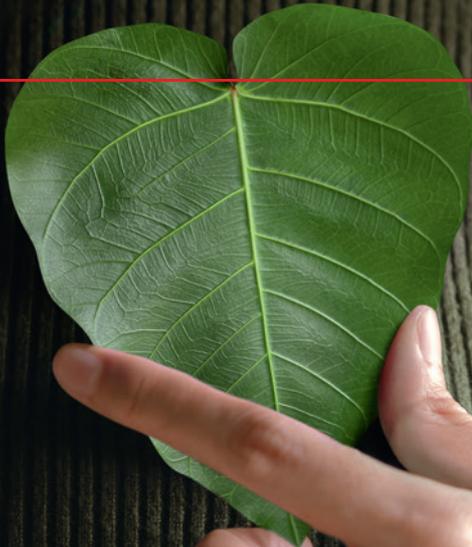
This brochure provides an insight into our vision, our goals and the specific measures we are taking to minimise our ecological footprint. From the development of recyclable mono-materials for films or aroma protection valves to the use of renewable energies in our production processes – we focus on innovations that benefit both the environment and our business activities.

We invite you to join us on this sustainable journey, where every step counts and every contribution is important to create a more sustainable and responsible world together. For a future worth living. For all of us.

Oliver Fankhauser,  
CEO

## We Shape the Future SUSTAINABLY

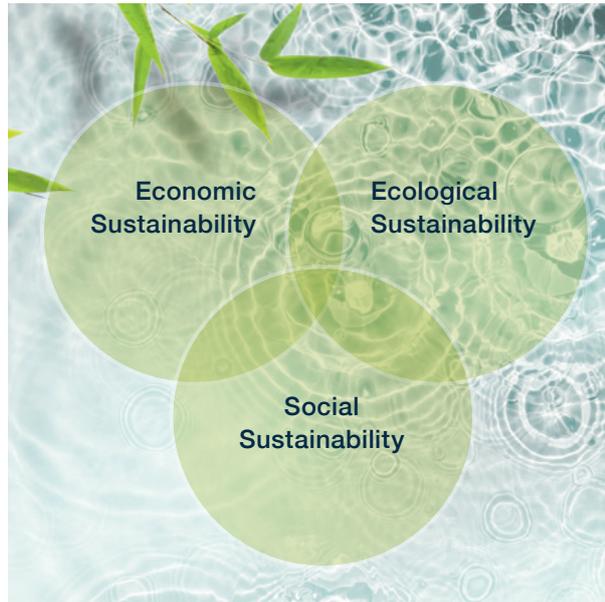
We build on sustainability in all areas  
– ecologically, socially and economically.  
This is our contribution to positive change.



# The 3 Pillars of Sustainability

The truly sustainable development is based on an equal implementation of environmental, economic and social goals. Because without economic efficiency, social justice and ecological sustainability, the conservation of global resources is not possible.

These three pillars are also the basis for sustainability at Wipf AG – as our driving force in all areas of entrepreneurial activities.



## Sustainability – More than Just a Word

Sustainability is a complex issue that plays a major role not only for consumers but also for producers. Sustainable products and their packaging – both have to meet strict criteria in terms of environmental and climate protection to be truly sustainable.

## Ecological and Economic Sustainability

At Wipf AG, the protection of nature and resources has top priority. Therefore we have been working for years to keep our energy infrastructure and production up to date: With extensive optimization considering sustainable aspects for office and production buildings, such as new heating and lighting concepts. These and many other initiatives ensure greater energy efficiency, conserve resources – and also pay off economically. This is how sustainability really pays off.



## Quality & Services

Mono-material laminates are particularly demanding when it comes to quality and production. Processing them is a challenge that we face with all our expertise. We have adapted and developed our inspection plans, test instructions and specifications accordingly and developed them further.

We can carry out validation tests in-house, saving our customers time and money. We are certified in accordance with ISO 9001:2015, ISO 14001:2015, BRCGS and other market requirements for sustainability.

**Our aim** is to always find the best possible sustainable packaging for each individual customer, develop customised solutions and implement them precisely. Always in close constructive cooperation with our customers. To ensure that everything really fits perfectly. If necessary, we provide support in the choice of technical equipment & plant optimization to ensure, that production on the customer side is possible. All under the premise of highest perfection. Because we believe that only the best quality is good enough. A matter of course, not only for us as a traditional Swiss company, but also for our customers.

## Milestones

Our environmental milestones document all of our sustainable corporate activities over the last 20 years. Here is an overview of the most important ones.

### 2023

- Installation of four e-charging stations
- Roof and facade renovation on the high-bay warehouse
- Installation of a new refrigeration and compressed air unit with waste heat recovery
- Participant in the UN Global Compact

### 2022

- Registration for the Science Based Targets initiative (SBTi)
- Development of the decarbonisation roadmap for fuels and solvents
- Switch to LED lighting in office buildings and production

### 2021

- Installation of a photovoltaic system with 974 solar modules with an output of 365 kWp on the roof of the shipping department after prior roof insulation
- Certification according to ISO 14001:2015

### 2018

- Installation of a new heat exchanger for cold water production by means of a closed cooling circuit (reduction of water consumption)



## Important criteria

when elaborating our supply chain:

- Compliance with the Supplier Code of Conduct or certification in accordance with ISO 14001: 2015 or others such as EcoVadis
- Avoidance of unnecessary emissions: the closer, the better
- Electricity from renewable energy sources

### Packaging & Suppliers

As a packaging manufacturer, Wipf AG requires large quantities of a wide variety of packaging materials. For our product and transport packaging we only use recyclable materials such as wood, plastic and cardboard, which can be returned for recycling at any time.

This is why, together with many other organisations, we are committed to the Switzerland-wide RecyPac association to optimise the life cycle for plastic packaging and beverage cartons along the entire value chain. This is why we are committed to comply with Design4Recycling in our production of flexible packaging – in line with current EU regulations. This makes us generate larger quantities of recyclates and return as much of this recycled material as possible to the packaging industry.

We base our choice of suppliers on our Supplier Code of Conduct, which reflects our social and ecological responsibility. This is orientated on the following standards:

- The ILO Declaration on Fundamental Principles and Rights at Work
- The UN Guiding Principles on Business and Human Rights
- The Ten Principles of the UN Global Compact (UNGC)

We ensure that our suppliers are also committed to protecting and respect human rights, social and environmental responsibility, and the principles of this code – and ensure that their suppliers also comply with them. The status quo of our suppliers' sustainability is reviewed annually, and the results commented in the management report.



## Initiatives & Ratings

In addition to the already mentioned participation in RecyPac, we take part in many other sustainability initiatives and ratings. Out of conviction and as a self-evident obligation, we endeavour to do our part for more sustainability in the corporate environment.

## UN Global Compact

Wipf AG is part of the UN Global Compact Network Switzerland & Liechtenstein. More than 300 companies in Switzerland and Liechtenstein and one of over 20 000 companies worldwide are part of this network. We are thus committed to aligning our corporate culture, strategy, and processes to the Ten Principles of the UN Global Compact in the areas of human rights, labour, the working conditions, the environment, and anti-corruption. Of course, we also take into account the UN Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

## SBTi for Reducing Emissions in Companies

The Science Based Targets initiative (SBTi) offers Wipf AG comprehensive support on the way to the long-term goal of zero net emissions. Scientifically climate targets help us to effectively reduce greenhouse gas emissions. Since December 2021, we have already set a number of things in motion and implemented. These include the installation of a photovoltaic system with 974 solar modules and the installation of a new cooling and compressed air centre. With our photovoltaic system, we generated 717 MWh in 2022-2023.

## EcoVadis

The sustainability assessment by EcoVadis from 2023 shows that Wipf AG is among the top 25 % of participating companies. For our sustainability management in the areas of the environment, labour & human rights, ethics and sustainable procurement, we were once again awarded with a silver medal by EcoVadis in 2023.

### Further Memberships

- Flexible Packaging Europe
- Swiss Recycle
- myclimate
- Save Food
- Energie-Agentur der Wirtschaft (EnAW)
- RecyPac – Plastic and beverage carton cycle



## Social Sustainability

An important component of sustainable thinking and acting is the social aspect. For Wipf AG this means that the most important factor is people. Both within the company as well as outside. We bear responsibility for our employees and our neighbourhood. Without our employees, Wipf AG would not be what we are today. In the company, in the region and in our handling of natural resources.

### Fair Employer

Appreciation, trust and participation of our employees are very important to us.

For their well-being in our company, we are guided by

- the Ten Principles of the UN Global Compact (UNGC)
- the UN Guiding Principles on Business and Human Rights
- the ILO Declaration on Fundamental Principles and Rights at Work

We are committed to fair pay, fair working conditions, equal treatment of gender and against discrimination based on age, gender, religion, origin or nationality. We offer our employees company benefits, a wide range of training programmes and comprehensive health and safety measures. In this way, we create the conditions for productive and positive collaboration.

### Diversity

Wipf AG currently employs 236 people (69 women/167 men) including apprentices from 17 different nationalities. (Status 29/02/2024)

### Career Advancement and Development

We want to expand, anchor and retain knowledge in the company in the long term. We therefore endeavour to promote and develop our employees according to their skills and talents. To this end, we participate in training and further training and internal promotion taking on more demanding functions.

### Apprentices

The comprehensive training of our apprentices is very important to us. Since 2019 we have achieved our goal of establishing a proportion of 10 % apprentices within our workforce. We attach great importance to the fact that apprentices receive a permanent position at Wipf AG after their apprenticeship.

## **We Meet Challenges** WITH INNOVATIONS

We think innovatively and act in a solution-orientated manner. This is the basis for achieving success together with our customers.





## Wipf AG

is for many good reasons regarded as a packaging innovator in the industry.

Our high degree of innovation in packaging technologies and processes makes us a specialist in flexible and sustainable packaging. Because we are working consistently and intensively on new opportunities to develop innovative and environmentally friendly flexible solutions that take into account as many product, manufacturer, consumer, environmental and climate requirements as possible.



### Packaging with a Contribution to Climate Protection

For our packaging solutions, we offer the option of financing external climate protection projects based on the emissions calculated during production. The myclimate carbon offset project “Solar panels for education and quality of life” in Ethiopia and Kenya is financed to a corresponding extent for the balanced emissions, e.g. packaging with a climate protection contribution for muesli. This is how we facilitate climate protection outside of our own value chain.

### Retortable Mono-PP Pouch

Sustainable packaging made from mono-material is currently in higher demand than ever before. However, until now, retortable mono-material laminates were not feasible for various reasons. There was a lack of a suitable barrier film, the bond strength did not withstand sterilisation or the pouches did not have a good flatness.

We took on these challenges and found a solution after extensive further development. We have expanded our sustainable packaging range with pasteurizable and retortable pouches and roll stock made of mono-PP laminates and are thus pioneering in this demanding segment.

Our mono-PP solutions are suitable for convenience products such as vegetables, rice dishes, soups, pet food, etc. and have a very high oxygen barrier. Thanks to our ultrasonic sealing, both the flat pouches and stand-up pouches can be manufactured with a perfect flatness.



## Sustainable Manufacturing

### Ultrasonic Pouching Machine

The new ultrasonic pouching machine is ideal for the production of stand-up pouches and flat pouches made from mono-materials. Instead of conventional thermal sealing with high temperatures, a gentle ultrasonic process is used here. The lower heat impact compared to thermal sealing facilitates and simplifies the processing of mono-materials. Perfect conditions for our diverse range of sustainable pouches.

### New Spout Sealing Machine for Mono-Material Laminates

The sealing of the reclosable spouts is a particularly sensitive area in pouch production. This applies to all processed materials and in particular for mono-material laminates. To ensure stable sealing of these new laminates, we use an alternative sealing process. For this purpose we have invested in a new ultrasonic spout sealing machine and added another highlight in the company's machinery. Spouts can now also be perfectly sealed in mono-material laminates.

### The New Assembly Machine for All Aroma Protection Valves

In order to be able to meet the sharp increase in demand for valves, we have also expanded our machinery for this production area. The new automatic valve assembly machine can be used for all valves in the W6xy series and is perfectly suited for the assembly of our conventional aroma protection valves. But also the compostable W606E and W616E valves as well as the new recyclable W609PP and W619PP mono-PP valves. This investment enables us to react flexibly and in an environmentally friendly manner to market requirements, as we offer a mono-PE and mono-PP solution for all valve types and geometries.

The production and further processing of our sustainable packaging solutions are not possible without devices or adaptations of our production equipment. That is why we have made adaptations and invested in new equipment.



# AT A GLANCE

## CO<sub>2</sub> intensity target Canton of Zurich

Due to various sustainability measures we were able to reduce our CO<sub>2</sub> intensity significantly and undercut the intensity target for 2023 by

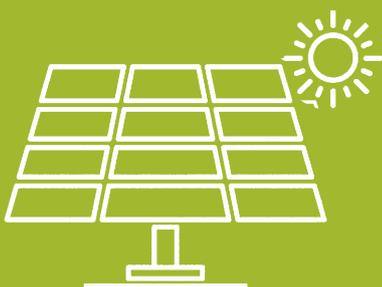
**15%**



## Energy efficiency target Canton of Zurich

Thanks to numerous measures to energy efficiency increase, we have the target set by the Canton of Zurich for the year 2023 by

**21%**



...produced for our own use

**717 000**

kWh of electricity,...

Since the successful commissioning of the PV system in 2022 we have...



...which corresponds to an annual electricity demand of **over 180 family houses!**

Thanks to several optimisation measures since 2020, our electricity consumption has been **reduced by**

**10.7%**

despite a 5.0 % increase in volume.

## **We Offer Sustainable Packaging Solutions AT THE HIGHEST LEVEL**

We develop and produce packaging  
with passion.





## Quality label

On our customers request we are assessing our sustainable packaging materials with renowned institutes such as Interseroh or cyclos-HTP for their recyclability. The assessment results were consistently good to very good. Our monomaterial laminates in particular have a very good recyclability of over 90 %.

These outstanding results are not least due to the close co-operation with our customers. In doing so, we take into account both the Design4 Recycling guidelines (D4R) as well as the aspects of product development and recycling.



## Sustainable Packaging Solutions

Packaging fulfills many important functions: It protects the product, provides space for information and strengthens the brand identity. It helps to extend the shelf life of products and thus plays an important role in reducing food waste.

The demand for sustainable packaging continues to rise, with flexible mono-material laminate packaging in particular. These are made of several layers of a single base material and are more sustainable as they can be recycled, which is not the case with multilayer laminates composed of a variety of different base materials. They are usually made from recyclable, recycled or renewable raw materials and aim to minimise the consumption of resources and energy.

In recent years, Wipf AG has developed various innovative packaging solutions which emphatically demonstrate the importance of sustainability in the development of new products which have helped to build expertise in this field. For example, our new packaging made from a mono-material laminate with barrier properties. Or the processing of plastic films whose raw materials have PCR material content.

Responsible use of raw materials is always a key consideration throughout our operation.

- Stand-up pouch barrier OPE/PE, 18 out of 20 possible points at Interseroh\*
  - Stand-up pouches OPP/barrier OPP/CPP, 92 % at cyclos-HTP\*
  - Flat pouch barrier OPP/CPP, 94 % for cyclos-HTP\*
- (\*Source: Interseroh, cyclos-HTP)



## Sustainable Pouches Made from Ecological Mono-Material

In this area, Wipf AG offers a wide range of packaging solutions of recyclable mono-materials based on PP and PE with a wide range of applications. Some of our highlights

- Retortable and pasteurisable mono PP pouches with a very high oxygen barrier
- Mono PP and PE stand-up pouches with spout
- Mono PP and PE stand-up pouches with and without zipper
- Mono PP five-seam pouches with peel function
- Mono PP side gusset bags with valve
- Mono PP stand-up pouches with zipper and valve
- Stand-up pouches with recycled material (PCR)

They all offer optimum protection against moisture and external contamination and are robust enough for transport and use. They therefore fulfil all the requirements of critical consumers and legal guidelines.

But other sustainable solutions from Wipf are also impressive. For example, the PP mono-material film for trays (lidding), the recyclable coffee capsules or the new recyclable mono-PE and mono-PP one-way degassing valves and the bio compostable valves.





### Recyclable Aroma Protection Valves

Sustainable solutions are also in high demand for coffee packaging. The new mono-PE WICOVALVE® valves are therefore perfect for mono-PE laminates. For the production of recyclable coffee packaging made from mono-PP, the appropriate valves have also been lacking until now. We have now closed this gap. With recyclable mono-PP valves in all four dimensions on offer, Wipf AG has so far been an exception in the market – once again. This once again proves our position as an innovative packaging company.



### Bio compostable Valves for Coffee Packaging

Especially for the coffee industry, we have developed the compostable WICOVALVE® valves W606E and W616E. These complement our extensive WICOVALVE® range. Both aroma protection valves can be composted in combination with bio compostable laminate materials in accordance with the industrial standard EN 13432. Combined with equally compostable laminates, a coffee packaging is created, which not only offers optimum protection against flavour loss, but is also completely bio compostable. Wipf AG is thus providing a further sustainable solution to meet the increasing demand for bio compostable packaging.

### Recyclable Capsules for Sustainable Cycles

Another successful mono-material solution is GreenLution, a recyclable capsule system for coffee and other products. The entire cycle from capsule production, filling, packaging and use through to material recycling is sustainable and minimises the use of resources. Our contribution is the sustainable laminate film WICOGREEN-LINE made of mono-material. Its properties: high oxygen and water vapour barrier, high aroma protection, aluminium-free, outstanding product protection and perfectly compatible with the capsule and filling line.



**Our**  
VISION



# VISIONARY

## **Sustainability in the Company**

is a versatile and ongoing process – a long haul rather than a sprint. We have already tackled and implemented many measures and developments. Others will have to follow.

Short, medium and long-term solutions are required at all levels. This is the only way to achieve effective and sustainable environmental and climate protection. Wipf AG will do its part.

We have already achieved a great deal and set many things in motion – the first steps in the right direction. But this is by no means the end of it. Because we are still at the beginning. To become and remain sustainable and actually achieve the 2050 climate target of the Paris Agreement there is still a lot to do. However, this can only succeed when we do it all together, worldwide. Through many, even small steps that move us forward.

That is why we are supporting and initiating local, regional and national initiatives and campaigns for more sustainability and to protect the climate and environment. As accompanying measures to our actual tasks and goals: A constant optimisation of our production for even more sustainability. Intensive research and development of innovative, sustainable packaging solutions of the highest quality and the best service. For a future worth living.

**For all of us.**

**Wipf AG**

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