



PRESS RELEASE

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Mayr-Melnhof Karton acquires Swiss board mill Emil Christ AG

Mayr-Melnhof Karton has acquired the Swiss cartonboard producer Emil Christ AG located in Thal. The acquisition became effective on June 25, 2001. The company, which until now has been under family ownership, employs approximately 120 employees and produces annually about 38,000 tons of recycled fiber based board on a single board machine. No further details will be released regarding the purchase price.

The improvement in efficiency and the realization of synergy effects with the Swiss board mill, Karton Deisswil AG, Stettlen, which is part of the Mayr-Melnhof Group, will be the focal points of the coming months. Shortly thereafter, a long-term strategy will be decided upon for this location in Thal.

At the present time however, operations will remain unchanged and the sales organization will be merged with that of the Deisswil mill. Therefore, customers of Emil Christ AG will benefit from MM Karton's high level of service and quality in the near future.

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