

Press release

Sustainable, mineral oil-free metallic printing ink series with convincing radiance

- **Sustainable, mineral oil-free gold and silver offset printing inks**
- **Comply with new French regulation**
- **Maximum brilliance even at high printing speeds**

Hartenstein, December 17, 2024 – For over 10 years, ECKART's mineral oil-free offset printing inks have successfully helped to reduce the company's environmental footprint. With the metallic series TOPSTAR SuperEco 16, METALSTAR Eco 14 and SuperEco 14, the company is taking a new sustainable approach.

Regulatory requirements and conversion to mineral oil-free inks

In view of ever stricter regulatory requirements for printing inks, ECKART is already focusing on mineral-oil-free offset printing inks and is completely avoiding those containing mineral oil.

This conversion ensures that the new French regulation, which will come into force in January 2025, will be implemented.

It sets the strictest limits for the mineral oil content of all imported packaging products. To meet these strict criteria, ECKART has completely cleaned its entire offset printing ink production with professional support.

Innovations in gold and silver printing inks

Only oils and fatty acid esters based on plants are used in the new generation of gold and silver printing inks. At the same time, the sustainable printing inks have the same high quality and brilliance as conventional, mineral oil-based inks.

Technical properties and possible applications

The products in the METALSTAR Eco 14 series are versatile and suitable for all conventional offset printing projects. The products in the METALSTAR SuperEco 14 series are characterized by an extraordinary metallic gloss and have been specially developed for high printing speeds.

The TOPSTAR SuperEco 16 range contains products based on wafer-thin VMP pigments that can be used to achieve anything from highly brilliant polychromatic effects to mirror-like effects that can replace foil applications.

External confirmation of print quality

Yvonne Plitzko, Head of Technical & Research Services, explains: "From a technical point of view, all three product series are every bit as good as their mineral-oil-based predecessors. Excellent printability, color-water balance and brilliance have been confirmed by external printing tests." With these new products, ECKART is once

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again setting standards in the printing industry and underlining its commitment to sustainability and innovation.

About ECKART:

The ECKART Group, a company of ALTANA AG, stands as one of the premier global entities in effect pigment manufacturing. With a workforce of around 1,700 individuals spanning the globe, the group specializes in the development, manufacture, and distribution of metallic effect and pearlescent pigments in various forms such as powder, paste, and pellets, alongside concentrates, dispersions, and printing inks. ECKART's diverse product line finds application across industries including coatings, printing, plastics, autoclaved aerated concrete, and cosmetics. ECKART also drives advancements in metal powder optimization for 3D printing. Presently, ECKART maintains a presence in more than 70 countries.

www.eckart.net

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