

PRESS RELEASE

Milestone for Supply Reliability: Schwarz Produktion Breaks Ground on € 400 Million Expansion of Bonback Halle (Saale)

- Some € 400 million are being invested in the expansion of the large-scale bakery Bonback Halle (Saale).
- Around 400 sustainable jobs will be created, all paid according to collective agreements.
- Five new baking lines and a high-bay, deep-freeze warehouse with 65,000 bays will improve supply reliability.

Halle (Saale), 26 August 2026 – Today, Schwarz Produktion ceremonially broke ground on an expansion of the Bonback large-scale bakery. With a total investment of some 400 million euros, the company is massively expanding the site on the Star Park industrial estate. With this step, the food producer is improving supply reliability and creating around 400 jobs in the region, all paid according to collective agreements.

Capacity Expansion and Modern Logistics Infrastructure

The construction of a new production building will give Bonback five additional baking lines, which will increase the site's overall production capacity several times over. To handle the flows of goods efficiently, a new, fully automatic high-bay, deep-freeze warehouse with around 65,000 pallet bays is being built concurrently. In the future, it will serve as the central logistics hub for the storage and distribution of the baked goods. Work on the expansion site is slated to commence shortly after the ground-breaking ceremony. The expanded production lines are scheduled to start operations by 2028.

Commitment to the Site, the Region and Supply Reliability

Jörg Aldenkott, Chief Executive Officer Schwarz Produktion, on the significance of the project: "Today we are kicking off one of the most significant industrial investments in Saxony-Anhalt. This ground-breaking ceremony marks the realisation of a path-breaking major project, one that will not only expand our production capacity, but also fulfil our responsibility for reliably supplying millions of people. I wish to thank the staff at Bonback, the City of Halle and – in particular – the state government. Our consistently fair cooperation as equal partners has made this milestone possible today."

Strong Signal That Saxony-Anhalt Is a Good Place To Do Business

State Premier Sven Schulze on starting construction today: "400 million euros and more than 400 jobs – that's really good news for Halle and for all of Saxony-Anhalt. I am very pleased that Schwarz Produktion sees its future here with us and is further strengthening Star Park. This investment is creating good jobs for the people in our region and showing that Saxony-Anhalt supports industry. I

would like to thank everyone whose firm commitment has made this major project possible.”

Energy Concept With Renewable Energies and Waste Heat Recovery

The total investment amount has increased compared to the original plans, to specifically target energy-efficient technology and the logistics infrastructure, to position the plant for ideal performance in the coming decades.

High energy efficiency is a key focus of the expansion: Once the project is complete, the expanded bakery complex will run on electricity from 100 percent renewable sources. In addition, cooling systems with waste heat recovery and based on natural refrigerants will be used to minimise the site's energy needs and get it in shape for the future. The site will also be digitalised to a high degree.

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About Schwarz Produktion Stiftung & Co. KG

Schwarz Produktion, part of Schwarz Group, is one of the leading food producers in Europe. Companies of Schwarz Produktion make a system-relevant contribution towards ensuring a reliable food supply.

More than 6,500 employees at 19 production sites reliably supply millions of people throughout Europe with high-quality foods. Supported by digital solutions, they ensure that the shelves at Lidl and Kaufland are continually restocked with a diverse product range – mineral water, soft drinks, baked goods, chocolate, nuts, coffee, marmalades, honey, pasta, ice cream and much more.

Three plastics and recycling plants are also part of the company's own recycling loop, in which PET bottle bodies are manufactured completely from recycled materials. This is rounded off by a proprietary paper mill.

Schwarz Produktion Stiftung has its administrative headquarters in Weissenfels, Saxony-Anhalt.

More information can be found [here](#).

Contact the press office: presse@schwarz-produktion.com

About the Schwarz Group

The Schwarz Group is a leading international retail group with around 14,500 stores and around 604,000 employees. In fiscal year 2025, the Schwarz Group companies generated total sales of 185.6 billion euros.

With their unique ecosystem, they cover the entire value chain: from production and retail to recycling and digitization. They create solutions that make life today and in the future more sustainable, healthier and safer - they act ahead.

Lidl and Kaufland form the pillars of food retailing and are an integral part of the everyday lives of customers in 33 countries. Many own brand products and sustainable packaging come directly from Schwarz Produktion. The environmental service provider PreZero promotes a functioning recycling economy with its recyclable materials management system and thus invests in a clean future. As an IT and digital division, Schwarz Digits offers convincing digital products and services that meet the high German data protection standards and thus guarantees the greatest possible digital sovereignty. As a partner-based service provider, Schwarz Corporate Solutions supports the companies of the Schwarz Group in all matters ranging from administration and personnel to operational activities.