PRESS RELEASE

Investing Millions for Energy Conservation: New Filling Line at MEG Jessen Awarded Seal of Efficiency

- **The Saxony-Anhalt State Energy Agency (LENA) awards "Seal of efficiency for energy supplies in Saxony Anhalt"**
- **Seventeen-million-euro investment will save over 1,200 megawatt hours per year**
- **Up to 230 million bottles annually: New filling line improves supply security and creates new jobs**

***Jessen, 25 November 2026* — Schwarz Produktion is resolutely continuing the modernisation of its production sites. The Saxony-Anhalt State Energy Agency (LENA) awarded MEG Jessen the "Seal of efficiency for energy supplies in Saxony-Anhalt" today for its building of a new, especially efficient filling line for mineral water. With its investment of 17 million euros, the company is improving supply security and setting new standards for energy efficiency and resource conservation.**

Innovative Plant Technology Cuts Energy Demand Significantly

The new filling line was built over around 15 months of project planning and construction. At its core is compact plant technology that directly combines the moulding of PET bottles and their subsequent filling with mineral water, which eliminates the energy-intensive transfer between two separate machines that was previously required — supplemented with a system for producing compressed air. This reduces annual energy consumption by around 50 percent (or around 1,240 megawatt hours) compared to the existing equipment. This is equivalent to the energy needs of 340 four-person households.

Frank Eppendorfer, Plant Manager at MEG Jessen: "Receiving the LENA seal of efficiency confirms our commitment to maximum performance with resolute conservation of resources: The new filling line has completely proven itself in operations. It cuts our energy needs and makes an important contribution toward supply security, boosting the sustainability of our plant in Jessen in the long term.

More Capacity and New Jobs at the Jessen Site

At full capacity, the line achieves an output of 56,000 bottles per hour (0.5 litres) and an annual capacity of up to 230 million bottles. Fifteen new jobs were also created. With this step, MEG Jessen is ensuring a reliable supply of mineral water for Lidl and Kaufland, particularly during seasonal demand peaks.

MEG Jessen has more than 40 years of experience in the bottling of beverages and became part of the beverage network at Schwarz Produktion in the year 2000. The site guarantees a reliable, regional supply of high-quality mineral water varieties: On average, a filled bottle does not need to travel more than 180 kilometres to reach the store shelves at Lidl or Kaufland. The high quality of the products is also evidenced in the results of a comparison by the consumer organisation Stiftung

Warentest (issue 07/2026): It rated the quality of “Saskia Medium” mineral water from the Jessen spring as “Very good” (1.3 on a scale of 1-5) and also crowned it the champion in value for the money. In addition, the site is closely integrated in the company’s internal recycling loop and processes preforms that consist of 100% recycled PET for the German market.

Strong Commitment to Saxony-Anhalt as a Place To Do Business

The new filling line in Jessen is just one of the long-term investments being made by Schwarz Produktion. The company is investing well over 400 million euros in its sites in Saxony-Anhalt — including the MEG locations in Jessen and Roßbach, as well as an expansion of the large-scale Bonback bakery in Halle (Saale). With some 1,550 employees at four production sites and its administrative headquarters in Weißenfels, Schwarz Produktion is one of the state’s leading industrial employers.

The project in Jessen was partially funded through the Saxony-Anhalt ENERGY programme, through which the State of Saxony-Anhalt and the European Union support investments in energy efficiency and renewable energy. The co-financing amounted to around one million euros.

Funded by:

SACHSEN-ANHALT

Co-funded by
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About Schwarz Produktion

Schwarz Produktion, a company of Schwarz Group, is one of Europe’s leading food manufacturers. The companies of Schwarz Produktion make a vital contribution to food security.

More than 6,500 employees at 19 production sites reliably supply millions of people across Europe with high-quality food every day. Using digital solutions, they ensure that the shelves at Lidl and Kaufland are constantly stocked with a wide range of products – from mineral water, soft drinks and baked goods, through chocolate, nuts and coffee, down to jams, honey, pasta and ice cream.

In addition, three plastics and recycling plants are part of the Company’s own recycling loop in which all PET bottles are made from recycled material. The portfolio is complemented by the Company’s own paper mill.

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