

PRESS RELEASE

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Rottneros wins strategic order from Belgian ready meals producer

The Belgian ready meals producer Le Medaillon has chosen Rottneros' pulp fibre-based food packaging SilviPak for the launch of its range of chilled ready meals in the Dutch supermarket chain Super de Boer. The order, which is SilviPak's first in the Benelux countries, is strategically important for the Rottneros Group.

"SilviPak belongs to a new and innovative generation of food packaging. The packaging keeps the food warm without the pulp fibre from which it is produced becoming hot to the touch. This means it can be handled by consumers immediately after being heated in a microwave or conventional oven," says Jacob Hobbel, Account Manager at Le Medaillon.

"Because the packaging is manufactured from wood fibre-based pulp, which is a renewable raw material, and laminated with a thin plastic film, SilviPak reduces oil consumption by 90 per cent compared with equivalent plastic packaging," Jacob Hobbel explains.

"The order is strategically important for the Group because SilviPak is one of our new ventures intended to reduce our unilateral dependence on the dollar rate and the pulp cycle. Manufacturing packaging, which is a final product with higher value added than paper pulp, will also reduce our sensitivity to high wood prices in the long term," says Ole Terland, CEO of Rottneros.

"Le Medaillon has a green profile with products containing a high level of natural, organic ingredients for environmentally conscious consumers who also take an interest in the packaging. This is a good match for SilviPak's packaging solutions," says Joakim Stockhaus, head of the SilviPak business area. He goes on to say that market potential in the Benelux countries is high.

On 1 July the business area within the Rottneros Group that produces SilviPak will become an independent subsidiary with the name Rottneros Packaging AB and Joakim Stockhaus as Managing Director.

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Rottneros is one of the world's leading independent producers of market pulp. The Group comprises the parent company Rottneros AB, listed on OMX Nordic Exchange Stockholm, and its subsidiaries Rottneros Bruk AB, Rockhammars Bruk AB, Utansjö Bruk AB and Vallviks Bruk AB in Sweden and Rottneros Miranda, S.A. in Spain, all with operations involving the production and sale of market pulp. The Group also includes the wood procurement companies SIA Rottneros Baltic in Latvia and Rottneros Madeiras in Portugal as well as a sales company, Rottneros S.A., in Belgium. The Group now has a new division, Rottneros Packaging, which produces food packaging made from paper pulp. The Group has around 720 employees and an annual turnover of approximately SEK 2.9 billion.

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