

Press Release



Leverkusen,
May 26, 2021

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Partially bio-based raw materials from Covestro for notebooks from Moleskine®

More sustainable products of proven high quality

Increased use of circular raw materials thanks to INSQIN® waterborne PU technology

Moleskine® notebooks are replicas of the legendary notebook used by such notable people as Vincent Van Gogh, Pablo Picasso, Ernest Hemingway, and Bruce Chatwin. [Moleskine](#) places great emphasis on more sustainable products and manufacturing processes and has already been certified by the Forest Stewardship Council (FSC). For the covers of its [classic notebooks](#), the company relies on [Covestro's](#) advanced INSQIN® waterborne polyurethane (PU) technology for textile coating with partially bio-based raw materials. This will increase the use of alternative raw materials in the production of the PU synthetics covers.

This application focuses on waterborne PU dispersions with up to 50 percent biomass-based carbon content, reducing the CO₂ footprint accordingly but offering the same good quality as fossil-based raw materials. The coating also features a premium look and feel – as befits the characteristic quality of these notebooks. Using INSQIN® technology, Moleskine® and Chinese PU synthetics material specialist [Hexin](#) are now able to produce partially bio-based coatings for hardcover and softcover notebooks.

On the path to more circularity

"We are partnering with Covestro to perfect these high-quality, low-solvent coatings for our classic Moleskine® notebook covers," said Daniela Riccardi, the company's Chief Executive Officer. "Covestro's partially bio-based coating technology enables us to reduce our impact on the environment and improve our sustainability."



"Working with innovative partners like Moleskine® allows us to develop more sustainable materials," explains Dr. Torsten Pohl, global head of Textile Coating at Covestro. "With our new partially bio-based raw material, Covestro allows for a total of approximately 23 percent renewable carbon in this coating, which is in line with our vision to become fully circular."

The project is part of a global strategic program with which Covestro is fully committed to the circular economy. That's why the company is focusing on the use of alternative raw materials and renewable energy, the development of innovative recycling technologies, and collaboration with partners along the value chains.

About Covestro:

With sales of EUR 10.7 billion in 2020, Covestro is among the world's largest polymer companies. Business activities are focused on the manufacture of high-tech polymer materials and the development of innovative, sustainable solutions for products used in many areas of everyday life. In doing so, Covestro is fully aligning itself to the Circular Economy. Its main customers are the automotive and transport industries, the construction industry, the furniture and wood processing industries, and the electrical, electronics, and household appliance industries. Other sectors include sports and leisure, cosmetics, healthcare and the chemical industry itself. As of the end of 2020, Covestro produces at 33 sites worldwide and employs around 16,500 people (converted to full-time positions).

Forward-looking statements

This press release may contain forward-looking statements based on current assumptions and forecasts made by Covestro AG management. Various known and unknown risks, uncertainties, and other factors could lead to material differences between the actual future results, financial situation, development, or performance of the company and the estimates provided here. These factors include those discussed in Covestro's public reports. These reports are available at www.covestro.com. The company assumes no liability whatsoever to update these forward-looking statements or to make them conform to future events or developments.