

Press Release

RUDOLF wins SME award at the Responsible Care Federal Competition 2023

Frankfurt, 05.09.2023 - The innovative company RUDOLF has been honoured for its outstanding achievements in the field of sustainability and environmental protection and has won the coveted Responsible Care Federal Competition 2023 in the category SME. In line with the theme „Our sustainable and economical use of energy“, RUDOLF is investing in a new refrigeration plant to supply cooling water for production at its headquarters in Geretsried.

The award was presented as part of a competition organised by the German Chemical Industry Association (VCI). Responsible Care is a voluntary initiative of the chemical industry. Its aim is continuous improvement in the areas of environmental protection, health and safety. Chemical companies and associations in more than 50 countries support the initiative. The award-winning project of the innovative company RUDOLF impressed the jury with its pioneering technology, which reduces CO₂ emissions by up to 99.9 % compared to conventional cooling systems „The project uses near-surface geothermal energy for industrial cooling - according to the motto „Efficiency First“ the most efficient way has been chosen!“ - Jury statement

Eight high performance energy piles for energy efficient cooling water supply

TerraCool's winning system uses near-surface geothermal energy as the most natural form of cooling. It utilises the constant temperature of around 10°C at a depth of around 10 metres below ground. A specially developed heat exchanger system takes advantage of this natural cooling effect. In the future, it will be used to cool chemical production processes at RUDOLF. The main advantage of this technology is that it is CO₂ neutral. The technology is highly efficient and consumes only 0.1 % of the electricity used by conventional cooling systems. By using natural resources, the system reduces CO₂ emissions by up to 99.9 % compared to conventional cooling systems, resulting in a very presentable carbon footprint. Another impressive aspect is its high energy efficiency. With just 1 kW of electrical energy, the system generates up to 600 kW of cooling capacity, thanks to the use of a highly energy-efficient circulating pump system. Energy is, and will continue to be, a valuable „raw material“ for our industry and one that we need to manage carefully. The system is self-contained and has no contact with groundwater. No environmentally harmful refrigerants or antifreeze are required. With this technology, RUDOLF has made a pioneering contribution to the climate-neutral transformation of the economy, proving that innovative solutions can go hand in hand with environmental protection and sustainability. The Responsible Care award recognises the company's commitment to a greener future.

Thanks are also due to the excellent cooperation between the authorities involved as well as the Federal Ministry of Economics and Energy, which supports this innovative project with a funding rate of 26.36 %.

„Now more than ever, humanity must work hand in hand to meet the challenges we face. Our efforts to preserve the planet for future generations have triggered continuous change within our organisation and beyond.“ - Dr Wolfgang Anton Schumann, Managing Director



About RUDOLF

RUDOLF, whose Headquarters are in Geretsried, Bavaria, was founded by Reinhold Rudolf in Northern Bohemia in 1922. The company excels in innovative and high-quality textile auxiliaries, solutions for textile care and construction chemicals.

In 45 countries around the world, 1,987 employees provide logistical and technical services.

The combination of backwards integration, scientific knowledge, development know-how, market insights and thorough application expertise make RUDOLF GmbH an experienced and competent partner for the customers of the textile finishing industry, co-producers and many other industries. RUDOLF offers products that comply with the OEKO-TEX® and GOTS standards, is committed to ZDHC and is a bluesign® system partner. RUDOLF is a founding member of the Transformer Foundation and lives by the philosophy of the Responsible Care initiative, which stands for responsible action in the fields of environment, safety and health.

rudolf.com