# Spotlight on a new Afera Member: Polish tape manufacturer Dalpo Group

Polish adhesive tape manufacturer Dalpo Group, with over 36 years of experience, has evolved from a small family-run business into a leading European innovator in sustainable, high-quality self-adhesive solutions and is now joining Afera to further drive industry collaboration and market expansion.



For over three decades, the Dalpo Group has been at the forefront of the adhesive tapes industry, evolving from a small, family-run business into a major player in the European market. With a strong commitment to innovation, sustainability and quality, Dalpo continues to push the boundaries of self-adhesive solutions, adapting to shifting industry trends and customer expectations.

## From humble beginnings to industry leader

Founded in 1989, the Dalpo Group began as an importer of office supplies. Recognising an opportunity in self-adhesive materials, the company quickly expanded its offerings to include self-adhesive seals, sticky notes and tapes. By 1996, Dalpo had entered the packaging tape printing business, setting the stage for further expansion. In 2004, the company took a significant step by establishing its own tape manufacturing facility, marking a turning point in its growth trajectory. Today, after 36 years in the market,

Dalpo's portfolio includes printed packaging tapes, labels and a diverse range of specialised selfadhesive materials.

#### A legacy of passion and dedication

For Mateusz Rawecki, CEO of the Dalpo Group, the adhesives business has been a lifelong journey. "It feels like this business has always been a part of my life," he shared. Growing up around the company, he witnessed its early challenges and triumphs firsthand. From unloading the first delivery of goods as a child to working summer jobs and internships, he gradually took on larger responsibilities, eventually

becoming managing director in 2005. In 2019, together with Mikołaj Borkowski and Maciej Kłos, Mr. Rawecki assumed full control of the company from its founders, steering Dalpo into a new era of innovation and market expansion.



#### **Expanding across Europe**

Headquartered in Poznań, Poland, the Dalpo Group operates two state-of-theart production plants nearby, strategically positioned to serve both domestic and European markets. The Rosnowo plant specialises in printed packaging tapes, leveraging multiple printing and coating lines to deliver high-quality, flexible solutions. The Niepruszewo facility complements this by producing non-printed tapes, specialty tapes, protective films and self-adhesive labels. Among its eco-

conscious innovations is gummed paper tape, a fully recyclable, water-activated adhesive tape that aligns with the company's commitment to sustainability.

A modern and highly efficient machinery park empowers Dalpo to meet the diverse needs of customers in Poland and abroad. Operating in two fully owned production facilities, the company focuses on their ongoing development and modernisation to maintain the highest standards. Dalpo's production capabilities are backed by 10 advanced printing machines and 6 coating lines, ensuring efficiency, consistency and superior product quality. The company also prioritises renewable energy, integrating photovoltaic panels to reduce its environmental footprint.

## A competitive edge rooted in innovation

The Dalpo Group specialises in the production of high-quality packaging tapes, printed packaging tapes, masking, duct, double-sided and other specialty tapes, protective films, printed protective films, thermal transfer labels, thermal labels, printed labels, linerless labels and other self-adhesive materials. With over 35 years of experience in the international market, the company has developed unique know-how that enables the continuous optimisation of production and organisational processes. Dalpo prioritises innovation by investing in state-of-the-art technologies and expanding its team of 400 qualified specialists.

The Dalpo Group stands out in the self-adhesive market through:

• Eco-friendly solutions: Continuously improving products and production processes to minimise environmental impact.



- Customer-centric approach: Providing reliable, flexible and high-quality products tailored to customer needs.
- Agility in a changing market: Serving over 4,000 customers, Dalpo remains highly responsive to market shifts and emerging demands.
- E-commerce expansion: Recognising the growing importance of digital sales channels and adapting accordingly.



#### Quality and sustainability at the core

The Dalpo Group proudly offers products and services aligned with the highest European standards, as demonstrated by the ISO 9001 certificate awarded in 2006. To meet the wide-ranging needs of its customers, Dalpo collaborates with leading European manufacturers such as 3M and tesa, further enhancing its ability to provide comprehensive solutions tailored to various industries.

Environmental responsibility is a key pillar of the Dalpo Group's operations. Since 2024, the company has met the requirements of the ISO 14001:2015 standard, a globally recognised certification for environmental management systems. Dalpo is also FSC<sup>®</sup> certified, ensuring its products are sourced from responsibly managed forests. The company continues to expand its range to include low-waste and



recyclable solutions such as water-activated paper tape and linerless labels.

In line with its sustainability goals, Dalpo has established environmental, social and governance (ESG) initiatives, including:

- Reducing its carbon footprint
- Optimising energy consumption
- Ensuring a living wage for all employees
- Supporting educational initiatives
- Contributing to violence-prevention efforts.

## Corporate social responsibility: A commitment to giving back

Corporate social responsibility forms a cornerstone of the Dalpo Group's organisational philosophy. The company has pledged to donate 1% of its annual profit to charitable causes, supporting



numerous foundations locally and internationally. In 2023, Dalpo became an official Friend of UNICEF, reinforcing its dedication to making a positive impact on society.

# Navigating market changes and challenges

The adhesive tape industry has undergone significant transformation in recent years, with sustainability and customer experience becoming key decision-making factors. In addition to

consumer-driven sustainability trends, the Dalpo Group must navigate challenges such as unfair competition from Asian suppliers, whose pricing advantages—bolstered by government subsidies and cheaper raw materials—undermine European manufacturers.

#### Trends shaping the future

The demand for recyclable and eco-friendly products is shaping the future of the self-adhesive industry. Innovations such as labels made from sugar beet waste and bio-based adhesives demonstrate a promising shift towards a circular economy. However, greenwashing remains a concern, emphasising the need for transparent sustainability claims.

Another key challenge is the regulatory landscape, with laws like the Packaging and Packaging Waste Regulation (PPWR) aiming to standardise sustainability efforts across the European market.

#### Joining Afera: A commitment to industry collaboration

Dalpo has joined Afera, the European Adhesive Tape Association, to engage with industry leaders in discussions on:

- Eco-friendly adhesives and packaging solutions
- <u>Carbon footprint calculation methods</u>
- Legislative and certification processes
- European market protection and competitiveness
- Production automation and emerging B2B distribution trends.



The Dalpo Group's vision for the future



For more information, please visit <u>www.dalpo.pl/en</u>.

With a strong foundation, a commitment to sustainability and a relentless drive for innovation, the Dalpo Group is poised for continued growth in the European adhesive market. By embracing new technologies, adapting to industry trends and maintaining a customer-first approach, the company is wellequipped to lead the next chapter in selfadhesive solutions.

As Dalpo moves forward, one thing remains certain: The company's dedication to quality, sustainability and market leadership will continue to define its success.