

Results of Competition: ISCF Smart Sustainable Packaging: Feasibility Studies for Demonstrators

Competition Code: 1912_ISCF_CRD_MMM_SSPPPROPOSALS

Total available funding is £700,000

Note: These proposals have succeeded in the assessment stage of this competition. All are subject to grant offer and conditions being met.

Participant organisation names	Project title	Proposed project costs	Proposed project grant
NOTPLA LIMITED	Notpla Liner: A seaweed based alternative to plastic laminates in the paper and board industry.	£49,215	£34,450

Note: you can see all Innovate UK-funded projects here: <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/innovate-uk-funded-projects>

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Project description - provided by applicants

Notpla Liner is our naturally biodegradable coating for paper products, providing a grease proof and water resistant barrier. This is an ideal coating for use in the service of food products (e.g. for take-away meals) and the storage of dried goods.

Notpla Liner is currently undergoing the industrialisation process, for coating of paperboard with our seaweed-based material. This project will establish the feasibility of operating a coating line, applying the liner at industrial scale, dry and wet mixing of the liner at scale.

The Notpla Liner can be supplied to paperboard and box manufacturers as a powder, and is targeted for release to the market by end of 2020\.

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IMPACT LABORATORIES LIMITED	A Novel Separation System for Waste Plastic Films - (BOSS2D)	£43,430	£30,401

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Project description - provided by applicants

Plastic films are notoriously difficult to recycle. Impact have identified a mechanical process (BOSS2D) which will allow the vast majority of post consumer films to be suitable for recycling. As a result a large volume of waste film which was previously sent to landfill, incinerated or lost into the environment will be recovered and could be reused in new packaging applications.

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HAYDALE COMPOSITE SOLUTIONS LIMITED	Coatings for compostable-recyclable high barrier packaging film (HiBarFilm)	£34,975	£24,482
Bangor University		£14,849	£14,849
DUNBIA LIMITED		£0	£0
PARKSIDE FLEXIBLES (EUROPE) LIMITED		£0	£0

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HiBarFilm is a 3 month proof of concept project to address the Plastic Pact, as it targets the elimination of the use of (currently) non-recyclable, non-compostable high performance multilayer packaging.

To achieve its aims, HiBarFilm will provide a film design that will result in a superior and affordable product which will eliminate the need of a multilayer lamination process, commercially used in the manufacture of multilayer plastics for food packaging but. HiBarFilm will have a high-performance gas/water barrier packaging, but an additional major functionality, it will be designed to be recyclable or compostable (therefore not releasing unwanted micro-plastics to the environment).

HiBarFilm will use a systemic approach to analyse data produced that would integrate Life Cycle Analysis with broader questions related with the economic feasibility and sustainability of the solution proposed, by involving different stakeholders of the supply chain, from material production, plastic processors, and users of the food packaging.

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INTERFACE POLYMERS LTD	Single layer high barrier polymer films for easier recycling of single use plastics	£49,517	£34,662

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Project description - provided by applicants

The use of new technology to enable single layer plastic films to be produced that have barrier properties equivalent to the plastic multilayer films current used in a wide range of single use packaging. These single layers will have the ability to be integrated easily into the existing plastic recycle stream which is not the case currently .

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UNPACKAGED INNOVATION LTD.	Unpackaged: A Circular Supply Chain Solution To Scale Bulk in Retail	£19,618	£13,733
ACTIVISERS LTD		£12,576	£8,803
WHERE THERE'S SMOKE... LIMITED		£17,746	£12,422

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Project description - provided by applicants

Single-use plastic (SUP) packaging is now firmly on the public agenda. Whilst the government and industry have started to look for solutions, most innovation to date has focused on creating alternatives to SUP packaging, such as bio plastics or paper, or improving collection and recycling systems, because this allowed 'business as usual' to continue.

Whilst these are valuable improvements, we believe the focus should be at the top of the waste hierarchy - i.e. the reduction and reuse of packaging - which would represent a true shift from a linear to a circular economy solution for plastic packaging.

With over 13 years of experience in zero-waste retail, and actively promoting reuse across the sector, Unpackaged proposes to work with a consortium of experts and industry partners to explore the feasibility of reusable packaging in the supply chain. We will leverage existing logistics infrastructure to move bulk products in a 100% circular system in order to service bulk dispensers in-store.

We believe that innovation in this area is necessary to enable retailers to implement and scale bulk (zero packaging) solutions for their customers. We aim to prove that it is possible to get rid of SUP packaging within the supply chain with a reusable alternative that is financially, operationally and environmentally viable.

The results of this research will lead to live in-store trials with our partners as we test and build our solution.

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WELLS PLASTICS LIMITED	Foamed biopolymer formulation for replacing expanded polystyrene and PVC in pots tubs and tray applications	£34,654	£20,792
Bangor University		£14,850	£14,850

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Project description - provided by applicants

Wells Plastics and Bangor University will work together to develop and exploit a foamed biobased polymer system with advanced properties that make it suitable for applications where high temperature and mechanical performance is needed with the potential to replace EPS/PVC in pots tubs and tray applications.

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HE3 LTD.	Plastic to Plastic Reformation	£48,905	£34,234

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Project description - provided by applicants

A feasibility study into the technical and legislative requirements needed in order to facilitate the construction of a demonstration plant in the UK for the pyrolytic and fractional distillation conversion of waste plastic packaging material into a base oil product suitable for use as a feed-stock for virgin polymer production.

The UK demonstration plant will utilise an existing patented technology that has already been developed, tested and operated for long periods at pilot plant level.

The pilot plant has been able to demonstrate the conversion of Medium Density Polyethylene ("MDPE"), High Density Polyethylene ("HDPE"), Polypropylene ("PP") and Polystyrene ("PS") as both single streams and mixtures into a high quality cracker feedstock for ethylene production and ultimate use in new polymers.

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VEGWARE LIMITED	Establishing a trade waste collection for Vegware compostable packaging in Manchester	£38,977	£23,386

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Project description - provided by applicants

This project will look to establish a new trade waste collection for Vegware compostable packaging and food waste in the Manchester region. Vegware will work with partners in the waste sector and use our expertise on compostable packaging to improve the waste infrastructure for compostable materials.

The pilot project will last 3 months, and we will invite a select number of key locations to trial a collection of Vegware packaging and food waste. As part of the project we will look to improve education on compostable materials and behaviour change to waste management. We will support with the waste messaging including bin signage, posters and other marketing materials.

We will publicise findings from this project and aim to offer a full solution for the Manchester region. The ultimate vision to provide all clients using Vegware to be able to effectively compost it.

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