

# UK (Scottish) biotechnology SME seeks thin film manufacturer for commercial manufacturing agreement

## Summary

Profile type

**Business request**

Company's country

**United Kingdom**

POD reference

**BRGB20230621027**

Profile status

**PUBLISHED**

Type of partnership

**Commercial agreement**

Targeted countries

**• World**

Contact Person

[Rita ELSTE - TOMSONE](#)

Term of validity

**21 Jun 2023**  
**20 Jun 2024**

Last update

**21 Jun 2023**

## General Information

### Short summary

A UK (Scottish) biotechnology company is looking for a film manufacturer to produce its innovative packaging films for food, medical device, and pharmaceutical markets. Cooperation is envisaged via a commercial manufacturing agreement.

### Full description

The SME has developed its own home compostable films which have attracted huge interest from global brands and others wishing to replace single-use plastics in a wide range of situations.

The company is currently building its own capacity to produce the biopolymer at the heart of its technology, and wishes to collaborate with a manufacturing partner to perfect its home-compostable packaging film and its manufacturing process, under a mutually beneficial commercial manufacturing agreement.

Production methods must result in accurate and reliable film forming from a pre-made water-based biopolymer blend (via casting, slot or tubular extrusion, knife-over-roller deposition or similar) in the range of 20 to 50 microns, and with sufficient drying capacity to achieve high speed and cost-effective reel-stock production. Note: hotmelt extrusion will not work. Capacity should be around 15 million square meters per annum in the first instance and preferably located on a single site with the potential to scale-up rapidly thereafter, even if this requires further capital investment.

### Advantages and innovations

The company's proprietary technology and know-how is protected, and a long-term relationship is envisaged with the manufacturing partner being sought.

The packaging products being developed from the base film, described above, have shelf-life enhancing properties and will especially find favour in perishable food applications. The end-user or consumer will be able to compost the food packaging alongside existing food waste or "green garden waste" and not have to worry about separating it first.

Use of this novel packaging will help meet the environmental targets of manufacturers, retailers and consumers of packaging and wrapped/packaged goods.

### Technical specification or expertise sought

It is expected that interested parties provide a profile of their organisation comprising their expertise and capabilities against the outlines provided as follows:

#### Expertise:

Production methods must include accurate film forming (in the range of 20 to 50 microns) using methods compatible with aqueous based biopolymer blends (gels, viscous solutions or pastes) allied to film drying technology to achieve cost effective manufacture of reels of packaging film. Capacity should be around 15million square meters per annum in the first instance and preferably able to be done on a single site. Consideration will be given to smaller production facilities with the potential to scale-up rapidly with further capital investment.

#### Other advantageous capabilities:

- 1) A pilot facility to test blends/recipes to support product and process development.
- 2) Facility capable of complying with regulatory standards for Food, Pharma, and medical devices such as BRC, FSSC22000, ISO13485, GMP.
- 3) Quality testing facilities on-site.
- 4) Ability to convert finished reels of packaging film to articles such as pouches and bags.
- 5) Expertise in blending water-based biopolymers to produce viscous solutions or gels for extrusion or similar film forming

### Stage of development

### Sustainable Development goals

- **Goal 13: Climate Action**

### IPR Status

## Partner Sought

### Expected role of the partner

An established manufacturer of packaging films (20 to 50 microns thick) to produce a minimum of 15million square meters per annum, in the first instance. Capabilities include operating under ISO compliance standards for regulated

markets such as food, medical devices, and pharmaceuticals.

Type of partnership

**Commercial agreement**

Type and size of the partner

- **SME 50 - 249**
- **SME 11-49**
- **Big company**
- **SME <=10**

## Dissemination

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Technology keywords

Market keywords

- **09004008 - Other manufacturing (not elsewhere classified)**
- **08001023 - Other chemicals and materials (not elsewhere classified)**
- **08001019 - Speciality/performance chemicals**
- **08001008 - Membranes and membrane-based products**
- **09004006 - Packing products and systems**

Targeted countries

- **World**

Sector groups involved