

# German startup is looking for partners from automotive, fashion and/or furniture industry to test and develop their sustainable vegan leather alternative

## Summary

Profile type

**Technology request**

Company's country

**Germany**

POD reference

**TRDE20230811011**

Profile status

**PUBLISHED**

Type of partnership

**Commercial agreement with technical assistance**

Targeted countries

**• World**

Contact Person

**[Rita ELSTE - TOMSONE](#)**

Term of validity

**11 Aug 2023**

**10 Aug 2024**

Last update

**15 Aug 2023**

## General Information

### Short summary

A German startup developed a special process to produce a leather alternative made from hemp. The innovative product is an eco-friendly leather-like product that can be used in various sectors. To further develop the product, pilot customers as venture clients from automotive, fashion or furniture industry are sought.

### Full description

The company is an innovative German startup, founded in 2021, that developed an innovative and sustainable leather alternative made from purely plant-based material.

The product is made from the crop waste of hemp plants, it is 100% plant-based and completely free of plastics, fossil fuels and chemicals. The startup developed a special process to process the fibrous agricultural residues and use them to produce a leather-like material that not only feels like leather, but also looks like leather. It is durable and long-lasting and can be used for various products in various industries. Thus, the company contributes to a transparent, regional and sustainable circular economy.

The company is looking for industrial partners who use their leather alternative as pilot customers and get involved in the further development of the material (Venture Client Model).

Pilot customers and development partners are companies from automotive, fashion and/or furniture industry.

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#### Advantages and innovations

The product's manufacturing process is based on continuous production on existing machinery. This allows for rapid and cost-efficient scaling. Furthermore, the company presents supply chain security, as they have a robust network of regional production partners and raw material suppliers. The value chain can be adapted to locally available plant fibers when scaled globally.

The company meets the EU Green New Deal regarding circular economy, climate neutrality and the use of chemicals and plastics. Other benefits are the material's technical properties, variability and ease of processing, eliminating the need for the customer to make adaptations to their products by replacing leather with the new product.

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#### Technical specification or expertise sought

Sought partners are from automotive, fashion and/or furniture industry. They are asked to test the product and to develop the material further together with the German startup (Venture Client Model).

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#### Stage of development

**Available for demonstration**

#### Sustainable Development goals

- **Goal 12: Responsible Consumption and Production**
- **Goal 9: Industry, Innovation and Infrastructure**
- **Goal 13: Climate Action**
- **Goal 14: Life Below Water**

#### IPR Status

**IPR applied but not yet granted**

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## Partner Sought

#### Expected role of the partner

Sought partners are from automotive (development department of car seats manufacturers), fashion and/or furniture industry. They are asked to test the product and to develop the material further together with the German startup (Venture Client Model).

#### Type of partnership

#### Type and size of the partner

**Commercial agreement with technical assistance**

- SME <=10
- Big company
- R&D Institution
- Other
- SME 11-49
- SME 50 - 249

## Dissemination

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## Technology keywords

- **02007020 - Biobased materials**

## Targeted countries

- **World**

## Market keywords

- **07004005 - Furnishing and Furniture**
- **07004008 - Other consumer products**
- **007004008 - Automobile parts**
- **07004001 - Clothing, shoes and accessories (including jewellery)**
- **08005 - Other Industrial Products (not elsewhere classified)**

## Sector groups involved