

PROPRIETARY TECHNOLOGY DEVELOPED FOR PRODUCTION OF HMF (HYDROXYMETHYLFURFURAL) AND FURANDICARBOXYLIC ACID USING CARDOON ROOTS

Novara – Düsseldorf, 19 October 2016 - Novamont research has developed its own technology for producing hydroxymethylfurfural, furandicarboxylic acid and a series of polymers for captive use, based on the roots of the cardoon crop, which will enable the strengthening of existing strategic partnerships and the creation of new alliances.

This is a complex system of integrated technologies with low environmental impact. The aim is to create a demonstration system and validate the product in certain initial applications from 2018.

That will enable the production of the fifth generation of MATER-BI as well as a series of oxygen and carbon dioxide barrier products. The raw material is found in the roots of cardoon plants and supply will become increasingly abundant as production of this crop expands.

"Novamont's objective is not to replace existing plastics but to find more sustainable solutions to a series of applications being developed or soon to be developed with strategic partners. From this perspective we are working on this complex system of technologies in order to transform them into our fifth foundation for the bioeconomy," said Catia Bastioli, Managing Director of Novamont.

The following is a list of Novamont technology and the different generations of MATER-BI:

1. azelaic acid and pelargonic acid from oils → 3rd generation MATER-BI
2. bio-butanediol from sugars using bacteria → 4th generation MATER-BI

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The Novamont Group is world leader in the development and production of bioplastics and biochemicals through the integration of chemistry, the environment and agriculture. With 600 employees, the Group posted sales of €170 million in 2015 and made continuous investments in research and development activities (6.4% of its 2015 turnover, 20% of its staff) and has a portfolio of around 1,000 patents. The group has its headquarters in Novara, a production facility in Terni and research laboratories in Novara, Terni and Piana di Monte Verna (CE). The Novamont subsidiaries are based in Porto

Torres (SS), Bottrighe (RO), Terni and Patrica (FR). Active in Germany, France and the United States through commercial offices and a representative office in Brussels (Belgium), Novamont operates through own distributors in Benelux, Scandinavia, Denmark, the United Kingdom, China, Japan, Canada, Australia and New Zealand.

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