

News

Heinz and Coke Team up to Squeeze Ketchup into PlantBottles

(Greenbiz, 23/02/2011)

The Coca-Cola Company today announced a partnership that will license the beverage giant's plant-based packaging to Heinz for use in its ketchup packaging. The bottle technology, which Coke launched in 2009, uses a plastic sourced from sugarcane waste to replace 30 percent of the plastic in beverage bottles. The company's goal is to eventually achieve 100 percent renewable sources for its packaging, and licensing the technology to Heinz will no doubt help fund the research process. ([Read more](#))

Bioplastics become material (Greenbiz, 17/02/2011)

For years, the search for alternatives to petroleum-based plastics has led researchers down a variety of paths, many of which turned out to be dead ends. Henry Ford, the automaker and showman, produced a prototype plastic car made from soybeans in 1941, but plastic from plants wilted as plastic from oil gained favor as a substitute for scarce steel during World War II. ([Read more](#))

Global bioplastics market to surpass \$11 billion by 2015 (Environmental Leader, 03/02/2011)

In 2010 the global market for bioplastics achieved estimated sales of \$2.74 billion, according to the latest issue of EL Insights. This value is expected to grow by 32.4% a year from 2011 to 2015, reaching an estimated value of \$11.14 billion in 2015. ([Read more](#) – article accessible on subscription only)

Manchester leads green chemical training push (University of Manchester, 20/01/2011)

The 'European biotechnology training network for the support of the chemical manufacturing industries' (BIOTRAINS) programme brings together microbiologists, enzymologists, chemists, engineers and process development experts involved in the training of the next generation of scientists who will develop green manufacturing methods for the chemical industry. ([Read more](#))

Researchers contribute to new bio-business opportunities for Danish businesses (Risø DTU, 19/01/2011)

Risø DTU has held a series of networking meetings between researchers and companies producing biomass. The outcome is not to be mistaken. There are plenty of potential for Denmark to convert biomass into high value products that can be sold at good prices. ([Read more](#))

Researchers developing bio-based polymers that heal cracks (Physorg, 6/01/2011)

Michael Kessler has worked with polymers that repair themselves when they crack. And he's worked with polymers made from vegetable oils. Now he's working to combine the two technologies. ([Read more](#))

Highlight

In the biotech business: it is not what you know, it's what you know about who you know (Alpha Galileo, 10/02/2011)

The opportunities that arise and whether or not they are exploited by biotechnology entrepreneurs depends to a large extent on how well connected is an individual business person and how well they mobilise their social networks. ([Read more](#))

Developments in advanced biocomposites (Technical Research Center of Finland, 10/02/2011)

The variety of biomaterials, the number of material combinations, processing technologies and potential applications offer extensive opportunities but there are many challenges that must be overcome during the development of biocomposites and bioplastics. The next generation of biomaterials are being developed through advanced processing and nanotechnology. This publication gives overview of the research activities and main achievements at VTT (Technical Research Center of Finland) in this area. ([Read more](#))

EU moves to cut red tape for research (Euractiv, 25/01/2011)

The European Commission has taken steps to simplify EU funding for research and innovation to cut costs and attract more participants, particularly small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs). Accounting burdens and costs for SMEs in the EU's FP7

research programme have been reduced immediately, said Máire Geoghegan-Quinn, EU commissioner for research, innovation and science. ([Read more](#))

USDA biobased labels debut (Environmental Leader, 20/01/2011)

The US Department of Agriculture has launched a voluntary product certification for biobased commercial and industrial products. ([Read more](#))

Events

BIO-Europe Spring 2011, 14-16 March, Milano, Italy

Sustainable Business Summit - Business In Evolution, 17 March, London, United Kingdom

ChemBIO Finland, 22-24 March, Helsinki, Finland

INNOVACT - The European Forum for Innovative Start-Ups, 29-30 March, Reims, France

SusChem Stakeholder Event - Partners for Sustainable Growth, 17 May, Amsterdam, The Netherlands

Materia Nova Open Day, 25 May, Ghislenghien, Belgium

19th European Biomass Conference and Exhibition - From research to industry and markets, 6-9 June, Berlin, Germany

Seventh International Conference on Renewable Resources and Biorefineries, 8-10 June, Bruges, Belgium

Call for action

Wishing to invest in the bio-based products market?

Join us and meet new business partners and potential investors at the BIOCHEM Accelerator Forum, the first networking event dedicated to the bio-based community. It will consist of:

- the final of the BIOCHEM Business Plan Competition. Most promising ideas to stimulate the generation of new bio-based business will be awarded. In particular, universities, research institutes and technology transfer offices are encouraged to submit their plans online by the end of March 2011.
- a Venture Capital Event, with presentations of selected business projects to a panel of experts. Venture-backed companies already active in the sector of bio-based products are invited to apply online.
- a Partnering System, with the possibility to schedule one-to-one meetings with other participants and experts.

For more information and to apply online, go to:

www.e-unlimited.com/biochem