



Peppers wrapped in bi-axially oriented PLA film (photo [m]: bioplastics MAGAZINE)

New BoPLA Film

Taghleef Industries, (Ti) one of the largest manufacturers of BoPP (bi-axially oriented polypropylene) packaging films in the world, is launching a new bioplastic packaging material.

Throughout previous years Taghleef Industries, headquartered in Dubai, United Arab Emirates, has continuously grown by size as well as by the product offering to the market. In 2008 Radici Film, Italy became part of the Group. Realizing the growing demand for more sustainable packaging solutions, Ti has invested into this new film technology and will start its production in their Italian plant near Venice later this year. Ti acknowledges that Bioplastics have emerged as real alternatives to oil-based plastics in Europe, USA and Asia and major market players are investing. "We have established a market position as a reliable, long-term committed supplier to the industry. We believe that this continuity and stability will support the market growth for our new BoPLA films. The market response so far is highly encouraging," comments Valerio Garzitto, CEO of Ti Europe.

Frank Ernst, Product Manager and experienced in the Bioplastics market explains: "Our new BoPLA film range is based on the PLA (Poly Lactic Acid) resin Ingeo™ from NatureWorks. These resins are based on 100% renewable resources and are registered by AIB Vincotte under the OK Biobased certification scheme with the highest 4 star rating of renewable carbon content. Recent developments in the market left a gap which we are delighted to fill guaranteeing the continuous supply of BoPLA films to our customers. The market response on Ti's move is very positive and customers will benefit from our vast experience as a reliable supplier to the flexible packaging industry."

The product's properties allow it to be used across most food packaging sectors, including perishables, as well as for lids, and non-food applications too.

Ti is currently undertaking film testing processes to ensure the new production process meets its exacting standards, and that the new product meets the quality expectations of Ti's exacting customer base.

The new portfolio will comprise a transparent film and a metallised version. It has outstanding optical properties (high gloss, low haze), superior mechanical strength (tear resistance), strong seals at low temperatures, excellent twist and dead fold, and high moisture transmission. It is made from an annual renewable source, so is truly sustainable; is biodegradable under composting conditions, and is oil and fat resistant.

"The future will bring a wide array of new applications and developments. We are prepared for this and are looking forward to helping create the next generation of packaging materials," concluded the product manager Frank Ernst.

 www.ti-films.com