

M-Base News No. 35, June 2008

Biopolymer Database

Biopolymers are becoming more and more competitive, especially in the packaging industry. The remaining economic disadvantages due to limited production capacity can be compensated by rising oil prices and supporting political measures.

The main problem for biopolymers is the missing and at least non-standardized availability of actual material data. In order to improve the situation, M-Base Engineering + Software GmbH with the University of Applied Sciences Hanover started a project to create a Biopolymer Database which will contain a full overview of the market.

The guideline is the well known CAMPUS® database, which has become the international standard information system for conventional Engineering Polymers. The new Database will allow quick and easy access to information about

biopolymer producers, contact persons and material properties, like mechanical properties, permeability, degradation or processing behaviour.

Due to an enormous high interest on the part of the resin suppliers and the manufacturing industry, a pre-release of the project results has already been published on the internet, including exclusively data provided by biopolymer manufactures which are present at the market. This data is incomplete and not comparable. The free pre-release is available under

www.materialdatacenter.com.

The main goals of the following activities will be to collect complete information about available biopolymers, using uniform test standards and to generate comparable and complete material data. The result will be a biopolymer database, which is compatible with the international accepted CAMPUS®

system and will be accessible through the internet.

The project is supported by the Agency of Renewable Resources/ Fachagentur Nachwachsende Rohstoffe e. V. (FNR) by order of the German Federal Ministry of Food, Agriculture and Consumer Protection (BMELV).

Access to the system is free, however registration is necessary. Online registration is available. The first version of the system is available with German user interface. An English version will be launched during July.

A detailed description of the project content and the specific material tests is available from M-Base. Producers of biopolymers are welcome to register for participation. Inclusion of qualified material data is free, additional support in structuring of data, as well as comprehensive consulting services in all related aspects is also available.

M-Base
Engineering + Software GmbH
For more information:

Dennewartstr. 27
D-52068 Aachen
www.m-base.de

Phone: +49-241-963-1450
Fax: +49-241-963-1469
E-mail: info@m-base.de