



## **TAR UMT IN THE LIMELIGHT**

# **Bio Plast Pom Unveils NOPLA: Revolutionary Potato StarchBased Mat...**

In an innovative leap towards sustainability, Bio Plast Pom, in collaboration with Gdańsk University of Technology and other scientific centres, has developed a new compostable and biodegradable material named NOPLA, derived from potato starch. This groundbreaking material, designed to reduce environmental impact, boasts lower CO2 emissions and enhanced energy efficiency, marking a significant step forward in sustainable material science.

### **Revolutionary Material for a Greener Future**

NOPLA sets itself apart as a non-synthetic, plastic-free alternative that decomposes without leaving microplastics, aligning with EU Directive 904/2019 SUP for the manufacture of eco-friendly products such as cutlery and straws. Tested by the Polish Institute of Hygiene for food contact safety, NOPLA emerges as a viable solution to reducing plastic pollution, with its biodegradability and compostability meeting the EN 13432 standards. Remarkably, products made from NOPLA sink in water bodies, providing nourishment rather than harm to aquatic life.

### **Technological Innovation and Environmental Impact**

Bio Plast Pom's NOPLA not only showcases a smaller carbon footprint, with CO2 emissions at 1.7kg per kilogram compared to polypropylene's 3.5kg but also highlights a 30% reduction in energy consumption during its manufacturing process. The company's commitment to sustainable practices extends to the development of a unique production line for NOPLA's biogranulate, compatible with existing manufacturing machinery. This adaptability encourages manufacturers to integrate sustainability into their product lines, potentially reducing recycling fees mandated for plastic products across Europe.

### **Global Context and Future Directions**

The introduction of NOPLA by Bio Plast Pom resonates with global efforts to combat plastic pollution and transition towards greener alternatives. Similar initiatives, such as the development of starch-based biopolymers for intelligent food packaging by The National University of Malaysia and Tunku Abdul Rahman University of Management and Technology, underscore the growing trend of sustainable material innovation. As NOPLA begins production, its potential to revolutionize the packaging industry and contribute to a more sustainable world is immense, challenging the status quo and offering a hopeful glimpse into a plastic-free future.

