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# Bioindustrial Bankability



**Stephanie Rich**  
Head of Platform  
Bread & Butter  
Ventures



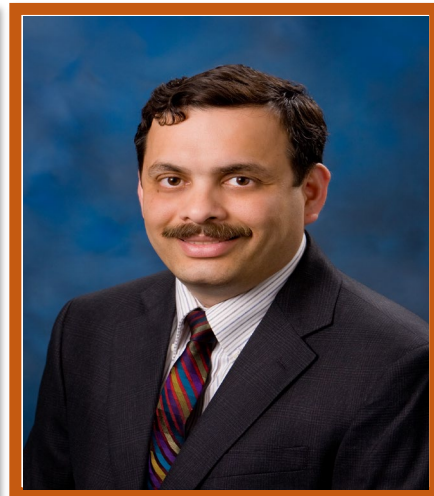
**Suhas  
Narayanaswamy**  
Principal  
Lewis & Clark  
AgriFood



**Maxx Chatsko**  
Founder  
Solt DB



**Christian Kemp-  
Griffin**  
Chief Executive  
Officer  
CelluComp



**Sundeep Vani, Ph.D.**  
Consultant in  
Industrial  
Technology



Agricultural Utilization Research Institute



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# Bioindustrial Bankability



**Suhas Narayanaswamy**

Principal

Lewis & Clark AgriFood





# Lewis & Clark AgriFood - AURI

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# Suhas Narayanaswamy

Principal



Suhas brings over a decade of experience in the Food and Agriculture sectors, blending his roles as both an Investor and Operator. Currently, he spearheads investment initiatives for Lewis & Clark AgriFood, leveraging his expertise across the AgriFood landscape. Suhas has also made investments in several sectors including Bio Materials and serves on the boards of Natural Fiber Welding and Lingrove.

Prior to his current role, Suhas played a pivotal role in building and scaling a row crop seed business in India, where he cultivated deep connections within the farming community. His diverse investment portfolio spans from private investments and M&A to Buyouts, with notable stints at G2 Capital Advisors and Babson College Endowment where he evaluated and executed investments.

Suhas holds an MBA from Babson College, specializing in Finance and Entrepreneurship, complemented by a bachelor's degree in Electronics Engineering from Visvesvaraya Technological University. Suhas is committed to driving transformative change within the Food and Agriculture sectors.

# Lewis & Clark AgriFood Overview

Late-stage venture and growth investments spanning food, agriculture, and beyond

## Our Firm at a Glance

>\$350mm AUM	>25 Investments made	80+ Years relevant experience
16 Investing professionals	St. Louis, MO Headquarters	4+ Key focus areas

## Investment Focus

- + **STAGE:** Series A to C; Growth
- + **CHECK SIZE:** \$5 to \$20mm
- + **ROLE:** Lead or Co-Lead
- + **TYPE:** Equity or Debt
- + **LOCATION:** North American Focus
- + **USE:** Expansion Capital

## Verticals and Target Categories

Plant Science & Technology	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Biological-Based Crop Inputs</li><li>• Digital Farm Management Solutions</li><li>• Novel Crop Genetics</li><li>• Robotics &amp; Autonomy</li></ul>	Supply Chain Efficiency	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Food Waste &amp; Retail Technologies</li><li>• Food Safety &amp; Compliance</li><li>• Logistics &amp; Trade Optimization</li><li>• Sustainable Packaging &amp; Materials</li></ul>
Animal Health & Nutrition	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Digital Herd Management Solutions</li><li>• Genetics &amp; Genetics-Based Tools</li><li>• Novel Feed Additives / Ingredients</li><li>• Vaccines &amp; Therapeutics</li></ul>	Food & Food Technology	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Food-as-Medicine</li><li>• Discovery &amp; Product Development</li><li>• Novel Food Ingredients</li><li>• Processing Technologies</li></ul>

# Lewis & Clark Biomaterials Investments

Investing in novel platforms with superior performance and transformative potential



NATURAL FIBER WELDING®

## Description

All natural, plant-based performance materials including leather alternatives and textiles from regenerative fibers



## Description

Novel green chemistry platform to develop high value ingredients, including alternatives to silicones and petroleum-derived polymers



Living proof.™



## Description

Plant-based, high-performance composite materials with applications across wall coverings, furniture, cabinets, vehicle interiors, and more





# Bioindustrial Bankability



**Maxx Chatsko**

Founder

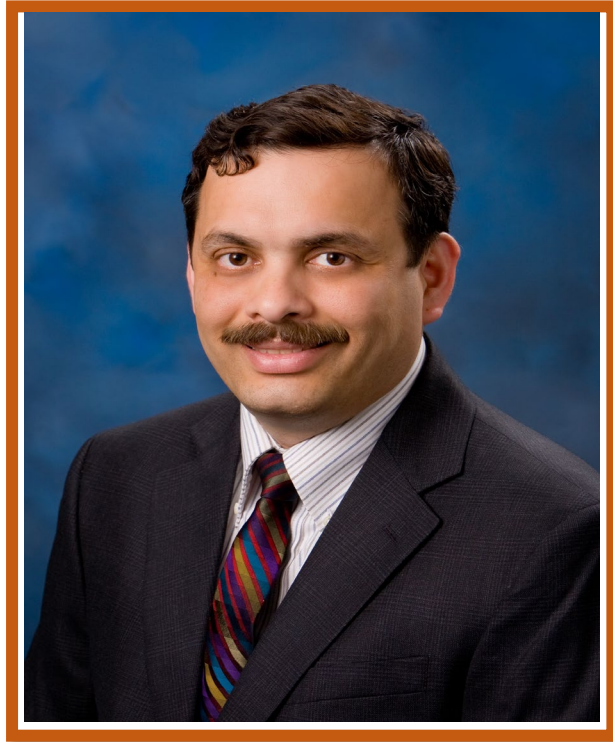
Solt DB

# Bioindustrial Bankability



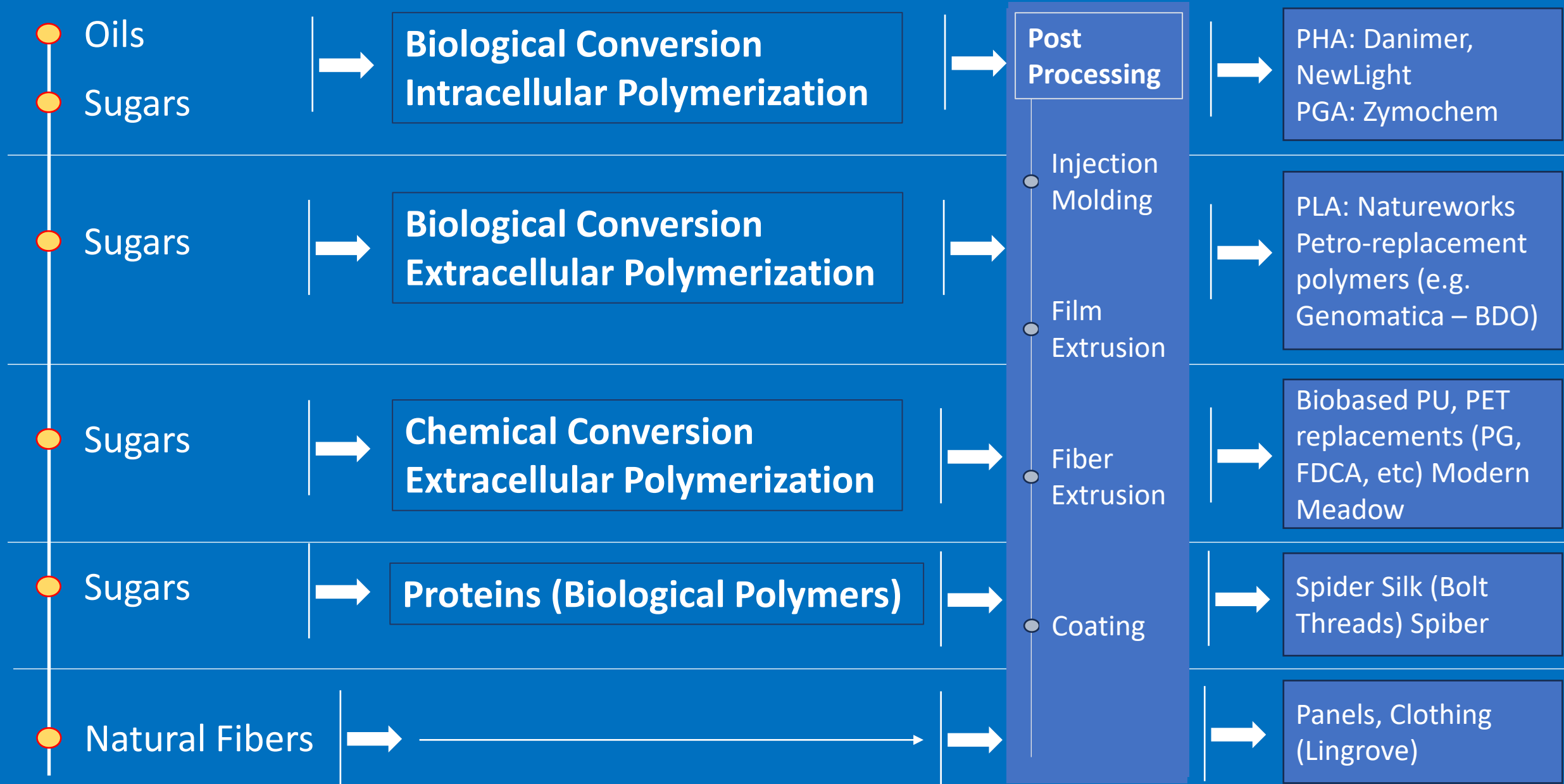
**Christian Kemp- Griffin**  
Chief Executive Officer  
CelluComp

# Bioindustrial Bankability



**Sundeep Vani, Ph.D.**  
Consultant in Industrial  
Technology

# Biomaterials: Technical Framework



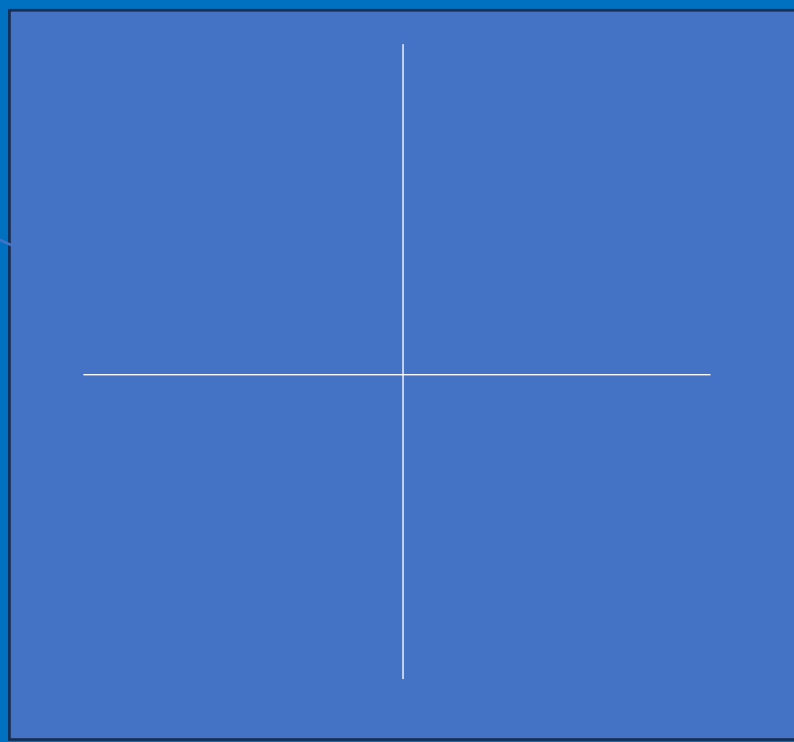


# Biomaterials: Commercial Framework

## Costs

- R&D
- Pilot and Commercialization
- Capital
- Customer Validation and Customer Acceptance
- Operating

↑  
Cost and Time to Market



Replacement → Novelty

## Application (Margin & TAM)

- Fabrics
- Leather
- Packaging
- Architectural/Design Applications
- Disposable Diapers

# Panel Discussion



# Audience Questions & Answers



# slido



**Where do you feel the greatest challenge lies in financing for support of the bioindustrial sector?**

ⓘ Start presenting to display the poll results on this slide.



# Keynote Address: NatureWorks – A Case Study on Bioindustrial Success!



**Joe Schroeder, Ph.D.**  
Chief Scientist  
NatureWorks, LLC



# NatureWorks: A Case Study on Bioindustrial Success

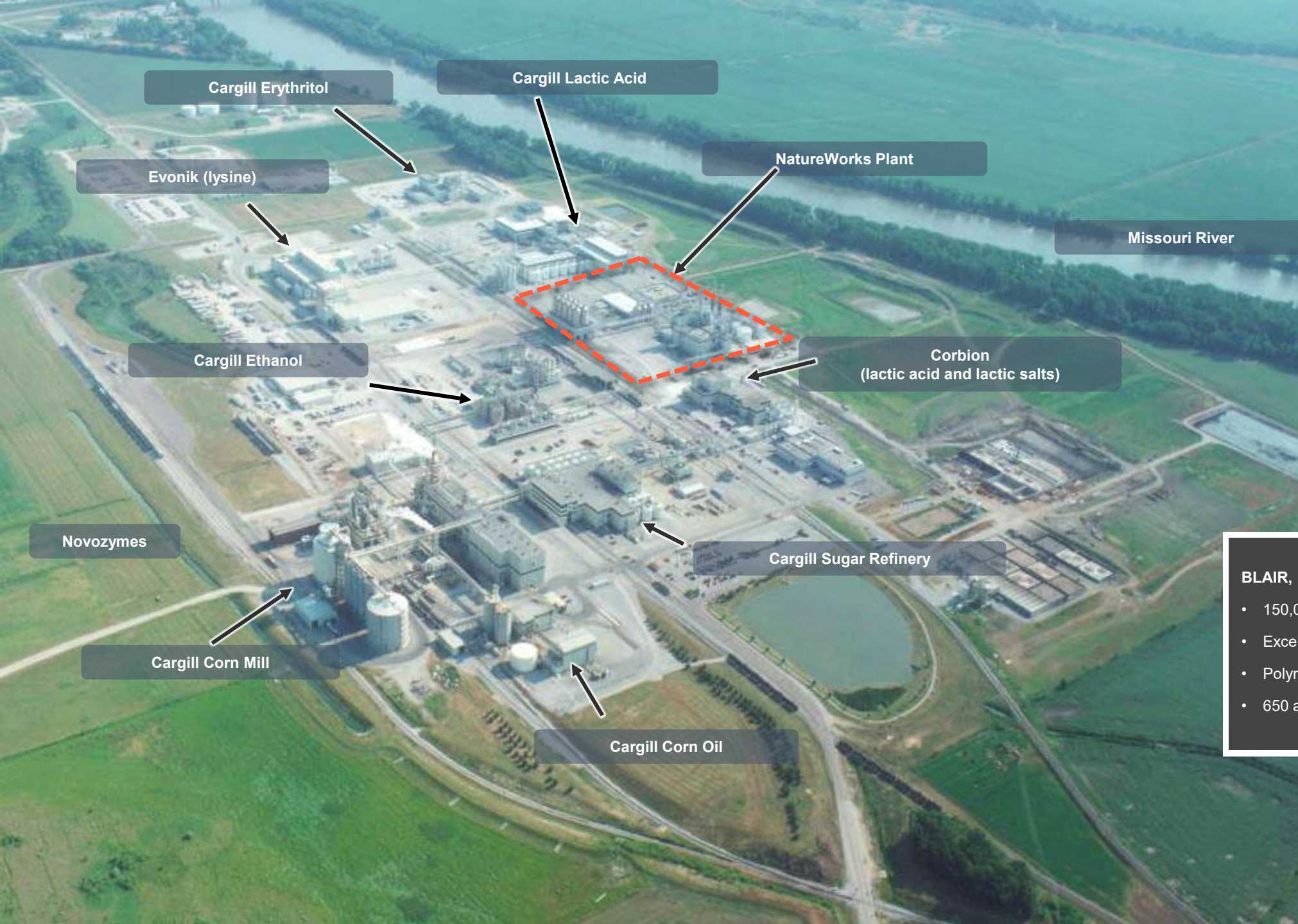
Joe Schroeder, Ph.D.  
Chief Scientist, NatureWorks



## *Our Mission*

*to be the global leader in producing a broad family of performance plastics from renewable resources, dedicated to meeting the world's needs today without compromising the earth's ability to meet the needs of tomorrow.*



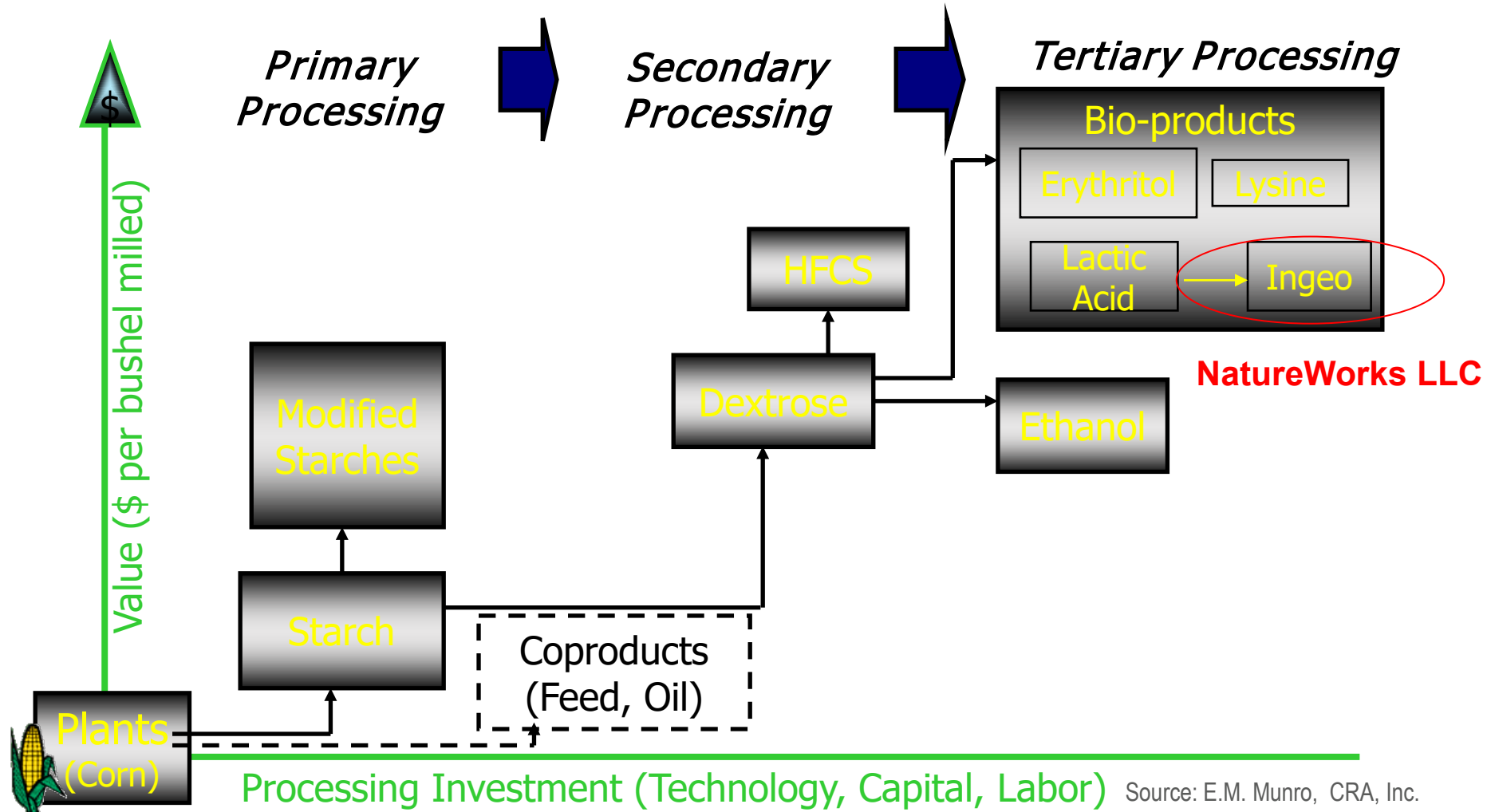


**BLAIR, NEBRASKA FACILITY**

- 150,000 MT nameplate capacity
- Excellent safety record
- Polymer plant online in 2002
- 650 acres - ~1 sq. mile – 263 ha.



# Capital Investment Leads to Value



It's not food or bioplastic.  
It's food AND bioplastic.

What do you get from one bushel of corn?

You can make...

- 4.4MT Ingeo per hectare of corn
- ...and corn oil, gluten meal, and gluten feed products.

**0.7**  
**kg of corn oil**  
cooking oil, margarine, mayonnaise, salad dressing, shortening, soups, printing ink, soap, leather tanning

AND

**1.2**  
**kg of gluten meal**  
amino acids, fur cleaner, poultry feed

AND

**6.1**  
**kg of gluten feed**  
livestock & poultry feed, pet food

all of these<sup>1</sup>



one of these

**14.3**  
**kg of starch**  
adhesives, batteries, cardboard, crayons, degradable plastics, dyes, plywood, paper, antibiotics, chewing gum

OR

**10.6**  
**liters of fuel ethanol**  
motor fuel additive, alcoholic beverages, industrial alcohol

OR

**15**  
**kg of sweetener**  
shoe polish, soft drinks & juices, jams & jellies, canned fruit, cereal, licorice, peanut butter, ketchup, marshmallows

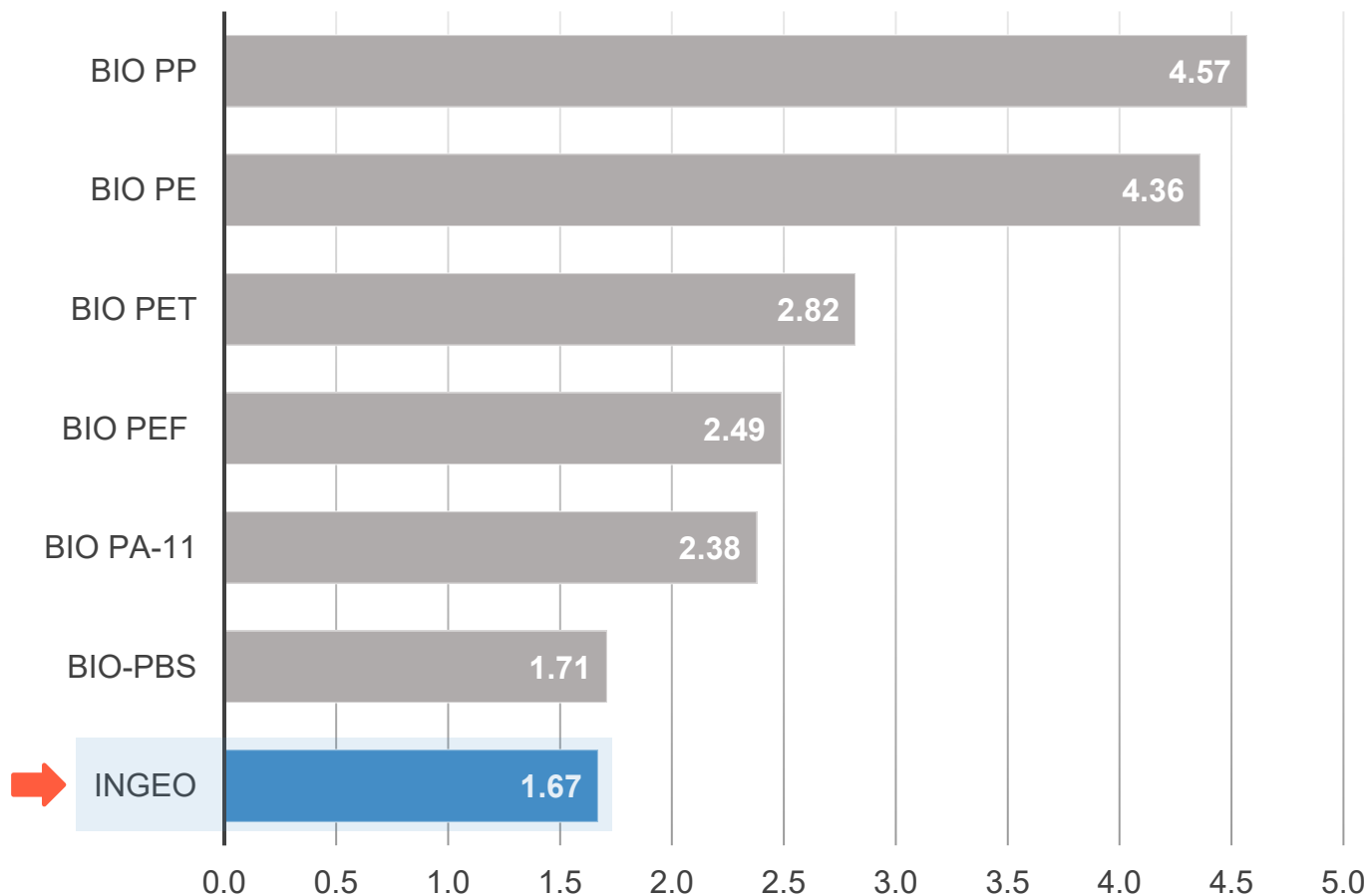
OR

**10.2**  
**kg of Ingeo biopolymer**  
nonwovens, food packaging, food serviceware, durables, apparel, films

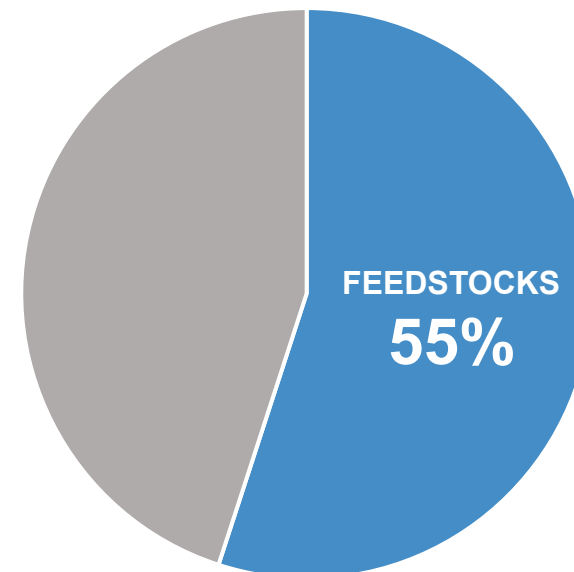
1. National Corn Growers Association, World of Corn Report 2023  
2. Yield 173 bu/acre, National Corn Growers Association, World of Corn Report 2023

# Not all biopolymers are the same

Sugar to Polymer Yields  
kg of sugar per kg of polymer



Total Product Cost



With feedstocks as a significant portion of final product costs, research on improving yields can make or break a business.

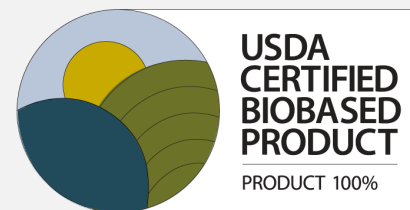
Source: IfBB institute for bioplastics and bio composites, *Biopolymers Facts and Statistics [2022] Production capacities, processing routes, feedstock, land and water use*  
[https://www.ifbb-hannover.de/files/IfBB/downloads/faltblaetter\\_broschueren/f+s/Biopolymers-Facts-Statistics-einseitig-2022.pdf](https://www.ifbb-hannover.de/files/IfBB/downloads/faltblaetter_broschueren/f+s/Biopolymers-Facts-Statistics-einseitig-2022.pdf)

# From feedstocks to product, the circular, safety, & sustainability claims behind biomaterial claims must be supported by rigorous 3rd party testing and credentials.

## Product Health & Safety



## Biobased Content



## Circular Economy



## 100% Certified Renewable and Sustainable Feedstocks

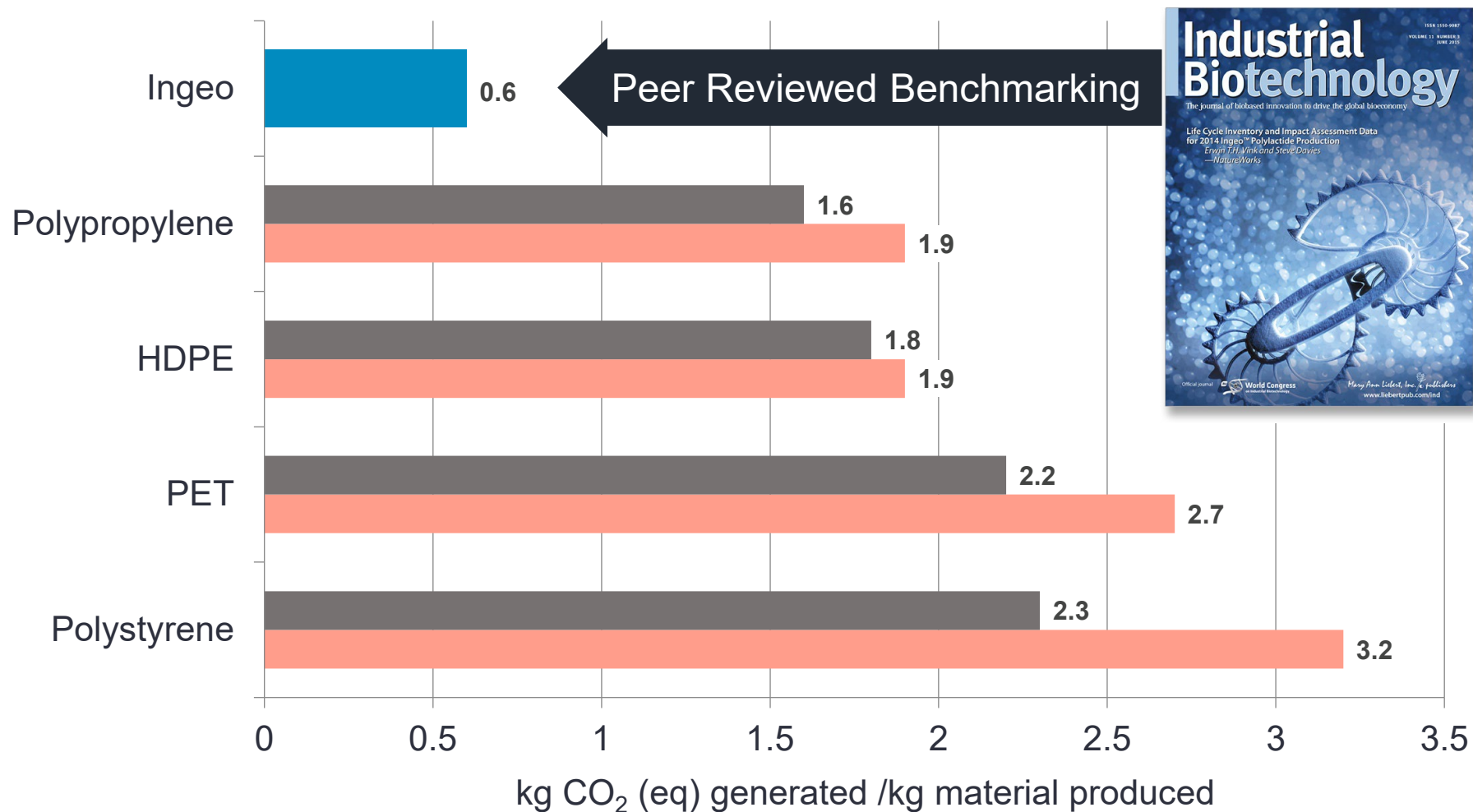


## Carbon Footprint



# Carbon reduction begins with how plastics and materials are made

Peer-reviewed data benchmarks claims of 68% reduction in GHG footprint



## EU Producers

PlasticsEurope  
[www.lca.plasticseurope.org](http://www.lca.plasticseurope.org)

## US Producers

APC - American Plastics Council  
<http://plastics.americanchemistry.com>

# Our History

Project to commercialize PLA begins as part of a Cargill initiative to find alternative uses for sugar

1989

Lactic acid and Ingeo PLA plants open in Blair, NE

2002-2003

Open state-of-the-art Ingeo Applications Development Facility in Savage, MN

2009

Blair plant capacity and product capability expansion to 150 kta

2012

NatureWorks opens new \$1M R&D facility for fermentation to lactic acid research

2016

NatureWorks passes final authorization to construct a fully integrated 75kta Ingeo PLA manufacturing facility in Thailand

2021

1994

Pilot PLA plant opened in Savage, MN

2004

First integrated run (lactic acid through Ingeo PLA) at Blair plant

2011

Equity investment from PTTGC for 50% stake in NatureWorks

2015

Published Ingeo LCA passes rigorous 3<sup>rd</sup>-party peer review

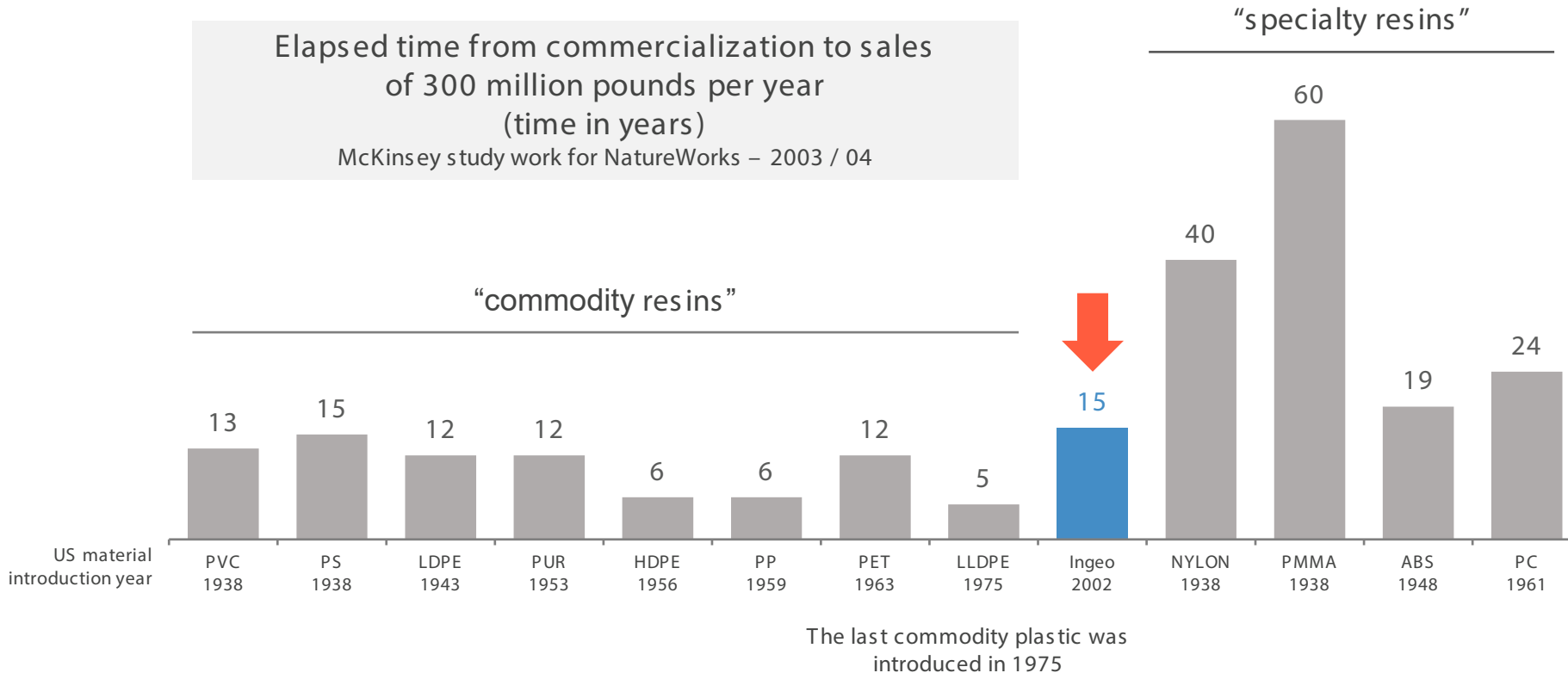
2020

Announced additional lactide monomer purification technology to expand the availability of Ingeo biopolymer from Blair facility

2025

NatureWorks Thailand manufacturing facility anticipated completion

# It took NatureWorks 15 years to first fill out capacity of the plant opened in 2002



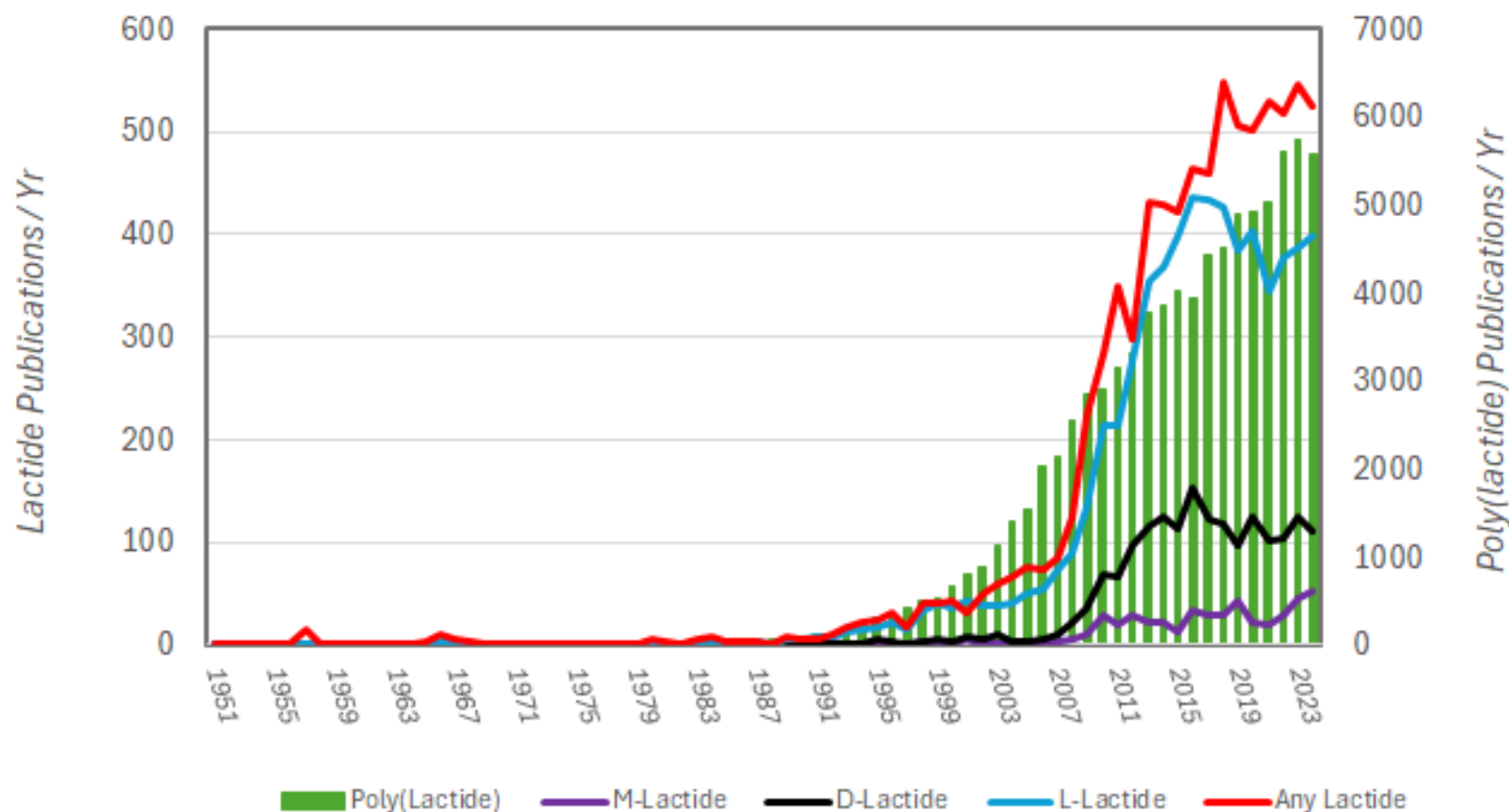
PLA polymer was first identified in the 1920's when Wallace Carothers (the inventor of nylon) began working on it at DuPont

..we did not think it would take that long.



# The Study of Lactide and Poly(Lactide) in Chemistry

Literature Citations for Lactide and Poly(Lactide)



Author	Count
Chen, Xuesi	286
Hillmyer, Marc A.	213
Dubois, Philippe	168
Tsuji, Hideto	152
Ren, Jie	151

Earliest  
Publication

1922

1966

1966

1925

1904

VISIBILITY



Versace Adoption

TECHNOLOGY TRIGGER 2002

Walmart Adoption

PEAK OF INFLATED EXPECTATIONS 2004-2005



Apparel Market Not a Fit



Sun Chips Withdrawal



TROUGH OF DISILLUSIONMENT 2011



Compostable food serviceware & packaging designed to focus on diverting food away from landfills



SLOPE OF ENLIGHTENMENT

Makerbot Adoption & 3D Printing Launches



New (quieter) flexible film structures launch for compostable food packaging



Brands like PG Tips and Covim launch compostable tea bags and coffee capsules



Paper coatings free of PFAS and fit both composting and recycling streams

PLATEAU OF PRODUCTIVITY



Peyr gli vj m x Mki s \$™\$ TPE \$ \$ TLE G\$™\$ TLE \$ g\$ q t sy r h \$ s v \$ s j v \$ r s r { s z i r w \$ } knir i

MATURITY

We all start with a "killer app". Most of the time it's wrong and we need to continue to drive knowledge.

# 2017-2018 was when consumer advocacy, government regulation, and NGO frameworks came together on plastics

## STRAWS

Brundtland Commission put forth the conceptual framework for the three pillars of sustainable development: economic growth, environmental protection, and social equality, which would later be coined the "triple bottom line."



Curbside recycling programs in the US reach 5,202 communities

EPA confirms the link between plastic waste and global warming. Encourages recycling to reduce GHG emissions.

Paris Agreement established as the most significant global climate agreement to date & requires all countries to set emissions-reduction pledges.

China announces Operation National Sword to stop importing "recycled" plastics from the US & EU

EU develops the Single-Use Plastics Directive a holistic effort to regulate plastics.

Exclusive: Starbucks and McDonald's team up to rethink cups



1983

1992

2000

2015

2017-2018

1988

1997

2007

2016



IPCC established to assess risk of climate change. Reports used to inform international climate policy.

Kyoto Protocol established as the first international treaty aimed at reducing greenhouse gas emissions

Massachusetts vs EPA sets precedent for EPA to regulate CO2 and other GHG's as pollutants

Ellen MacArthur Foundation & the World Economic Forum publish the New Plastics Economy report which outlines principles of a circular plastics economy



## The Telegraph

PG tips switches to plastic-free tea bags after 200,000 sign gardener's petition

Starbucks to Eliminate Plastic Straws Globally by 2020 July 9, 2018



Society of the Plastics Industry introduces resin identification codes

Polyethylene Terephthalate	High-Density Polyethylene	Polyvinyl Chloride	Low-Density Polyethylene	Polypropylene	Polystyrene	Other Plastic
01 PET	2 HDPE	03 PVC	4 LDPE	5 PP	6 PS	7 OTHER

# What's next? Expansion and scale is critical as global brands pledge plastics changes by 2025



Make 100% of our packaging recyclable globally by 2025. Use at least 50% recycled material in our packaging by 2030.



Unilever

By 2025, halve use of virgin plastic, by reducing absolute use of plastic packaging by more than 100,000 tons and accelerating use of recycled plastic.



DANONE  
ONE PLANET. ONE HEALTH

Every piece of packaging, from bottle caps to yogurt cups, will be reusable, recyclable, or compostable by 2025.

Nestlé

100% of our packaging is recyclable or reusable by 2025.

P&G

Reduce global use of virgin petroleum plastic in their packaging by 50% by 2030.

Kraft Heinz

100% of their plastic packaging will be reusable, recyclable or compostable by 2025.



PEPSICO

Design 100% of packaging to be recyclable, compostable, or biodegradable by 2025.



100% recyclable or compostable packaging material by 2025.



# Under construction: New Fully Integrated Ingeo Manufacturing Plant in Thailand



- 75,000 tons per year nameplate capacity
- Dedicated Ingeo manufacturing with integrated lactic acid, lactide, and polymer manufacturing sites
- Located in Nakhon Sawan Province, Thailand
- On track to complete construction with full production anticipated in 2025
- Will produce the full portfolio of Ingeo grades
- Feedstock (sugar cane) will be sourced within a 50km radius
- Energy co-generation from onsite utilities supplier
- 2023: 2 million safe work hours milestone!



# Scaling isn't limited to manufacturing alone.



We are investing in scaling each step of the supply chain to support today's demand, but also support the next generation technologies that will create the meaningful step change in scale of use for biopolymers in plastics & fibers applications.



# Ingeo can be made into many applications looking for new performance & sustainability attributes



extrusion paper coatings



rigid food packaging



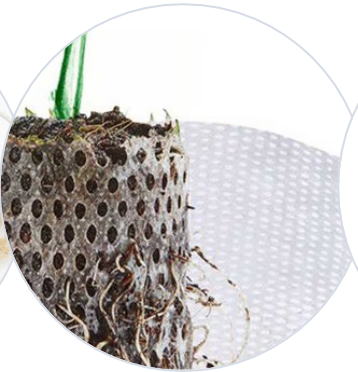
clear drink cups



coffee pods



tea bags



landscape materials



diapers



hygiene masks



household goods



refrigerator liners



3D printing filaments



flexible food packaging



beauty



film bags and bin liners

# Simple Paper Cup?

## Safe Serviceware

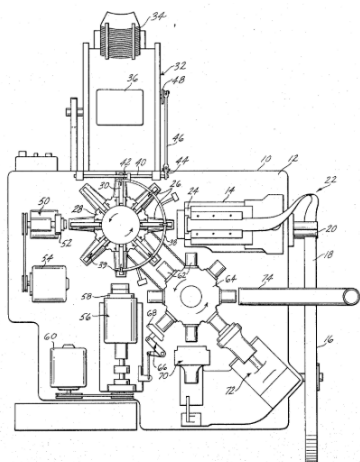
- Certified **compostable, repulpable, & recyclable**
- FDA compliant
- **No PFAS or other fluorinated chemicals**
- No taste or odor impact
- Approach 100% biobased

## Melt Processing

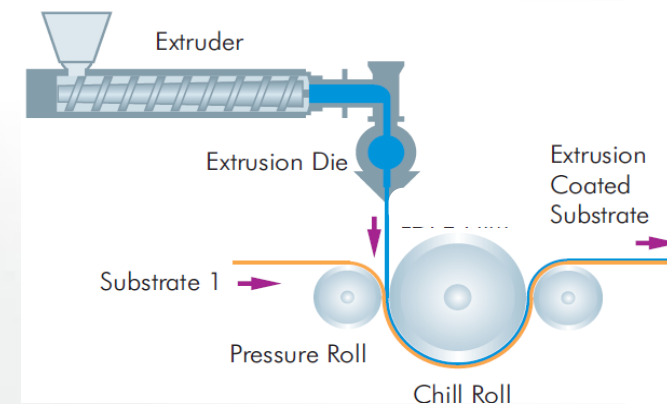
- Modeled the process of coating paper to recommend **optimizations that increase output and line speeds by 150-200%**
- Stable web for faster line speeds, lower coating weights, less scrap

## Cup Making

- Tougher coating for pinhole free cup at fastest production speeds
- Improved flow and penetration into paperboard to reduce coating weights and improve cup sealing range

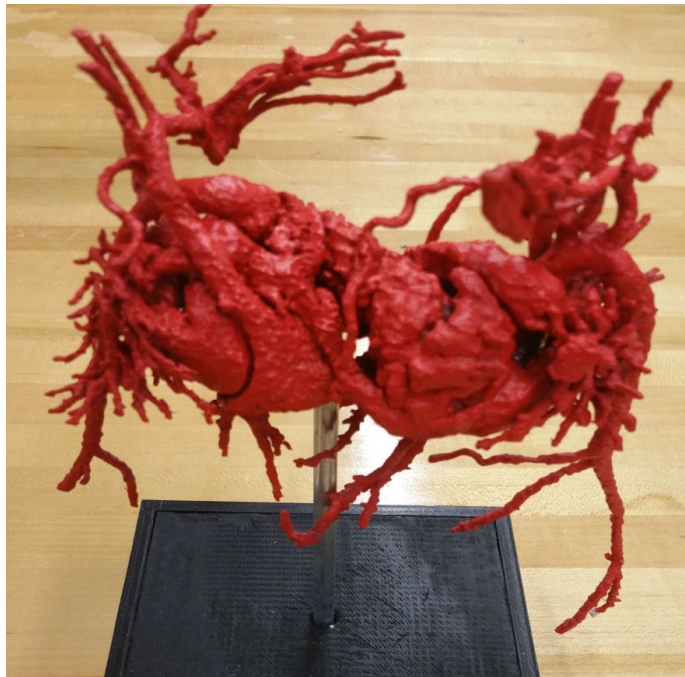


INVENTOR:  
PAUL J. CORAZZO





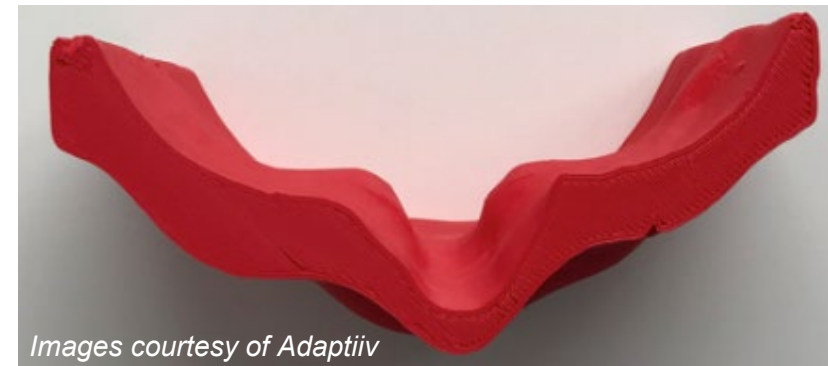
# 3D printing with Ingeo is leveraged in desktop and industrial applications including medical, foundry & large format



Earl E. Bakken University of MN Medical Devices Center  
 Prototype of conjoined twins heart



**Metal Casting**  
 Positive images for molds are accurate, cost-effective, and burn out cleanly with no residues.



*Images courtesy of Adaptiiv*

**Chemotherapy bolus**  
 Patient-specific accessories that significantly reduce air gaps, spare healthy tissue, and provide superior dose distribution compared to traditional methods



**Large Format**  
 Chairs mirror river rocks, are customized to match aesthetic of the space & easily printed.





**90%**

of a brewed pod is coffee, valuable organics mostly lost to landfills due to a complicated recycling process from packaging

Compostable coffee pods meet the rigorous, high heat and impact requirements for brewing while maintain coffee flavor and aroma through barrier options in the capsule & lidding



Excellent leakage seal

For extended shelf-life

High thermal resistance

**Flexible Layer**

**Barrier Layer**

**Rigid Layer**



# You can't do it alone . . . R&D Partnerships

## Center for Sustainable Polymers (CSP - UMN)

CSP participants aim to design, prepare, and implement polymers derived from renewable resources for a wide range of advanced applications, and to promote future economic development, energy efficiency, and environmental sustainability in the emergent area of biobased products.

## Center for BioPlastics and BioComposites (CB2 - NDSU)

The Center for Bioplastics and Biocomposites (CB2) develops high-value biobased products from agricultural and forestry feedstocks. Such materials include plastics, coatings, adhesives, and composites.

## The Nonwovens Institute (NWI - NC State)

Facilitate the development of next-generation fiber-based materials and products, which lead to revolutionary and often life-enhancing products for both industrial and consumer marketplaces.





@natureworks



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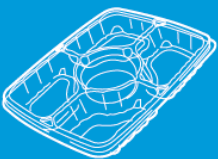
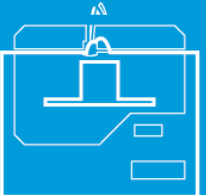


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# Thank You



[www.natureworkslc.com](http://www.natureworkslc.com)





# Audience Questions & Answers



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# Closing



**Shannon Schlecht**  
Executive Director  
AURI

slido



**Best one word takeaway from the day?**

ⓘ Start presenting to display the poll results on this slide.



**Thank you for participating in the  
New Uses Forum 2024!**

**Networking Reception  
4:30-6:30 PM**



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