

KCL acquires advanced biocomposite manufacturing equipment from UPM

KCL is pleased to announce the acquisition of advanced biocomposite manufacturing equipment from UPM, which announced in August that it is withdrawing from the production of biocomposite products. This strategic purchase will enable KCL to commence the production of innovative biocomposite materials, enhancing our service business and supporting our commitment to sustainability.

UPM used the equipment for years to produce high-quality UPM Formi products for injection moulding and 3D printing. UPM's Formi products were known for their quality and unique properties, achieved through both formulation and processing technology.

"We are thrilled about this acquisition and the opportunities it brings," says **Antti Laukkanen**, Vice President, R&D of KCL. "This move not only strengthens our capabilities but also aligns with our vision of leading in sustainable innovation. We at KCL are enthusiastic about this new venture and believe that biocomposite products hold significant promise for the future."

Kaido Kukk, Vice President, New Business Development & UPM Biocomposites, adds: "UPM is proud of what we have achieved in the field of biocomposites. We have developed innovative and sustainable solutions that have found their way into many markets. The decision to exit the biocomposites business was not easy, but it is part of our strategy to focus on our core businesses and new growth opportunities.

We are pleased that KCL will enter to biocomposites. We wish them success and look forward to continuing our collaboration in other areas."

The equipment is highly versatile and enables the compounding of various types of fiber materials, as well as the use of different types of additives. "Additionally, by leveraging KCL's expertise in the forest industry and product development, we are well-equipped to drive new innovations in this market," says **Eve Saarikoski**, Development Manager at KCL.

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