

# CATALOGUE OF PARTICIPANTS

28 MAY 2025

## SUSTAINABLE PACKAGING INNOVATION SHOWCASE: FROM EUROPEAN PROJECTS TO STARTUP SOLUTIONS

Exploring Innovation Trends in Emilia-Romagna's Packaging Sector and Fostering European Connections



# ORGANIZATIONS

EPIC PARTNERS

DELEGATION OF THE  
CATALAN PACKAGING CLUSTER

STARTUPS

EMILIA-ROMAGNA ORGANIZATIONS

ORGANIZERS



## BALTICNET-PLASMATEC

BalticNet-PlasmaTec (BNPT) is an international cluster based in Germany with 79 members from 18 countries. BNPT advances plasma technologies with a focus on sustainable packaging. Plasma coatings improve packaging by making materials more resistant to moisture, oxygen, and damage - reducing the need for complex plastic layers and improving recyclability. Plasma can also make paper water-repellent, offering an eco-friendly plastic alternative. BNPT fosters collaboration, training, and innovation to support the shift to a circular economy.

Cluster activities through collaboration, training and support.

 [www.balticnet-plasmatec.org](https://www.balticnet-plasmatec.org)

## BYDGOSZCZ INDUSTRIAL CLUSTER TOOL VALLEY

Bydgoszcz Industrial Cluster Tool Valley incorporates companies of the toolmaking and plastics processing industries, as well as plastics recyclers, and a range of business-related institutions, including universities, research and development units, public authorities, entrepreneurs' associations and financial institutions. The majority of companies in the processing and toolmaking industry are SMEs. Their activities are highly flexible. The enterprises of the Cluster offer high-quality moulds and other processing tools and also deal with the manufacturing of plastic products for various branches, i.a. automotive, household appliances, furniture production, medical disposables just as pharmaceutical, cosmetic and food packaging industries.

Packaging Manufacturing

 <https://toolvalley.eu/>

## DBH INNOHUB KFT.

We are business support organisation working with the Hungarian Plastics Association and the Omnipack Packaging Cluster.

Packaging Manufacturing

 <https://dbh-group.com/hu/dbh-innohub>



## INEGI - INSTITUTO DE CIÊNCIA E INOVAÇÃO EM ENGENHARIA MECÂNICA E ENGENHARIA INDUSTRIAL

INEGI – Institute of Science and Innovation in Mechanical and Industrial Engineering is a Research and Technology Organisation (RTO), focused on research and technology-based innovation activities, technology transfer, consulting and technological services, oriented to the development of industry and economy in general.

INEGI is contributing to the packaging sector through research and development of innovative, sustainable technologies. One example is the project Packaging for the Future that tests co-injection technology for producing plastic packaging with 15–30% recycled materials. This aims to create a new injection and blow molding process that maintains the functional and hygienic properties required for food contact.

### Research

 <https://www.inegi.pt/pt/>

## LITMEA | SMART FOOD CLUSTER

LITMEA | Smart Food Cluster brings together food industry stakeholders in Lithuania, fostering collaboration and innovation. With a growing network of over 120 members, we help businesses access foreign markets, adopt digital and sustainable practices, and enhance competitiveness. Through strategic partnerships, we tackle industry challenges, promote circular and bio-based production, renewable energy use in the sector, support sustainable packaging, and strengthen food safety.

We are a Silver label cluster, active in several European S3 partnerships and networks, including Food Packaging, Ingredients for a Circular Economy, and Agri&Food Nordic Network.

### Product brand owner - end user

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



# NANOPROGRESS

Nanoprogress is a leading Czech cluster dedicated to advancing nanotechnology research, development, and innovation.

We support our members across the entire value chain: from raw material preparation, equipment design, and nanostructure production, to application development, commercialization, and global outreach.

Over the past decade, we've helped to shape the future of Czech nanotech—driving joint R&D initiatives, building shared infrastructure, and delivering breakthroughs in nanofiber structures and their real-world applications. And, nanostructure plating and composites is one of our key application areas. We will be pleased to talk about your business and possible cooperations.

## Functionalisation of Packaging Materials

 <https://www.nanoprogress.eu/en/>

# PACKAGING CLUSTER CATALONIA

The Packaging Cluster Association is a non-profit organization that brings together companies, knowledge centers and institutions to work together and grow the packaging sector. The main objective of the Packaging Cluster is to help companies become more competitive and generate more and better business in the packaging sector.

This improvement is done through relationships between companies, that is, different companies share everything they know and grow the business. All this is worked through the 5 areas explained and with an activity plan that is done every year to reinforce and plan each action well.

## Cluster

 <https://www.packagingcluster.com/home-page/>



## AIMPLAS

AIMPLAS is a Technology Centre with 35 years of experience and 270 employees. We support companies in the development of materials, processes, and products in the packaging sector through R&D projects, consultancy, laboratory testing, and training. We provide solutions across the production cycle of the circular economy: ecodesign, material development, coatings, processing, validation, certification, reuse, and recycling.

### Plastics Technology Centre

 <https://www.aimplas.net/>

## AINIA

We are a private technology centre with over 35 years of experience in R&D&I. We are among the European technology centres with the largest social business base, with more than 700 member companies and 1,600 clients. Our activity extends worldwide, supported by our own capabilities and an extensive network of contacts and partnerships with key public and private entities. Continuous innovation is at the heart of our culture and drives us to foster collaboration every day.

### Technology Centre

 <https://www.ainia.com/en/>

## CATALONIA TRADE AND INVESTMENT

Catalonia Trade and Investment is the Catalan government agency for the internationalisation and innovation of Catalan companies and the attraction of direct investment

### Regional Agency

 <https://catalonia.com/>





## COMEXI

The Manel Xifra Boada Technology Center offers services for the flexible packaging market in four main areas: training, consulting on plant processes, innovation and technological development, and testing in our industrial laboratory. All of this is possible thanks to our presence at the University of Girona and our demonstration center, which has a total area of 2,200 m<sup>2</sup>. In the demonstration center, you can find a set of 13 state-of-the-art Comexi machines that provide solutions for printing, laminating, cutting, and peripheral equipment dedicated to the flexible packaging conversion industry.

### Packaging Machinery Providers

 <https://comexi.com/>

## COPY VALLS

Family-owned company with 30 years of experience, specialized in the manufacturing of paper packaging for the food industry, and positioned among the leading European manufacturers in its sector. With an annual production of over 250 million units, we export to more than 40 countries across the five continents.

Our products offer a sustainable alternative to single-use plastic packaging, being made from 100% paper in the case of ice cream cones, and over 90% paper for tubs and cups, which supports our PEFC certification.

Currently, under the Copy BIO brand — our new line of sustainable cardboard packaging — we offer cups and tubs without plastic film, making them easier to recycle and compost, and they are FSC™ certified and in the process of obtaining the OK Compost Home\* certification.

### Packaging Manufacturing

 <https://www.copyvalls.com/>



## EC-CONVERT

At EC Convert, we are an engineering company specialized in process improvement, offering services focused on designing tailored solutions and implementing enhancements in the production process to boost performance, reduce energy costs, and minimize waste generation. We work to provide sustainable solutions that improve the efficiency and profitability of our clients' industrial processes. We optimize their production systems by reducing consumption and associated costs, while contributing to the implementation of the circular economy model in the sector.

### Packaging Machinery Providers

 <https://www.ec-convert.com/en/>

## FAKOLITH FOOD CONTACT & HYGIENIC COATINGS

"FAKOLITH Food Contact & Hygienic Coatings" division is recognized with the European Seal of Innovative SME in R&D&I. We specialize in the research, development, proper certification, and manufacturing of functional coatings and varnishes for direct and indirect contact with food and beverages. Our plant is registered with health authorities and operates under HACCP/GMP systems.

We provide functional, tailor-made solutions for both the food industry in general and, increasingly, for food packaging—covering materials such as paper, cardboard, natural fibers, thermoformed pulp, wood, MDF and derivatives, as well as flexible plastic packaging.

### Packaging Materials

 <https://www.foodgradepaint.com/>

## HINOJOSA PACKAGING GROUP

Hinojosa Packaging Group is a leading company in the design and manufacturing of sustainable packaging solutions. With over 75 years of history, its model is based on the principles of the circular economy. Thanks to continuous innovation and the pursuit of excellence, the group has continued to grow alongside its customers, creating shared value and experiencing significant momentum in recent years through its commitment to international expansion.

### Packaging Manufacturing

 <https://hinojosagroup.com/>





# LEPAMAP-PRODIS

The LEPAMAP-PRODIS research group is a multidisciplinary team from the University of Girona made up of engineers and scientists who share a concern for the sustainability of everyday materials, especially polymers, and their production processes.

## University Research Group

 <https://lepamap.udg.edu/>

# MAPEX

With over 500 implementations completed so far, at Mapex we know how to meet the specific needs of the industrial companies we collaborate with, and we tailor our platform to each client. One of the keys to our success is that we have multidisciplinary teams made up of professionals who develop the implementation of the MAS system following Agile methods. Additionally, our Product department (R&D), currently consisting of 12 people, continues to add new talent.

## Smart Factory

 <https://mapex.io/en/>



## COMPOPACK

Compopack is an innovative startup providing eco-friendly and sustainable solutions for the packaging industry. They specialize in mechanical and digital solutions for the circular economy by reducing waste. Compopack designs innovative machinery and processes for sectors including food, beverages, pharmaceuticals, and personal products. A key project is Ecopod, a mechanical solution to produce 100% compostable and organic coffee pods. This uses a naked pod with an ultra-thin edible layer, eliminating traditional packaging. Compopack assists businesses, from large companies to SMEs, in finding ecological and efficient packaging solutions.

### Packaging Machinery Providers

 <https://www.compopack.it/>

## IUV

IUV is an Italian company engaged in research and development of innovative solutions in the field of life sciences and engineering. Operating in the market of green chemistry, biopolymers, and bioplastics, the company develops solutions and materials inspired by the principles of nature, with the aim of reducing the use of single-use plastic, minimizing food loss and waste, and promoting alternative, conscious, and sustainable consumption models.

### Packaging Materials

 <https://www.iuvcompany.com/>

## KRILL DESIGN

Krill Design convert organic by-products from the food supply chain—such as peels, seeds, and shells—into REKRILL®, a patented biopolymer that is biodegradable, compostable, and recyclable, and is 100% biobased. REKRILL® possesses technical characteristics and processability similar to traditional plastics, making it an innovative product that combines aesthetics, functionality, and environmental sustainability. They offer a model of Green Economy that merges the need for innovative recycling of by-products with the demand for new raw materials. Their solutions are particularly focused on design and furnishings, premium packaging (in particular for cosmetic sector), electronics, fashion, and toys.

### Packaging Materials

 <https://krilldesign.net/>



## L-IFE

L-ife is an innovative start-up that uses the natural properties of hyphae to address today's most pressing environmental problems, integrating science, agriculture and manufacturing to make mycelium technology available to all.

L-ife produce compostable products for packaging and display communication using the customer fibrous by-products from its production processes. Our aim is to help our costumers to demonstrate how organic their products are using mycelium to digest their waste and using mycelium from waste as a communication material

**Packaging display and compostable communication products.**

 [www.l-ife.it](http://www.l-ife.it)

## MAMA SCIENCE

Mama Science specializes in the development and production of innovative products derived from advanced sustainable and non-toxic biomimetic materials obtained through proprietary processes that find application in various industrial sectors.

In the Packaging sector, the company has developed materials that are biocoatings and films for food packaging that, despite being biobased, have characteristics such as mechanical resistance and water resistance that allow it to create products to replace plastic materials. These materials also have the intrinsic property of actively acting on the degradation processes of food products, extending their shelf life.

**Packaging Materials**

 [www.mama-science.com](http://www.mama-science.com)

## NEURALITY

Neurality detects anomalies on all types of products using cameras and high-performance, ultra-fast neural networks. Its applications in packaging are numerous and include glass, plastic, and paper-based materials, as well as a wide range of other use cases across sectors such as food, pharmaceuticals, and manufacturing.

**Packaging Manufacturing**

 [www.neurality.it](http://www.neurality.it)



# SMUSH MATERIALS

SMUSH is an Italian startup developing compostable and natural solutions for secondary packaging, offering a sustainable alternative to single-use plastics such as styrofoam. SMUSH materials are designed to protect heavy, fragile, or temperature-sensitive products during transportation, ensuring both mechanical strength and thermal performance. Made from renewable biomass like mycelium and agricultural waste, our packaging is fully biodegradable and suitable for industrial or home composting. SMUSH supports companies aiming to innovate their logistics while reducing environmental impact and complying with EU packaging regulations.

## Packaging Materials

 <https://smushmaterials.com/>

# TOMAPAIN

Tomapaint is an Italian startup company based in Parma. They produce a natural bio-resin obtained from industrial tomato processing by-products. Their cutin has different applications, mainly as a main ingredient in the formulations of coatings for food packaging (metal and paper), serving as a substitute for petrochemical-based resins currently used.

## Packaging Materials

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

# VOIDLESS

Voidless is dedicated to improving packaging management in warehouses through innovative and practical technology. Thanks to their on-demand packaging system, companies can produce customized boxes in real time, optimizing processes and reducing waste. Their goal is to simplify daily operations, making them more efficient and sustainable. The idea is a cutting-edge on-demand packaging system managed by a proprietary algorithm that allows for the real-time production of customized boxes (just in time) for each order. These boxes can be automatically enhanced with personalized branding, graphics, or QR codes.

## Packaging Machinery Providers

 <https://www.voidless-packaging.com/>



## AMADORI

Amadori is a vertically integrated meat company specialized in poultry meat. Amadori is a final user of packaging material for fished goods

Product brand owner - end user

 [amadori.it/en](https://amadori.it/en)

## BARILLA

Barilla is a brand owner in the food sector, global leader in categories such as pasta, bakery and condiments.

They have a publicly shared strategy for sustainable packaging development that guides us whenever we design a new product. Their packaging must first ensure the safety and quality of our food products. In terms of sustainability, we aim for full circularity by using recyclable materials and incorporating recycled feedstock, provided it aligns with our safety standards.

Product brand owner - end user

 [www.barillagroup.com](https://www.barillagroup.com)

## BONFIGLIOLI

Bonfiglioli is a family-run Italian company with a global presence. Tailored, fully integrated solutions for industrial processes and automation that enhance profitability. They offer Comprehensive systems including precision planetary gearboxes, servomotors, open and inverters; Gearboxes, geared motors, electric motors and inverters designed for industrial applications in any operating conditions; A blend of precision, efficiency, and energy optimization combined with an exceptional customer experience, supported by almost 70 years of expertise.

Bonfiglioli serves more than 20 industrial sectors, including material handling, logistics, food and beverage, recycling, packaging, mining, and sustainable energy technologies.

Packaging Machinery Providers

 <https://www.bonfiglioli.com>



# CIRI AGROALIMENTARE - UNIVERSITA' DI BOLOGNA

CIRI Agroalimentare is the Interdepartmental Centre for Industrial Agrofood Research. Its research activity includes food packaging applications on fruit, vegetable and animal origin foods. New packaging materials, active packaging and edible coating are tested in terms of quality and food safety maintenance.

## Innovation for food packaging and food shelf-life extension

 <https://centri.unibo.it/agroalimentare/it>

## ENEA

The ENEA Traceability Lab focuses on characterizing ecological materials based on their biobased content. A material is biobased if its  $^{14}\text{C}$  content is significantly different from zero, ideally tending towards the value in the  $\text{CO}_2$  of the current atmosphere, meaning it's contemporaneous with the generation of biological material constituting the product. For  $^{14}\text{C}$  calculation in a biobased material, the  $^{14}\text{C}$  concentration in the air in 1950 (modern std) is used as a reference. For this reason, it's possible to distinguish a product of fossil derivation (pre-1950) from a product of modern origin (post-1950) for commercializing products with genuine "green" characteristics, ensuring they are free from fossil fuels.

## Packaging Materials

 [www.tracciabilita.enea.it](http://www.tracciabilita.enea.it)

## GRAZIANI PACKAGING

Graziani Packaging, a family-owned company since the 1960s, designs and manufactures packaging solutions for the agro-food and industrial sectors. We supply high-performance materials for preservation, wrapping, palletisation, and transport. Our values—robustness, reliability, quality, and safety—guide all our work. Committed to sustainability, we produce recyclable packaging with minimal material to reduce environmental impact. Our internal R&D lab ensures top-quality products and innovation.

We offer a range of products, including Magic-Corner® and Magic-Strap®, and work with partners in over 40 countries, focusing on flexibility, productivity, and international growth.

## Packaging Materials

 <https://www.graziani.com/>





# IMA

IMA Group (Industria Macchine Automatiche S.p.A.) is a multinational Italian company headquartered in Ozzano dell'Emilia, near Bologna. Founded in 1961, IMA is a global leader in the design and manufacture of automatic machines for the processing and packaging of pharmaceuticals, cosmetics, food, tea, coffee, and tobacco. The company operates across more than 80 countries, with over 6,000 employees and 45 production plants worldwide. IMA is known for its innovation, sustainability initiatives, and strong focus on digital transformation.

## Packaging Machinery Providers

 <https://ima.it>

# IN4 HUB PER L'INNOVAZIONE NELL'INGEGNERIA E L'INTEGRAZIONE NELL'INDUSTRIA - UNIVERSITÀ DEGLI STUDI DI FERRARA

IN4 Hub for Innovation in Engineering and Integration in Industry (formerly MechLav) is one of the industrial research laboratories of the Technopole of Ferrara, specialising in the fields of mechatronics and motor engineering, innovation in services and digitalisation.

It is accredited by the Emilia-Romagna Region and is part of the High Technology Network. The laboratory's areas of expertise are diverse: mechanics, advanced maintenance, vibration and acoustics, fluid machines, energy systems, materials, ICT, artificial intelligence, automation and robotics, electronics, electromagnetic compatibility, communication networks, civil and industrial construction and infrastructure

## Collaboration in research projects regarding (co)design of packaging solution, control system, materials

 <https://in4.tecnopolo.fe.it/>



## PALLADIO GROUP

Palladio Group is the leading company in Italy and one of the main companies in Europe, in the secondary packaging sector for the pharmaceutical industry.

The Group collaborates with pharmaceutical companies in the development of innovative services and in the supply of folding cartons, leaflets, booklets, adhesive labels and printed alufoils.

Our mission is to develop and manufacture products of the highest quality, guaranteeing clients an excellent service through our expertise and technical know-how. Our optimum standards aim for nothing short of excellence, and we pay serious attention to innovation and the total sustainability of all our processes.

### Packaging Manufacturing

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

## SCIENZE CHIMICHE, FARMACEUTICHE ED AGRARIE, UNIVERSITÀ DI FERRARA

The department develops and characterizes new materials for packaging. The “Biobased and Green Polymers” group focuses on polymer coatings for paper, cardboard, metals, and plastic films, used in both flexible and rigid packaging, as well as to protect machine parts from corrosion. Research targets sustainable products from agro-food waste, minimizing hazardous substances. Examples include polyurethanes from tomato peels for steel protection and waterproofing paper, and biodegradable water-based coatings for paper. Activities also cover application on substrates and evaluation of functional properties like barrier performance, biodegradability, and recyclability.

### Packaging Materials

 <https://docpas.unife.it/it>

## SIROPACK ITALIA

Siropack Italia develops high-tech systems for the main packaging manufacturers worldwide, particularly for food and pharmaceutical sectors, offering turnkey technological solutions, from design to after-sale assistance. High degree of flexibility is a fundamental aspect for Siropack to meet customer needs that are difficult to meet in the market. Siropack develops: (i) machines (stand-alone or in-line) and/or production lines for pharmaceutical packaging sector to ensure drug traceability, packaging integrity, serial number validity; (ii) machines (stand-alone or in-line) for food packaging sector to seal or weld different typologies of PAD, bubble films, labels, and closing film. It holds several patents.

### Packaging Machinery Providers

 [www.siropack.it](http://www.siropack.it)



## SSICA

The Experimental Station for the Food Preserving Industry – Research Foundation carries out its fundamental and applied research as well as experimental development, analyses and consultancy, transfer of results, training and other related activities in support of food canning companies which, along the years have taken advantage and still do, directly or indirectly, from its activity results. SSICA established in Parma, subsequently constitute a Section in Angri (SA), to strengthen the research activity to support the agri-food industry. Research for the canning industry: safety, quality, innovation.

### Packaging Materials



[www.ssica.it](http://www.ssica.it)

## TETRA PAK PACKAGING SOLUTIONS

Tetra Pak is a world-leading food processing and packaging solutions company. The company works closely with customers and suppliers to provide safe, innovative and environmentally sound products. Tetra Pak specializes in complete solutions for the processing, packaging and distribution of food products. Their promise "PROTECTS WHAT'S GOOD™" reflects its vision to commit to making food safe and available, everywhere.

### Packaging Materials & Packaging Machinery



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



## ART-ER

ART-ER - Attractiveness Research Territory is the Joint Stock Consortium among the Emilia-Romagna Region, universities and research centres, the Union of the Chambers of Commerce and other local representatives. Its purpose is to foster sustainable growth by developing innovation and knowledge, attractiveness and internationalization. ART-ER coordinates the regional innovation ecosystem that includes the Emilia-Romagna High Technology Network, the Technopoles, Clust-ERs, Incubators. It supports the Region in processing Structural Funds and has a long lasting experience in European funded projects.

### Regional Agency

 <https://www.art-er.it>

## CLUST-ER AGRIFOOD

The Agrifood Clust-ER is an association of public and private organisations: companies, research centres, training institutions that share skills, ideas and resources to support the competitiveness of the sector. Agrifood Clust-ER is one of the seven thematic clusters set up by the Emilia-Romagna Region to support collaborations in strategic R&D sectors to boost the regional innovation potential. Together with the Technopoles and the High Technology Network laboratories, the Clust-ERs are key players in the regional innovation ecosystem coordinated by ART-ER, the Emilia-Romagna consortium for innovation and technology transfer.

### Cluster

 <https://agrifood.clust-er.it/>

## CLUST-ER HEALTH

Clust-ER Health is an association recognized by Emilia-Romagna Region, consisting of large companies, SMEs, laboratories of the High Technology Network, research centers, health facilities and training institutions that share skills, ideas and resources to support the competitiveness of the Health and Wellness Industries of Emilia-Romagna. The Emilia-Romagna Region has recognized Clust-ER Health as a key player in the innovation ecosystem, leveraging its collaborative and participatory approach to enhance and multiply opportunities for regional development. Clust-ER Health is part of the Emilia-Romagna regional Clust-ER network, which is coordinated by ART-ER, the consortium company dedicated to innovation and technology transfer in the region.

### Cluster

 <https://health.clust-er.it/>



## CLUST-ER MECH

Clust-ER MECH is the Mechatronics and Motoristics Cluster of the Emilia-Romagna Region. Well renowned for the automotive and manufacturing sectors, Emilia-romagna represents the headquarters for several companies operating the production of packaging machinery until earning the title of Packaging Valley. MECH, with 150+ members among public and private bodies, gathers several actors to share skills, ideas and competences to increase regional competitiveness. MECH develops its strategies and activities around 8 working thematic groups which involve more than 473 spoke persons. The involvement of members, enterprises and R&F labs, constitutes the basis for the creation and management of a collaborative environment, where recent trends in R&D are discussed and brought ahead for supporting innovation.

### Cluster

 <https://mech.clust-er.it/>

## ENTERPRISE EUROPE NETWORK

Enterprise Europe Network is the largest European network that helps companies and research bodies to grow, innovate and internationalize. We support SMEs with free services to face the great challenges of the future: sustainability, digitalization, green, circular economy. Enterprise Europe Network is present in Europe and in the world in every region with at least one contact point.

### EU Support Services

 <https://een.ec.europa.eu/>

