

## Press release

nova-Institut GmbH ([www.nova-institute.eu](http://www.nova-institute.eu))  
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## Six candidates are nominated for the innovation award “Hemp Product of the Year 2020”

This year, nova-Institute will host the established “17<sup>th</sup> EIHA Hemp Conference”, 16–17 June 2020, ONLINE. More than 400 participants are expected. The winners of the innovation award will, also ONLINE, be elected by the conference participants.

In times of the Corona crisis, the fast-growing hemp and cannabis sector needs exchange and discussion more than ever. Hence the world's largest business meeting for all sectors of the hemp and cannabis industry will be held online this year. The conference brings together experts from around the world to discuss the latest developments in the use of hemp for fibre, shives, seeds, oil and CBD. Potential applications include textiles, building materials, biocomposites for packaging and automotive, food and feed, food supplements and pharmaceuticals. The hemp and cannabis industry have become a multi-billion dollar business worldwide. More than 30 speakers from leading companies and institutes have confirmed their presentations. The online conference will be as interactive as possible, with discussions taking place after each presentation as well as two panel discussions with leading experts and the participants. The final program of the web conference can be found at [www.eiha-conference.org/programme](http://www.eiha-conference.org/programme).

### The innovation award “Best Hemp Product of the Year 2020”

For the third time in a row, the innovation award “Hemp Product of the Year” will be granted to the young, innovative hemp industry, awarding market-ready applications and products based on industrial hemp. Focus of the award is on new developments within these business areas. The winners will be elected online at the “17<sup>th</sup> EIHA Hemp Conference”, 16–17 June 2020 ([www.eiha-conference.org](http://www.eiha-conference.org)), out of six nominated new materials and products. After a short presentation of the six candidates, the three winners will be chosen by the participants of the conference and honoured with the innovation award, sponsored by the Canadian company Hemp for Health ([www.hempforhealth.eu](http://www.hempforhealth.eu)).

### What to expect – the “Top 6” candidates in detail

#### **ABAGUNE Research (Spain): Satibasque Cannabis Aromatic Bitter**

Abagune research have developed a line of cocktail bitters incorporating hemp root and hemp seed protein as aroma fixatives in the manufacturing process. Satibasque cannabis aromatic bitters are artisanally crafted using only natural ingredients. Hemp root has been traditionally used as a stomach tonic and contains fatty-acid esters and other low boiling point molecules that could mimic other natural fixatives used in beverage and fragrance industry. Further, hemp

seed flour natural high content in vegetable protein favours mixability and sedimentation of essential oils during the manufacturing of bitters, which allows for the elimination of a filtration step after combining alcoholic and aqueous fractions of botanical extractions.

More information: [www.abaguneresearch.com](http://www.abaguneresearch.com)

#### **AIM – Angewandte Innovative Materialien GmbH (Germany): Hemp Biocomposite Mobile Phone Sleeve**

The hemp biocomposite sustainable mobile phone sleeve comprises more than 95 % of bio-material and is mainly handcrafted. The cover is made of wool felted in Bavaria and a new high-performance biocomposite with impact-free isolated hemp bast woven to a fabric. The resin is epoxidised linseed oil. The isolation of the hemp bast leads to an almost perfect transfer of the native mechanical properties of the hemp bast into the composite. With the approach of soft wool, felt to protect against scratches, and high-performance biocomposite to protect against impacts. The sustainable mobile phone sleeve combines high bio-based content with high performance, high locally added value and unique look and feel.

#### **ENAT (Morocco), ADRAR NOUH (Morocco), ENSA (Morocco), Fraunhofer CSP (Germany): SUNIMPLANT – Modular, Off-grid Hemp House**

SUNIMPLANT is a modular off-grid hemp house, inspired in the needs of remote regions like the Moroccan Rif. A spherical building skin of hemp fibre biocomposites design-integrates frameless PV technology of crystalline silicon cells, the most efficient on the market, whose output is optimised through the insulating carrier substrate. The vacuum injection made panels were resolved with plant-based resins in highest percentage, that show elevated UV-resistance compared to synthetic resins and accomplished a passage of 2.35 m through a dense arrangement of hemp fibres. The material and energy saving design, inspired by archaic African architecture, was further created with a low carbon hemp concrete of high thermal effusively, formulated with the regions locally processed agricultural waste.

More information: [www.sunimplant.com](http://www.sunimplant.com)

#### **Henry's Hemp Harvester (Germany): Hemp Harvesting Equipment**

The HHHarvester is a double-module front-loaded attachment for harvesting industrial hemp flowers and stems. Four years in research, development and production, the harvester is durable, proven technology that turns out high-quality cannabis buds. The harvester can be driven by a small tractor, has an aluminium frame and rollers for weight reduction, stainless steel parts such as chains and other flower-contacting parts for food- and pharmacy-grade products, hydraulic drives for the main aggregates and an electric scissor-bar. The weight of a double-module configuration is estimated at 350 kg, so any tractor with sufficient hydraulic performance can easily carry it.

More information: [www.henryshempharvester.de](http://www.henryshempharvester.de)

#### **Sächsisches Textilforschungsinstitut e.V. (Germany): Lyohemp™ knitwear**

Lyohemp™ knitwear was produced from an innovative cellulose man-made fibre based on a dissolving pulp derived from organically grown hemp. Pulp and fibres were developed as result of a joint R&D action of German and Czech partners. The pulp was developed up to high alpha-cellulose content and very low inorganic impurity concentration and final converted into Lyocell type fibres by a dry-wet spinning using NMMO as solvent. The knitwear textiles win over due to their smooth and lofty surface compared with native hemp textiles. The fibre composition causes an excellent staining, especial if intensive dark tonalities are applied and an excellent humidity management. Negotiations with commercial fibre processors are in good

progress. Market launch is in straight preparation for January 2021.  
More information: [www.stfi.de](http://www.stfi.de)

### **Suomen Hampputuotteet Oy (Finland): Wild Blueberry Hemp Milk**

High-pressure pasteurized (HPP) hemp milk made of Finnish germinated organic hemp seeds and freeze-dried Nordic wild berries. Through the unique manufacturing process, it is cold pressed and preserved all nutrients. Due to freeze-drying, the berries' own rich taste remains natural flavour without added aromas. Germination process of the seeds ensures better absorption of nutrients of the final product and it gives even better shelf life due to increased tocopherols (vitamin E). The HPP process improves the shelf life of the product without destroying valuable nutrients. Only pathogens die under pressure. Valuable omega fatty acids are preserved and Nordic growing conditions improve them further.

More than 400 participants are expected to attend the “17<sup>th</sup> EIHA Hemp Conference”, 16–17 June 2020, online. All information, registration and the conference programme are available at [www.eiha-conference.org](http://www.eiha-conference.org)

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