# **Press release**

nova-Institut GmbH (<u>www.nova-institute.eu</u>) Hürth, 11 October 2021



# Does your innovation have what it takes for the innovation award "Cellulose Fibre Innovation of the Year 2022"?

# International Conference on Cellulose Fibres 2022, 2-3 February in Cologne, Germany and online – Call for Innovations – Six nominees will get the chance to present their unique products

The footsteps are big: in 2021, Stora Enso from Sweden won the innovation award, granted on the first day of the "International Conference on Cellulose Fibres". Their new cellulose foam for packaging fully convinced the audience. Second place was taken by Kelheim Fibres (Germany) with their high-quality hygiene products made of cellulose ahead of third place occupant Metsä Spring from Finland that presented a new cellulose fibre production process.

nova-Institute has opened the Call for Innovations for the "Cellulose Fibre Innovation of the Year 2022" award until 15 November 2021. All producers, inventors and pioneers along the entire value chain from feedstock to final product are invited to enter the competition. Developments of new technologies and applications are welcome. An independent expert jury will select a total of six new materials and products from all entries for the award. The innovators get a free 2-day ticket for the conference and the unique opportunity to present and market their product or technology to a huge professional audience. After short presentations of the six candidates at the conference, the three winners will be elected by the participants of the conference and honored with the innovation award at a festive gala dinner.

Following the conference, nova-Institute issues an international press release to announce the winners.

# Call for Innovations

More information about the innovation award and the application can be found at

www.cellulose-fibres.eu/award-application

#### Deadline for submission: 15 November 2021

#### About the conference

Cellulosic fibres are the fastest growing fibre group in the textile industry and also the largest investment sector in the global bioeconomy. The challenge now is to achieve a balance between the ongoing capacity expansion and the growing demand, to avoid overcapacity while still meeting rising demand from the major brands. These high growth rates are driven by the increased demand for alternatives for fossil-based fibres and bottlenecks in cotton production, the microplastic issues, and bans on plastics in disposable applications. All three factors will continue to play an important role in the development of the sector in the future.

Abstracts for presentations are invited for submission as well as latest developments for the innovation award.

# Main topics of the conference

- What is the impact of plastic bans on single-use products?
- The avoidance of microplastics and the transformation from fossil to renewable raw materials
- What are the biggest challenges in developing new value chains and growing market demand?
- Which alternative raw materials for cellulose fibres are suitable and available?
- What are the latest technology and market trends?
- What are the future market dynamics? Who is active and interested in the cellulose fibre sector?
- What ecosystems and partnerships are needed to promote innovation in line with new market requirements?
- How will the political environment develop in the future?
- How can the sustainability of cellulose fibre production be further improved?

# **Call for Abstracts**

Abstract submission is now open. You are welcome to present your latest products, technologies, developments or market trends. Submit your abstract as soon as possible.

#### **Deadline for submission: 15 October 2021**

www.cellulose-fibres.eu/call-for-abstracts

# **Call for Posters**

www.cellulose-fibres.eu/call-for-posters

#### Deadline for submission: 31 December 2021

# **Sponsoring Opportunities**

Would you like to increase your visibility in public? You are very welcome as a sponsor of the conference!

#### www.cellulose-fibres.eu/sponsoring

The nova-Institute would like to thank Lenzing (Austria) and Kelheim Fibres (Germany) for supporting the conference as Gold Sponsors.

Many thanks also go to the partners of the conference: BCNP Consultants (Germany), CLIB (Germany), IBB-Netzwerk (Germany), ITA – RWTH Aachen (Germany), kunststoffland.NRW (Germany), Renewable Carbon Initiative, World Bioeconomy Forum.

# Further information: www.cellulose-fibres.eu

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nova-Institute is a private and independent research institute, founded in 1994; nova offers research and consultancy with a focus on the transition of the chemical and material industry to renewable carbon: How to substitute fossil carbon with biomass, direct  $CO_2$  utilisation and recycling. We offer our unique understanding to support the transition of your business into a climate neutral future. nova-Institute has more than 40 employees.

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