

## Angel Yeast continues to tackle plastic pollution challenges with bio-based material

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Angel Yeast has established a joint venture with Beijing PhaBuilder Biotechnology Co., Ltd (PhaBuilder) to carry forward the industrialisation project of PHA with the opening of a PHA factory. PHA (polyhydroxyalkanoates), a polyester produced naturally by microorganisms, is biodegradable and biocompatible, making it highly sought-after in fields such as biomedical and biodegradable packaging material.

With more than 150 types of PHA monomers, PHA's diverse material properties and environmentally friendly degradation properties make them ideal for replacing traditional petrochemical plastics, which can be used in a wide range of applications of traditional and non-traditional polymers. The production of PHA has a zero carbon footprint, fully embodying green and environmental principles.

The 80,000-square-meter PHA factory in Yichang, Hubei Province is an integrated PHA industry chain covering R&D, production, and sales. The 30kt/a PHA production site has begun construction, with the first phase production line aiming to be operational in the first quarter of 2025.

In the meantime, Angel Yeast and Shanghai Synlife have founded the joint venture, Hubei Uniqi Biological Technology Co., Ltd., to promote the scaled production of modified polylactic acid (PLA), which now accounts for 40 per cent of biodegradable materials in the world. PLA is widely used in food and beverage containers, packaging, film and bag products, 3D additives, fibres, medical assistance and more.

Uniqi focuses on the front-end modified R&D of PLA to retain its degradability, thermoplasticity, transparency and mechanical properties and achieve excellent performance. Leveraging extensive experience in PLA-based high-performance bio-based materials, it has successfully developed a series of new PLA products and achieved large-scale mass production.

Angel Yeast responds to the 'Dual Carbon' goals and strategic aim of green and sustainable development with concrete actions, by promoting the R&D and mass production of bio-based biodegradable PLA and PHA materials, and it is giving full play to our role in building a green, low-carbon, and circular economy.

"The corporate mission and vision of Angel Yeast are closely linked to the pursuit of sustainable development, and we'll continue to boost the production and application of Bio-based materials through technological innovation, and contribute to global environmental conservation causes. Angel Yeast firmly believes that through joint efforts, we can solve the problem of plastic pollution and guard the blue planet," said Xiao Minghua of Angel Yeast.