

Tetra Pak and Swan Neck Bio collaborate to simplify scaling of new food

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Tetra Pak has announced a new collaboration with Swan Neck Bio, a Denmark-based biotechnology company, to simplify and expand scaling opportunities for companies developing biomass or precision fermentation-derived food products. The collaboration enhances Tetra Pak's offering by giving producers the option of seed as an ingredient, creating a turnkey solution for commercial fermentation processes within the New Food space and beyond.

With this collaboration, producers developing food through fermentation have access to Swan Neck Bio's DIRINOC® technology, a storable, concentrated, viable and quality-certified starter culture for direct inoculation that supports the growth of a producer's organism without the need to propagate their own cultures. Using DIRINOC® can reduce contamination risk and provide predictability in output. With many food producers failing to produce at scale due to contamination or variable yield that differs from expectations, DIRINOC® offers a low-risk solution that is expected to reduce waste, lower the total cost of ownership for equipment solutions, and increase profitability.

DIRINOC® is also incorporated into Tetra Pak's process development ecosystem, so producers can outsource the seed train if they prefer to avoid a multi-stage bioreactor process. This makes it possible for New Food producers to begin trials without the resource intensity of propagating cultures on-site. DIRINOC® will be available alongside existing seed train and equipment solutions, which customers are already exploring at pilot-scale at the Tetra Pak® New Food Technology Development Centre, recently opened in Karlshamn, Sweden.

This new collaboration offers additional solutions to the barrier that seed preparation can create for commercial-scale production. DIRINOC® negates the commitment of time and investment to design the base ingredient, or seed, and removes the risk of failure at this stage of the process. Additionally, the flexibility offered by DIRINOC® at pilot scale enables trial and iteration to determine an optimum equipment setup before committing to the full capital outlay of a new production line, further enhancing Tetra Pak's commitment to designing the most appropriate production facility for individual customers' desired output goals.