

KANEKA Corporation

Foundation

1949

Turnover

 555,227 million yen (Ca. 254 million € (2015))

Employees

Approx. 9300

Business fields

- Chemicals
- Functional Plastics
- Expandable Plastics & Products
- Foodstuffs products
- Life-Science Products
- Electronic Products
- Synthetic Fibers

Key Bio-based materials

 Polyhydroxyalkanoates poly((R)-3-hydroxybutyrate-co-(R)-3-hydroxyhexanoate)

Key Bio-based products

 Kaneka Biodegradable Polymer PHBH™



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Company

Kaneka Corporation, headquartered in Osaka and Tokyo, Japan, was established in 1949. Kaneka produces chemical intermediates for the production of applications in several domains:

Chemicals

Functional plastics

Expandable plastics & products

Foodstuffs Products

Life-science Products

Electronic Products

Synthetic fibers

Next to the plant in Belgium, Kaneka Corporation has sites in USA, Singapore, Malaysia, China, Vietnam, India, Taiwan, South Korea and Australia. Worldwide Kaneka employs more than 8.500 people











Products

Kaneka Biodegradable Polymer PHBHTM is a 100% bio-based polymer produced by microbial fermentation from plant oils. The products are biodegradable to carbon dioxide and water under aerobic, anaerobic, soil and marine conditions. PHBHTM can improve biodegradability of other bio-polymers such as PLA, PBAT, PBS through blending.

Kaneka Biodegradable Polymer PHBHTM is bio-based and biodegradable yet strongly resistant to heat and hydrolysis and can act as a barrier to water vapour. It is the first ever 100% plant-based biopolymer to offer both flexibility and heat resistance. It exhibits a range of properties from hardness through to softness as well as a number of key characteristics of polyethylene and polypropylene materials. In addition printability and dyeability are very good.





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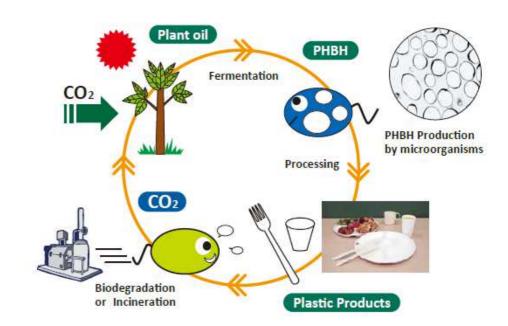


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Dr. Erwin LepoudreBusiness Manager Biopolymers
Green Polymer Division

Its raw materials are biomasses such as plant oils, which are renewable resources. Polymers are accumulated in the bodies of microorganisms through strain development and fermentation technology. Kaneka Biodegradable Polymer PHBHTM is produced in a clean process whereby the polymers are refined and extracted. There are also prospects for the establishment of manufacturing technology utilizing biomasses not used for food as the primary ingredients. Kaneka Biodegradable Polymer PHBHTM is stable under every day usage conditions. At the same time, it is biodegradable in either anaerobic, aerobic and soil and marine conditions in the natural environment, ultimately being converted into carbon dioxide and water. Because it is completely bio-based, it produces less carbon dioxide than fossil-based polymers and can contribute to the prevention of global warming.



Kaneka is refining resin mixes and moulding processes in a bid to further improve the strength and tear resistance of packaging films, especially agricultural mulch films and composting bags. The Company is aggressively pursuing market opportunities in high-durability moulded products such as bottles and containers, auto interiors and electrical equipment.