



First period of Svarnish Project has ended in success.

Svarnish project 12M Consortium Meeting and Period 1 Review Meeting with European Commission took place in Brussels, on 23th and 24th September. Project progress, research details, management issues and future plans were discussed during these meetings.

All project partners, consisting of AIDO (Spain), MATRI (United Kingdom), NOFIMA (Norway), ARTIBAL (Spain), A.HATZOPOULOS S.A. (Greece), SNANO (Turkey), AROMA PRAHA (Czech Republic), and FERRERO SPA (Italy) were represented in the review meeting. REA evaluators were informed about the 12M progress of the project and it can be remarked that the first period of the project resulted in success. During the meeting, as the developments were evaluated, it was considered that the Svarnish Project has a great potential for food packaging industry.

SVARNISH project aims to develop a varnish with antimicrobial, oxygen and water vapor barrier properties and improved physical-mechanical properties to be used in food industry.

The project purpose is to overcome the packaging limitations by simplifying multilayer structures used in current market and developing environmentally friendly, low cost, much more environmental and recyclable packaging solutions by using the advances in nanotechnology. Main concept is to develop a varnish made up of a polymer nanocomposite (PNC) including montmorillonite (MMT) and essential oils. In order to achieve this, we need to advance beyond the current state-of-the-art.

Current food packaging applications related to nanotechnology show that good barrier and physical-mechanical properties can be obtained. However, direct inclusion of the nanoparticle into the melted polymer can cause aggregation that means loss of good properties. An innovative clay modification method and antimicrobial volatile compound immobilization technique by in-situ polymerization will be performed to overcome these limitations and achieve fully exfoliated modified nanoclays with antimicrobial properties.

Consequently, the main objective of SVARNISH is to offer an innovative solution to food packaging industry in many aspects.

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