

SUSTAINABLE INNOVATIONS IN MOLDED FIBER TECHNOLOGY

OCTOBER-NOVEMBER 2022

PROBLEM STATEMENT

Dart Container, a global leader in containers for food and beverages, sought to identify innovations that would impart insulative performance to molded fiber products. The desired innovations could take the form of novel additives or coatings as well as processing improvements or equipment. Additionally, proposed innovations were required to allow for sustainable post-consumer processing in the form of biodegradability, recycling, or composting.

OUTCOME & RESULTS

This project generated fifteen unique submissions from around the world from a mix of academic and corporate respondents. While the majority of submissions were from respondents located inside the United States of America, there were also submissions from Canada, China, South Africa and Sweden. Within the US, respondents came from nine different states.

After completing their internal review of submissions, Dart Container initially identified two respondents of strong interest with an additional five that were of borderline interest, requiring additional information from respondents. The other remaining 8 were not of interest.

After obtaining additional information from respondents, Dart Container converted one borderline response into one of strong interest, bringing the total number of introductions to three. Additionally, Dart Container directly pursued additional conversations with three other organizations identified during the outreach effort for this project.

15
ENTRIES

40%
PROVEN
MANUFACTURABILITY
STATUS

20%
TRL 7

3
ENGAGEMENTS

7
FINALISTS

5
COUNTRIES

20%
TRL 5

27%
PROTOTYPE
STATUS

9
STATES