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## Bioelements Partners with Clemson University to Test Biodegradation of Its Bio E-8i Film for Sustainable Packaging

Second of Ground-Breaking Research Projects with Major Universities in the U.S. to Validate Bioelements Technology

Chicago – November 4, 2024 – Bioelements Group, a leading sustainable packaging company in Latin America and the United States, announced here today at PACK EXPO International that it has entered into a partnership with Clemson University to test the biodegradation for sustainable packaging. This is the second of two partnerships for this type of research with major universities in the United States. The first with Michigan State University was announced last month. Bioelements is exhibiting at PACK EXPO International (November 3-6) at Booth #4-20083 at McCormick Place in Chicago.

The partnership is structured as a project to measure the biodegradation of Bioelements' products. It involves studying the sample Bio E-8i film and its biodegradation under composting conditions in laboratory and application situations. In this case, the application is aerobic composting under the ASTM D5338 standards and methodology.

When compared to conventional plastics which take up to 400 years to decompose [degrade], Bioelements asserts it's Bio E-8i film can be broken down by fungi and other microorganisms from 3 to 20 months. Bio-E8i packaging is durable, attractive and complies with the regulations of each country where it operates.

"This research, along with other research being conducted in the United States allows us to obtain highly reliable data from prestigious universities," said Ignacio Parada, CEO, and founder of Santiago, Chile-based Bioelements. "Such work is important because it allows us to improve and apply academically driven scientific research to the application of packaging for greater sustainability packaging applications. That is very worthwhile and helps to validate our sustainable packaging technology."

Clemson will provide the South American company biodegradation testing to understand how the materials behave during the biodegradation process under simulated industrial composting and how long it takes for them to fully biodegrade in this environment.

"We are excited to partner with Bioelements as a research partner and provide quality services for their team," said Dr. James Sternberg, of the Sustainable Packaging Lab at Clemson University. "We look forward to providing data to help demonstrate the biodegradability of their products"

This partnership adds to the list of milestones that Bioelements has experienced in recent times, along with the opening of its own laboratory in Santiago and the recognition by the *Financial Times* as one of the fastest growing companies in the Americas. It continues to make great strides in Latin America markets as well as the newly entered U.S. market, including with such customers as Adidas, Chile-Peru, Australis Seafoods, Justo, Privalia, Walmart Mexico, among others.

## **About Bioelements**

Bioelements Group develops and produces biobased, biodegradable, and compostable packaging that transforms into food for fungi and microorganisms in a maximum of 20 months. With a presence in six countries, the group has scientific research operations in Santiago, Chile and Houston, TX. Bioelements works with some 17 scientific institutions to solve customers' packaging requirements. Offering over 30 formulations for biodegradable packaging, Bioelements delivers solutions to more than 250 customers in Latin America and the United States. For more information about Bioelements biodegradable packaging solutions in the United States, visit <a href="https://www.bioelementsla.com">www.bioelementsla.com</a>.

## About Clemson University's College of Agriculture, Forestry and Life Sciences

The College of Agriculture, Forestry and Life Sciences is at the core of Clemson University's land-grant heritage and is the beating heart of founder Thomas Green Clemson's vision of a high seminary of learning that would reach beyond the boundaries of the academy to benefit South Carolina, its people,

land, wildlife, natural resources and economy. CAFLS brings together the land-grant mission of teaching, research and Extension through world-class educational, inquiry and outreach opportunities, and partnerships with private industry and state and federal agencies.

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