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Kotkamills' ISLA® product family of plastic-free consumer boards expands to ice cream packaging

Kotkamills' family of ISLA® Consumer Boards are complemented by the freshest members of the family. ISLA® Ice and ISLA® Cream broaden the use of non-plastic solutions in the food industry with the expansion to ice cream packaging.

Easily recyclable ISLA® Ice and ISLA® Cream barrier boards are especially suited for take-away and retail ice cream cups, bowls, and containers. ISLA® Ice and ISLA® Cream are a combination of innovative products that have been developed in parallel to work tightly together as raw materials for ice cream packaging.

Ice cream packaging has commonly relied heavily on solutions based on plastics and plastic coatings. As an innovative forerunner Kotkamills is among the first to provide a plastic-free and recyclable alternative for ice cream manufacturers, packaging converters, retailers, and consumers. ISLA® Ice functions as a sidewall material with an excellent printing surface, enhancing the rich colours and vibrant visual appearance that are characteristic especially in retail ice cream packaging. ISLA® Cream is designed to function together as a high-performing material for the bottom of the container. The combination of the two paperboards provides the high hygienic food safety and required resistance against grease and the moisture of ice cream.

"In addition to our earlier launched plastic-free barrier products, such as ISLA® Duo for hot beverages, there has been high interest among our customers for plastic-free ice cream-specific paperboard solutions. We have seen the expansion to this direction as a natural continuation in our R&D work. Now, with this new product combination, we offer value to our customers both in terms of sustainability, especially with recycling and circularity possibilities, as well as by enabling excellent brand visibility with the top-class printing properties of the cup and container surfaces", states Päivi Suutari, VP RDI at Kotkamills.

Both ISLA® Ice and ISLA® Cream are fully recyclable and repulpable solutions and are available also as PEFC™ or FSC® certified, upon request. Additionally, the material fulfils the requirements for customers to apply for the Nordic Swan Ecolabel for the ice cream packaging.

"As our new ice cream cupstock materials are entirely repulpable, their fibres are easy to reuse up to six times when recycled properly. Therefore, the cups function as tools for the brands to show that they care about the environment", comments Ari Tanninen, Senior Vice President, Consumer Boards.

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“In conjunction with global trends and legislative initiatives, the numerous branches and packaging industries are turning their focus to material solutions replacing plastics. As the recyclable and repulpable water-based dispersion barrier products are gaining evermore interest as a sustainable alternative, the variety of end use applications is also expanding and we wish to be active in product development. Ice cream packaging and the new combination of ISLA® Ice and ISLA® Cream is a perfect example of this path”, says Kotkamills’ CEO Markku Hämäläinen.

Have a look at our ISLA® Ice and ISLA® Cream website: <https://portal.kotkamills.com/isla/>

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About Kotkamills

Kotkamills, located in Finland, is an experienced and responsible global partner, manufacturing innovative products created from wood, a renewable natural resource. Our range of sustainable products includes food-safe consumer boards, the high-quality saturating base kraft paper Absorbex®, and ecological wood products. The fully recyclable AEGLE® and ISLA® boards, produced since 2016, were complemented in 2018 with water-based dispersion barriers, replacing plastics used in packaging and food service applications. All our products are environmentally friendly, recyclable and safe to use. www.kotkamills.com