

GROWDEX® - AN INNOVATIVE WOOD CELLULOSE-BASED MATRIX FOR 3D CELL CULTURING

EuroNanoForum

June 21, 2017 Juuso Konttinen VP, UPM Biochemicals







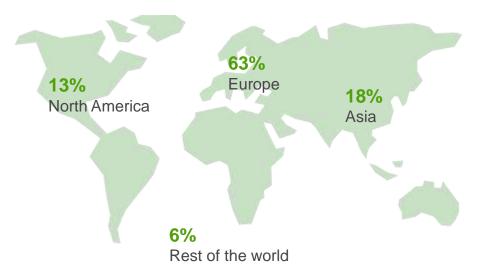




Global businesses – local presence



UPM's sales by market 2016 EUR 9,812 million





54 production plants in **12** countries

19,300 employees in 45 countries 12,000 customers in 120 countries

85,000 shareholders in 40 countries

55,000 suppliers in 70 countries



Biomedical products

UPM today



5 | © UPM

External proof of our responsibility



The wood we use and our products are verified by third party certificates and ecolabels.











Our consistent efforts in responsibility have received recognition

from several third parties and made us one of the industry leaders in several indices.

6 | © UPM











COMPANY CONGRATUL ON 100 YEARS N NASDAQ HELSINKI UPM Nasdaq

NANOCELLULOSE



COMMERCIALIZATION



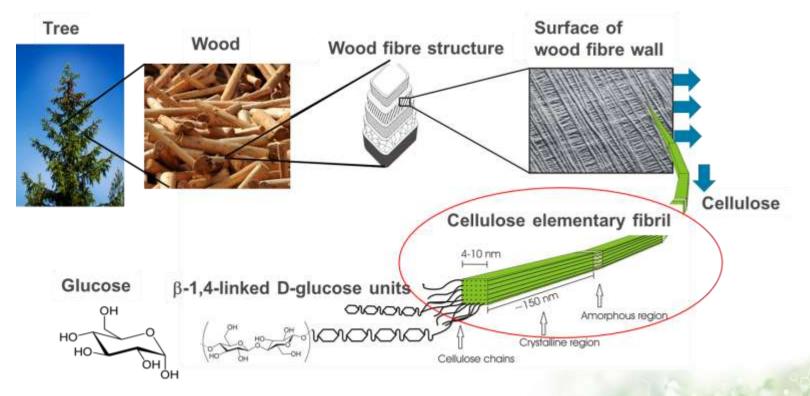
Biofuels and biochemicals are natural evolutionary steps in wood based value creation





Nanocellulose originates from trees

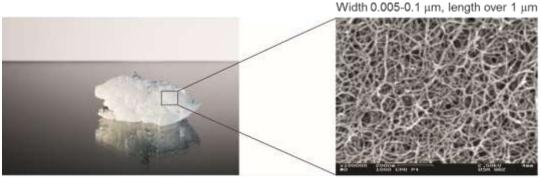




Nanocellulose is a material innovation



• Due to the high specific surface area (small size) and hydrophilicity, the cellulose elementary fibrils, *i.e.* Biofibrils, form a strong hydrogel with water



SEM image of UPM nanocellulose Scale bar is 0.1 µm.

 Biofibrils have typically very high aspect ratio: the length might be several micrometers while the diameter is in nanometer scale



Key material properties of GrowDex®

The Biofore Company UPN

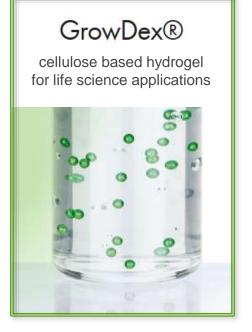
- Plant based *i.e.* non-animal based
- Highly viscous i.e. high gel force and tunable
- High water retention
- Pseudoplastic pipettable and injectable in gel format
- Tolerates salts, temperatures and pH (hydrogel pH 6-7)
- Storage and handling in room temperature
- Not autofluorescent
- Semitransparent
- Very low batch to batch variation
- Scalable production at UPM
- Possibility to use in clinical applications





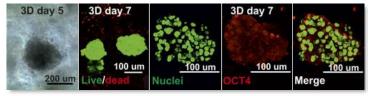
The Biofore Company **UPM**

Enabling development of new medical treatments





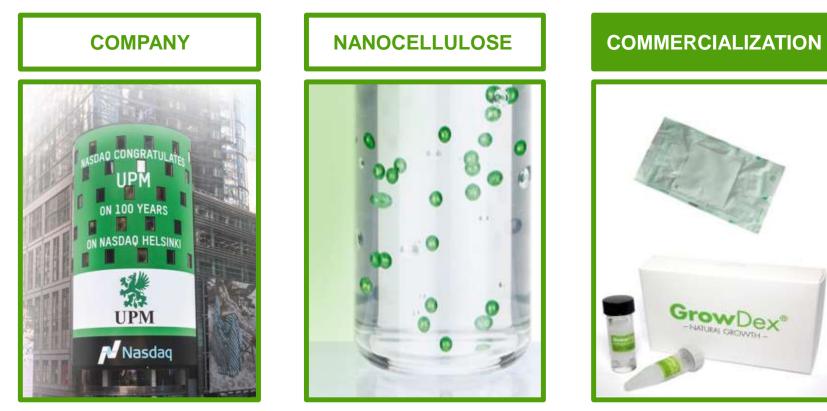
3D Cell Culturing Matrix for e.g. Cancer Research



Membranes for e.g. Wound Care Applications







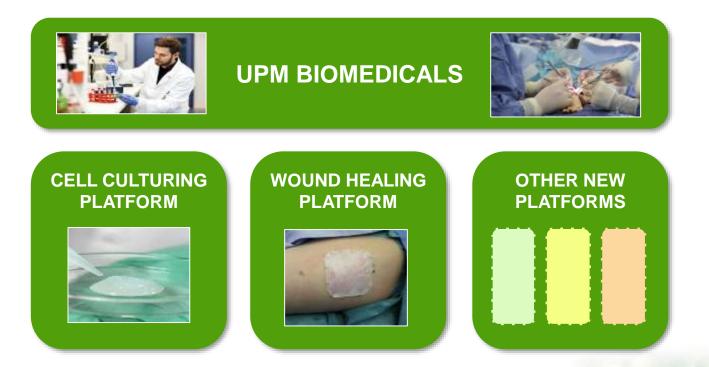


UPM nanocellulose journey

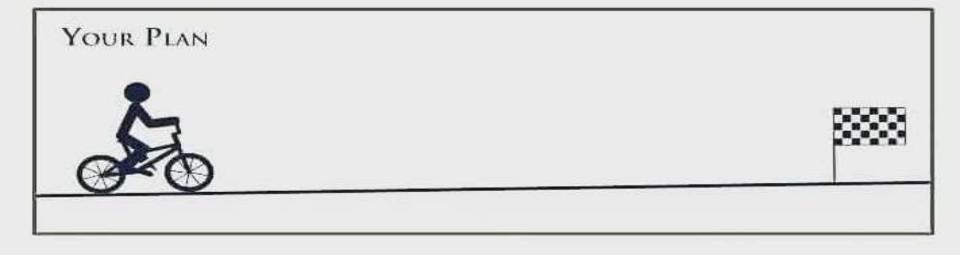


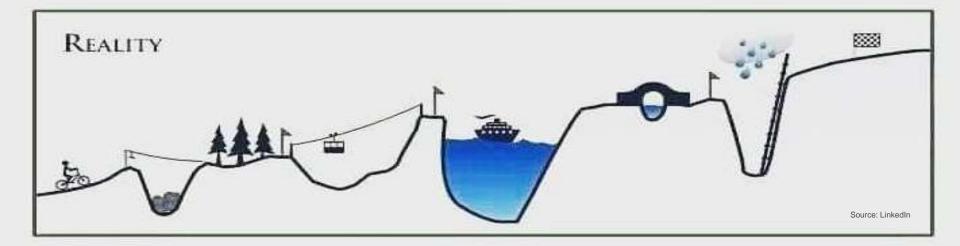
UPM Biomedicals - a new life science platform opportunity for future













The Biofore Company

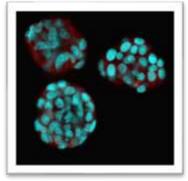
GrowDex® supports 3D cell culturing, e.g. liver cell, liver cancer cell, ESC, iPSC, etc.

3D cell culture

- Published results (by Helsinki University)
 - WA07, human embryonic stem cell line
 - iPS(IMR90)-4, iPS-DF19-9-7T, human induced pluripotent stem cell lines
 - HepG2, human liver carcinoma cell line
 - HepaRG, hepatic progenitor cell line
 - ARPE-19, human retinal pigmented epithelial cell line
 - Several other cell types have been tested/are being tested (unpublished)







HepG2 spheroids cultured in 3D NFC hydrogel (© Liisa Kanninen, Helsinki University)



GrowDex[®]



- 1. GrowDex[®] can simply be mixed with culture media and cells due to its fluid characteristics
- 2. GrowDex[®]'s concentration and stiffness can easily be modified to provide optimal environments for different cell types
- 3. GrowDex[®] is a continuous gel matrix allowing diffusion of small molecules such as nutrients and oxygen
- 4. GrowDex[®] nanofibril network physically resembles human ECM
- 5. GrowDex[®] is biocompatible and supports growth of various cell types and e.g. formation of 3D spheroids
- 6. GrowDex®'s cellulose nanofibril matrix can easily be degraded with cellulase enzyme while retaining the grown cell structure
- 7. GrowDex® enables hPSC culturing without feeder cells, no genotoxicity found
- 8. GrowDex® can be used in multidispensers and automatic pipetting systems