Akira Science & Artificial Nature (DAN*NA): a synergistic collaboration to establish the next generation of smart and degradable biomaterials and advance the biomedical field

"The common goal is to expand the product portfolio of both companies "

Akira Science and Artificial Nature (DAN*NA) signed a **commercial collaboration agreement** for the joint representation of their biomaterials for the biomedical sector initially for the Swedish and Spanish markets and with the vision of expanding to other European countries.

Through this collaboration, the two companies aim to establish the commercialization and production of the next generation of biomaterials that are customized, among others, for the fields of tissue engineering, additive manufacturing, mobility electronics and/or cosmetics.
The long-term vision of Akira Science and DAN*NA is to develop new materials and provide new services, in an innovative way to create environments to streamline the processing of high-scale degradable polymers.

Akira Science is a spin-off from KTH Royal Institute of Technology in Stockholm, Sweden, led by Álvaro Morales López, CEO and Dr. Tiziana Fuoco, CTO. Akira Science provides degradable polymers for additive manufacturing in the biomedical field. The company has developed a unique biomaterial which is known commercially as **AKIMed-C12**. This breakthrough material (i) ensures thermal stability and control of the properties during the printing process and (ii) degrades much faster than comparable materials on the market today. 3D printed scaffolds, made of this material, are suitable for soft tissue engineering applications and have an estimated degradation time of 9-10 months under hydrolytic conditions at 37 °C. Another key point is that AKIMed-c12 is compatible with different additive manufacturing technologies available on the market. This advantage enables the fabrication of new models and/or prototypes for applications that require a material with a controlled and predictable degradation profile.

DAN*NA (Barcelona, 2017) is a bioengineering company dedicated to the development of advanced bioplastics and biomaterials for the technology sector. From organic derivatives, vegetables, sugars or such as lactic acid, they obtain their raw

material to transform it through molecular technology, green chemistry processes and Artificial Intelligence into a bioplastic with high added value to be used in the health sector, the food and microelectronics (Bio / sensors).

DAN*NA's biomaterials and bioplastics are 100% bio-based and biocompatible, currently they are used in biomedical research projects, either in solid format as scaffolds for tissue regeneration, or in hydrogel format as a substrate for bioinks or microfluidic medical devices.
DAN*NA can adapt and customize biomaterials to customer's needs and assists in their regulatory validation and production scaling. Its bioplastics are compatible to be used with extrusion equipment on the market and suitable for the food or agriculture sector.

DAN*NA has been classified in 2021 as one of the top 5 startups worldwide in the development of biopolymers.
https://www.startus-insights.com/innovators-guide/discover-5-top-startups-developing-sustainable-plastics/
It is certified as an environmental and social impact company by the SHIP2B foundation.

Akira Science received in 2021 the Åforsk Entrepreneurship Scholarship as one of the most innovative start-up in Sweden.
https://www.sisp.se/start/vinnare-%C3%A5forsk-entrepren%C3%B6rsstipendium-2021

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