



## **BIAXPLEN AND MANUCOR JOIN FORCES**

The companies set up a joint venture to produce BOPP film.

BIAXPLEN has acquired a 50% stake in Manucor S.p.A, a leading European BOPP film manufacturer with a production site of 100 ktpa in Italy and exports to 35 countries.

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TODAY, BIAXPLEN LEADS THE RUSSIAN BOPP FILM MARKET WITH A CAPACITY OF 180 KTPA.

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This will enable BIAXPLEN and Manucor to combine best practices in sales and marketing, R&D, production and technical service, and, ultimately, grow the joint venture to become a leading player in Europe's BOPP market. To boost its potential, the two companies are considering engaging SIBUR PolyLab R&D centre in Skolkovo to develop new product.

According to Marat Falyakhov, Executive Director at BIAXPLEN, the transaction will help the company expand its European footprint. "Our deal with Manucor is an important milestone in our work on the international market," he said. "We aim to tap into the industry's potential by embracing global best practices to deliver innovative products and top-notch service."



*Manucor plant in Italy with a capacity of 100 ktpa of BOPP film. Photo: manucor.com.*

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THE PARTNERSHIP WILL ENABLE THE TWO COMPANIES TO BROADEN AND IMPROVE THEIR PRODUCT PORTFOLIO, AND EXTEND GEOGRAPHIC COVERAGE.

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According to Luigi Scagliotti, CEO of Manucor, this partnership “will create strong synergies in terms of sales, supplies and know-how.” “BIAXPLEN is the leading Russian BOPP player and one of the main players in the international BOPP market, while SIBUR is among the most important manufacturers of PP granules in Europe,” he said. “Manucor’s cooperation with BIAXPLEN will enable the companies to expand and complete their product portfolio, extend geographic coverage and commercial footprint, given the complementary location of the production sites, and expand and share R&D capabilities.”

Global demand for BOPP is increasing steadily, as the growing consumption of food and other products requires modern packaging solutions. BOPP film has a number of distinct advantages in the packaging segment: competitive value, good barrier properties, durability, aesthetic appearance. Last but not least, it can be made using recycled polypropylene.