



PRESS RELEASE

For Immediate Release

DS Smith Plastics Acquires HOTBIN Composting

DS Smith Plastics Foam Products has acquired the **HOTBIN Composting** business from owner and inventor Tony Callaghan of AC Innovations. The HOTBIN composter is an aerobic compost bin which rapidly decomposes a wider variety of waste up to 32 times faster than traditional composting methods.

The acquisition sees the patent, trademark and HOTBIN business now fully assigned to DS Smith Plastics Foam Products following a successful relationship between the two businesses.

Originally involved at the product development stage of the HOTBIN, **DS Smith Foam Products** has been the manufacturing partner for over 5 years and has seen success managing the sales, marketing and technical support desks since becoming the UK licence holder in late 2013.

Jonathan Haddock, Managing Director of DS Smith Foam Products commented “The fantastic performance of the HOTBIN Composter and the huge positive customer feedback we have received over the past 3 years, convinced us to purchase the rights to the HOTBIN from AC Innovations. Through the purchase we are now looking to extend the HOTBIN product range and to export into European markets”.

Tony Callaghan, Managing Director of AC Innovations said, “I worked with DS Smith from the original HOTBIN design right through to recent sale. They delivered as the original manufacturing partner and the DS Smith HOTBIN team have supported customers for over 2 years. I am confident HOTBIN will continue to grow and make an impact on waste reduction by converting food and green waste into great compost”.

The acquisition will provide Mr Callaghan with more time to concentrate on future business ventures as the founder and Managing Director of **AC Innovations**.

Originally designed in Morpeth, Northumberland the award winning HOTBIN composter will continue to be a British manufactured product headquartered in Northampton at DS Smith Plastics Foam Products.

For more information on the HOTBIN, please visit www.hotbincomposting.com.



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About DS Smith Plastics Foam Products

DS Smith Foam Products is part of the Plastics division of DS Smith Plc, a leading provider of corrugated and plastics packaging supported by paper and recycling operations.

Foam Products is a premier supplier of custom designed packaging products, materials handling systems and speciality components, serving the needs of many of the world's largest manufacturing companies. Foam Products serve a wide variety of industries including automotive, construction, HVAC, food and horticulture where the insulation, energy absorption and weight saving properties of expanded foam lend themselves best.

Photo credit: DS Smith Plastics Foam Products. Tony Callaghan officially hands over HOTBIN Composting business to DS Smith. **Pictured:** Tony Callaghan (left) and Gary Sheppard (right). Gary was the original Account Manager for the HOTBIN/AC Innovations business.