



## **MATER-BI® BAGS ALSO IN SAINSBURY'S RETAIL OUTLET**

Novara, February 7<sup>th</sup>, 2006

**Sainsbury's, one of the most important large-scale retail chains in the United Kingdom, is going to start using biodegradable and compostable bags for their potatoes and apples. These bags will be made with Mater-Bi® film produced by Wentus and distributed by Natura; the new products will also undergo consumer testing.**

Thus, Sainsbury's joins the ever increasing list of Large-Scale Retail chains that, throughout Europe, have chosen Mater-Bi® to introduce innovative packaging that guarantees high quality, and at the same time biodegradability and compostability, in accordance with the European standard EN 13432.

**Once more, the bioplastic manufactured by the company Novamont SpA proves to be a tailor-made product for specific applications chosen by the large-scale retail trade, from bags to netting for packaging fresh fruit and vegetables, to carrier bags and loop handle bags used by a number of chains, including Casinò, Esselunga, Fnac, Gigante, Intermarché, Iper.**

**Mater-Bi® for films is the world's first thermoplastic product to obtain the "OK Compost Home" certificate, which is issued by AIB Vinçotte, who certify its total compostability, even in a home compost bin.**

Novamont SpA is a world leader in the field of bioplastics made from raw materials from renewable sources. Mater-Bi®'s unique formula, which takes maize starch and produces special, super-molecular structures, enables final products to perform extremely well in a variety of sectors, from farming to waste management, from packaging to personal hygiene, to additives for tyres.

In over ten years of developing environmentally compatible projects, Novamont SpA has made a decisive contribution to integrated waste collection management systems. **Today, over 3500 local councils in Europe, and hundreds of others throughout the world, serving over 15 million people, regularly use waste and shopping bags made of Mater-Bi® for the separate collection of organic waste and grass cuttings.**

For their commitment to using raw materials of agricultural origin, and their constant attention to the environmental impact of processes and products, Novamont have received a number of **international acknowledgements and awards**, including the World Summit Business Award for Sustainable Development Partnership, which they received in Johannesburg from UNEP (United Nations Environmental Programme) and from the International Chambers of Commerce.

Novamont SpA also won the 2003 Frost & Sullivan Award for Product Innovation. This award recognises the excellence shown by Novamont in technological and product innovation in the manufacturing of technopolymers and composite materials in Europe.

