

What could be better in the world?



International student teams innovated new avenues for using the light-weight foam formed fibre materials for various applications. The innovation task was part of the existing course in Tampere University of Applied Sciences. The outcome of the project was several new ideas, and selected ideas are presented in this poster. The teams presented their ideas for jury, which evaluated them all having commercial potential.

How we did it?

The BeLight innovation task was the final challenge for the students on the "Design Management and Innovations" course. The students had studied and practiced the innovation tools. In the BeLight innovation task, teams had to familiarize themselves with foam-formed fibre material and use these innovation tools to develop new applications for the material.

What did we discover?

Pill Box

Traditional aluminum-plastic drug packaging consists of two parts: aluminum and plastic. The idea is to utilize foam formed fiber material in a pill box. The pill box has all-in-one design, and it is easy to use and recycle.

Cups and coasters

Paper cup and coaster waste left on the grass causes pollution to the environment. The idea is to add grass seeds in production of unique paper cups and coasters. The cups and coasters are biodegradable and turned into new grass.

Helmet cushion

Helmets that are used by different people need to be hygienic. The idea is to use bio-based fiber foam for exchangeable and recyclable cushions for helmets.

Easy Air Filter

Air filters are needed to improve air quality in various locations such as in windows and air conditioners. The idea is to use foam-formed fibre material as an air filter, which is shapeable and high-efficient adsorbent material.

Phone Case

The phone cases are used to protect cell phones and the market volumes are huge. Currently, the majority of the phone cases are made of plastic. The idea is to use the foam-formed fibre material as a phone case. The parts of the old phone cases of this material could be re-used as an anti-collision material on table corners in families with small children or as a coaster.

Interesting outcomes

From the very beginning the students were thinking what could be better in the world. The products inspired by the teams were completely different from each other and had been developed to meet the needs of a wide range of industries. Each group had also taken into account the potential market volume of the products. The teams had courage not to choose the easiest solution that came in mind. Instead of wondering if anything was possible, they had wondered how to make it possible. The teams had also recognized the environmental aspects and product customization in their innovations. In each of these innovation ideas novelty value could be reached.

Contact information

Project leader, Lisa Wikström
VTT Research team leader
Tel. +358 40 861 4421
lisa.wikstrom@vtt.fi

Katri Salminen, TAMK
Project Manager
Tel. +358 40 682 4741
katri.salminen@tuni.fi