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## UK urged to switch on to greener plastic

BRITAIN should wake up to advances in bio-degradable plastic which would lessen the burden on the environment, according to the chief executive of a UK Aim-listed company which specialises in the technology.

Symphony Environmental has developed an additive called d2w, which causes plastic to self-destruct much more quickly than normal.

Michael Laurier, chief executive of Symphony Environmental, which

By **Tracey Boles**

supplies plastic manufacturers in 92 countries, said: "This is a great British product appreciated much more in foreign countries than by our own Government."

He added: "In Britain we don't have a policy for plastic waste in the environment which cannot realistically be collected."

D2w is added to the polymer resin during the manufacturing process

for products such as bread wrappers, cling film and plastic bags.

At the end of a pre-determined time, which can be set for between one and five years, the plastic degrades through oxidation. The polymers break down until they can be consumed by microbes.

Laurier says that the UK Government's own evidence shows that d2w plastic is better for the environment than compostable plastics or paper, or cotton bags.