

SILVER AWARD

Blake Rudy



“The Husk Transformer”

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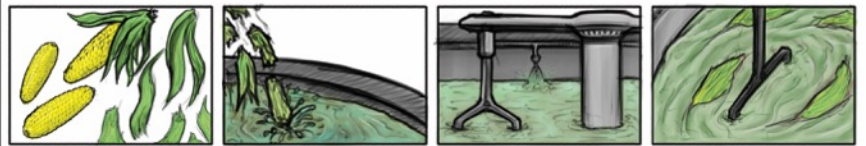
XENITH

Design Concept:

The Husk Transformer will help reduce plastic in our food packaging. A lot of plastic goes into our lakes and oceans hurting animals. We grow corn in Michigan, corn decomposes better. If we made food packaging out of corn, it would be better for the environment.

HUSKALATOR

The Huskator converts wasted corn husks into a paper which can be used for biodegradable produce packaging.

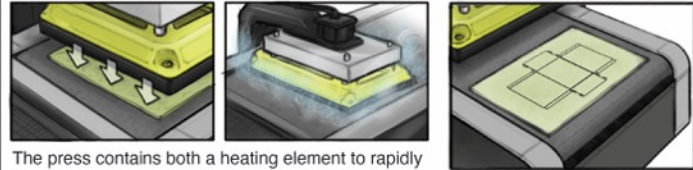


Corn is separated from the husk at corn canning factory and the husks are washed and cooked in water and soda ash solution, then mixed and rinsed in the *HUSKALATOR* basin.



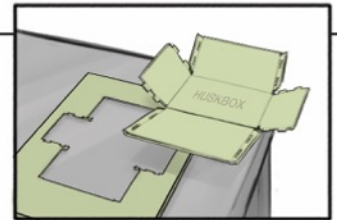
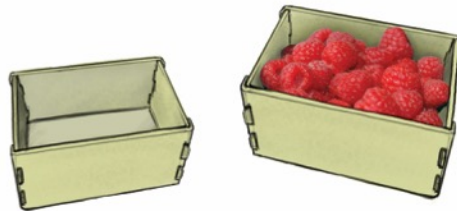
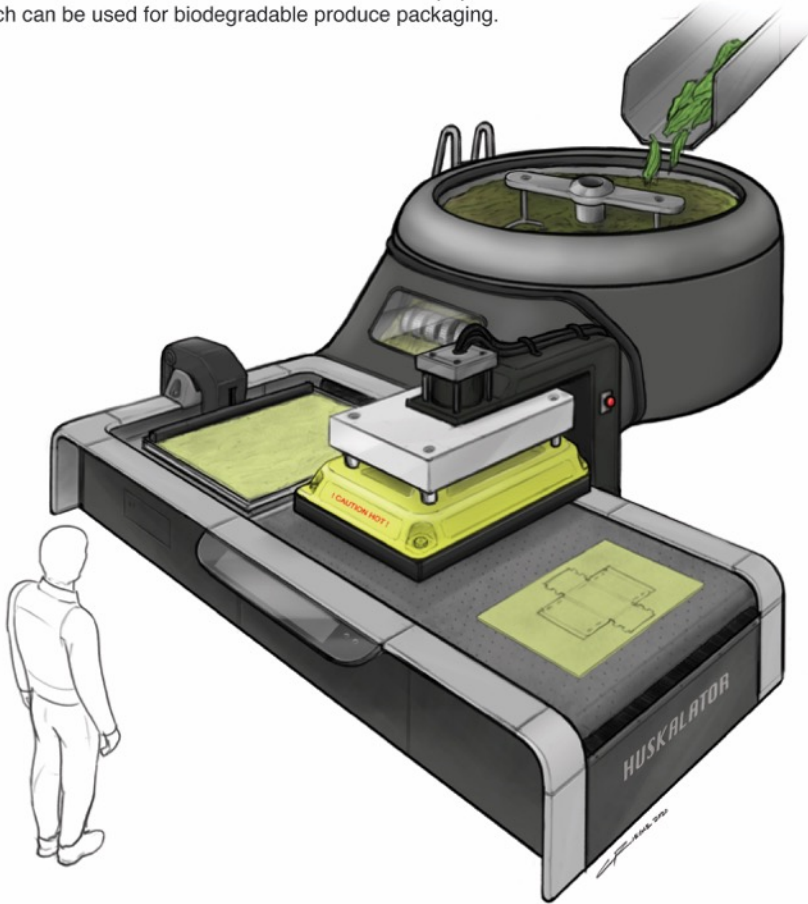
Beater blades break down the cooked husks while keeping husk fibers intact to create a pulp, before dumping the mixture into the slurry tray.

The slurry tray then lifts a thin layer of pulp, straining off excess water before sliding the husk pulp sheet under the heat press.



The press contains both a heating element to rapidly dry the sheet, and a blade, to die cut the sheet into the desired box shape with a second press once dry.

Once die cut, the sheet then moves along to the end of the conveyor belt to be collected for shipment or sorting.



The die cut part can then be removed from the sheet and folded into a box.

THE HUSK BOX
Biodegradable packaging

