



Enabling Food Innovation Project

THE NATIONAL FOREST SPRING WATER COMPANY LTD

The National Forest Spring Water Company has been based in Melbourne Derbyshire since 2003 and produce a range of flavoured, sparkling, spring waters. The flavoured waters are popular with children but in order to enter the schools market the company need to reformulate removing artificial sweeteners but with minimal changes to the aroma and flavour quality. There is also interest to develop new flavours for a more adult market in the future.

Project Brief: Apr 2017

1. The requirement is to clarify guidelines for ingredients permitted/or not in order to sell flavoured water into schools.
2. Look at potential sweeteners that fit the school guidelines that might be suitable replacements for aspartame and acesulfame K.
3. Develop new formulations with replacement sweeteners/sweetening mechanisms.

The Response: Apr 2017

1. The guidelines for drink formulations permitted in schools was researched.
2. A literature review and survey of relevant sweeteners was carried out.
3. The flavoured water range was reformulated to replace Acesulfame K and Aspartame with Sucralose (a sweetener that the soft drink and flavoured water market currently favours and which has a similar sweetness profile).
4. A technical pitch to explain the reformulation and current marketplace for flavoured waters was written for use in a sales pitch to Morrisons Local.

Benefit to the Business:

The business have had their range reformulated to contain a sweetener that is acceptable to the expectations of the current marketplace, and now allows them to remove the Phenylalanine warning that the existing recipe with Aspartame required, allowing them to keep up with competitors that are following this trend. Additionally the company has been given a review of the flavoured waters marketplace and technical information about sucralose as a sweetener that has allowed them to pitch confidently to Morrison and Co-op local, which would offer them new sales.

