

## Research and Development



We are committed to develop new products and applications and have a modern, world class research and development centre. The main objectives of our research and development initiatives are to develop new products, to ensure our products are suitable for their intended applications, and to develop and improve on the quality of our products such as their texture, appearance and overall sensory and aesthetic aspects. Some of the new products that we are currently undertaking research and development work include cocoa butter equivalents and new products to add to our existing range of bakery and specialty fats.

Our innovation and knowledge centre is equipped with modern and advanced machines and equipment which enhance our research and development capabilities. In addition to the test equipment used for quality control assessments, our laboratory runs tests on differential scanning calorimetry and other sophisticated chemical-physical tests for our research and development activities. Our laboratory is equipped with a scaled-down refining plant that includes scaled-down refining equipment, a texturiser

and an interesterification facility. We also have a scaled down chocolate making machine in the laboratory. To test new ideas and ensure solutions provided to customers meet their intended purposes, products are tested in our laboratory which also has cooking, steaming, frying and baking facilities. Panelists who are familiar with the products and possess the ability to distinguish between basic tastes are invited to rate the quality of developed products in specially set-up sensory evaluation booths in our laboratory.

Our research and development model is based on a global organisation that emphasises a collaborative approach to develop new products and related applications. Our research and development team works closely with various business and marketing groups within the Group to keep our initiatives relevant and commercially viable.

We believe that our research and development initiatives will be able to enhance our competitiveness and keep us at the forefront of emerging developments and technologies in the industry.