



# Dr. Halil Aktas

## INNOVATIVE PRODUCT & PROCESS DEVELOPMENT LEADER

### A Recognized Expert in Leading Cutting-Edge Research and Innovations

Comprehensive experience in leading research, development and innovation for large Fast Moving Consumer Goods organizations and seeking increased efficiency, service levels and performance. Highly skilled in developing new products, solutions and implementing process improvements. Multi-lingual speaking English, Dutch, Turkish and basic German.

## + EXPERIENCES AND ACHIEVEMENTS

### TRADIN ORGANIC / CROWN OF HOLLAND

2016 – Current

#### Cocoa Application Projects Lead, Amsterdam, the Netherlands

Industrial consultant. Responsible for leading all New Product Development and Project Management activities within Production Facility.

- Successfully achieved \$0.6M annual cost savings through optimizing press process for manufacturing biological cocoa butter.

### TATE & LYLE

2008 – 2015

#### Pilot Plant Manager, Jurong Island, Singapore

2013 – 2015

Design, plan and manage all research trials and pilot plant projects to identify and capture growth opportunities and process improvements. Lead a team of 6 research associates to ensure quality, accuracy and boost research innovations.

- Successfully achieved \$1-2M annual cost savings and 40% energy savings through the development of a cutting-edge evaporative process for recycle solvent.
- Developed catalytic yield improvement projects, with a potential of 15% yield improvement and \$6-7M annual cost savings.
- Served as Safety Ambassador to provide comprehensive SafeStart training to management team.
- Regularly presented scientific and research presentations to CEO, members of Board of Directors and upper management executives to advise on pilot plant project development and progress.

#### Group Process Chemist, McIntosh (AL), USA

2012 – 2013

Design and conduct independent lab experiments to identify process and quality improvements. Provide key support to production plant during a recommissioning phase to ensure streamlined start-up and plant operations.

- Identified areas for improvement and implemented sucralose process modification, resulting in 1.5% yield improvement and up to \$0.8M annual cost savings.
- Successfully boosted quality, performance, and cost savings results/initiatives through the implementation of key laboratory process improvements.
- Implemented an effective digital signage system to improve plant safety and communication.

## + Contact

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## + Core Competences

- RESEARCH & DEVELOPMENT
- NPD (STAGE-GATE)
- PROJECT MANAGEMENT (STAGE-GATE)
- PRODUCT MANUFACTURING
- FACTORY TRIAL & RECIPE
- PROCESS IMPROVEMENT
- COST REDUCTION
- QUALITY ASSURANCE
- PILOT SCALE (TRIAL PROTOCOL)
- HEALTH & SAFETY REQUIREMENT
- TECHNICAL EXPERT
- SOLUTION & ADVICE
- EXECUTIVE COMMUNICATION
- SERVICE DELIVERY
- LEADERSHIP & TEAM MANAGEMENT
- TRAINING & SUPERVISION
- RESOURCE MANAGEMENT
- UNIVERSITY-LEVEL LABORATORY TRAINING
- KNOWLEDGE BROKER

## + Companies

**TATE & LYLE**

**Cargill**



**VU**

VRIJE  
UNIVERSITEIT  
AMSTERDAM

## + R & D Expertise

- NEW PRODUCT DEVELOPMENT
- PROCESS DEVELOPMENT
- ORGANIC CHEMISTRY & SYNTHESIS
- CATALYST DEVELOPMENT
- HIGH THROUGHPUT EXPERIMENTATION
- BENCH AND SCALE TEST EQUIPMENT
- ANALYTICAL CHEMISTRY
- SINGLE FOOD INGREDIENT
- APPLICATION DEVELOPMENT
- COMPETITION WATCH
- ACTIVE PHARMACEUTICAL INGREDIENT
- FINE CHEMICALS
- HANDLING OF REACTIVE INTERMEDIATES
- OIL & GAS TREATMENT
- CUSTOMER MANUFACTURING
- CUSTOMER COMPLAINT SOLUTION
- WASTE WATER TREATMENT
- INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY

## + Skills

PILOT PLANT OPERATIONS



PEOPLE MANAGEMENT



CHEMICAL ANALYSIS



UNIT OPERATIONS



MS OFFICE



OSI-PI



CHEMCAD



SAP



### Group Process Chemist, Decatur (IL), USA

2011 – 2012

Led the Process Lab and performed cutting-edge global laboratory research to develop innovative manufacturing processes for sucralose.

- Served as subject expert to visit Singapore plant to improve plant equipment and operations.
- Effectively developed process improvements for sucralose manufacturing, resulting in a potential 5% yield improvement and \$3M annual savings.
- Recognized for leadership and handpicked to support recommissioning process of McIntosh plant.

### R & D Scientist, Koog aan de Zaan, the Netherlands 2008 – 2011

Conduct key research and development projects to boost process improvements for food and industrial starch manufacturing.

- Successfully developed and commercialized two modified food starch products. Starch possesses unique properties for manufacturing biodegradable polymers. Potential applications are in biomedical and environmental fields.
- Maintained key account contracts by resolving product issues and customer complaints.
- Supported Group Quality Control initiatives in labs throughout Europe to align analytical methods and processes.

### VU UNIVERSITY AMSTERDAM

2003 – 2007

#### Lecturer, Amsterdam, the Netherlands

- Conducted lectures on complex chemistry topics and assisted university students with laboratory and Research & Development projects.
- Effectively isolated the first P2 analogue of the Dötz intermediate.
- Successfully published five research project findings in prominent scientific journals.

*Previous experience includes Quality Control Technician for Cargill, Tate & Lyle and Intern Research Technician for Shell.*

## + PATENTS

- DMF distillation, **US 2016 272574 (A1), GB 2536480 (A)**, 2016.
- Chlorination of sucrose-6-esters, **WO 2016 020635 (A1)**, 2016.
- Chlorination of sucrose-6-esters, **WO 2015 092374 (A1)**, 2015.

*Two patent applications related to sucralose chemistry and process development (Pending).*

## + PUBLICATIONS

- Angew. Chem.* **2010**, 122, 2148–2159; *Angew. Chem. Int. Ed.* **2010**, 49, 2102–2113.
- J. Am. Chem. Soc.* **2009**, 131, 13531–13537.
- Organometallics* **2009**, 28, 5166–5172.
- Angew. Chem.* **2009**, 121, 3154–3157; *Angew. Chem. Int. Ed.* **2009**, 48, 3108–3111.
- J. Am. Chem. Soc.* **2009**, 131, 6666–6667.
- Eur J. Org. Chem.* **2008**, 1336–1339.
- Organometallics* **2003**, 22, 1827–1834.

## + EDUCATION

- Doctorate**, Physical Organic Chemistry, VU University Amsterdam and Holland Research School of Molecular Chemistry, 2007.
- Master of Science**, Organic Chemistry, VU University Amsterdam, 2003.
- Bachelor of Science**, Organic Chemistry, HU University of Applied Sciences Utrecht, 2001.