

**INDUSTRY**

# KTIS eyes packaging growth

SET-listed Kaset Thai International Sugar Corporation Plc (KTIS) is expanding into packaging made of sugar byproducts, aiming to create added value on sugar waste and raise revenue, says deputy chief executive Nathapun Siriviriyakul.

The company's target is to increase revenue from the bagasse packaging segment to 8% of total revenue from its pulp and sugar waste business to 1.3 billion baht within the next few years, up from the current 4%, he said.

The bagasse packaging business was officially launched this year by Environment Pulp and Paper Co, which is 100% owned by KTIS.

"It is our "Zero Waste" policy to create added value on our products, which aims to make use of the waste and byproducts of sugar," he said.

He said the company also conducted a feasibility study on producing other products from sugar-cane juice or ethanol to create added value.

The moves are part KTIS's plan to have a 50:50 revenue contribution from sugar and biobusiness in the long term.

The sugar business accounts for 75-80% of total revenue, while biobusiness — the production of sugar-cane byproducts including ethanol, biogas, fertiliser, and pulp and paper — makes up the rest.

The company has also diversified into the power sector, expecting another two biomass power plants with a power-generating capacity of 50 megawatts each which will start commercial operation this year.

With its existing 60MW plant plus the two new plants coming on stream, the company's generating capacity is due to rise to 160MW.

KTIS posted total revenue of 19.5 billion baht with a net profit of 729 million baht in 2015.

KTIS shares closed yesterday on the Stock Exchange of Thailand at seven baht, down five satang, in trade worth 3.48 million baht.