

Company History

From Scientific Curiosity to Aquaculture Innovation

AminoTec Research & Development was founded on a simple belief: a deeper scientific understanding of how aquatic animals detect and respond to food can transform the future of aquaculture.

The company's origins stretch back more than two decades, when founder **Dr. Patrick Mills** began investigating the chemistry underlying fish feeding behavior. While working as a Professor of Chemistry, Dr. Mills became fascinated by the remarkable ability of fish to detect minute concentrations of naturally occurring amino acids dissolved in water. Although amino acids were widely recognized as nutrients, their role as powerful chemical signals capable of initiating attraction and feeding behavior had received comparatively little attention in commercial feed formulation.

This observation sparked a long-term research program that combined chemistry, fish physiology, behavioral biology and an extensive review of the international scientific literature. Rather than relying on traditional trial-and-error product development, the objective was to understand the molecular mechanisms governing chemosensory feeding stimulation and apply that knowledge to the rational design of highly effective amino acid formulations.

The first practical application of this research came through the recreational angling industry. In 2024, Dr. Mills co-founded **BioSource Baits** in the United Kingdom to demonstrate that scientifically engineered amino acid formulations could outperform conventional fish attractants. Those products consistently produced exceptional field results, with independent trials and extensive angler feedback demonstrating substantial improvements in fish attraction and catch rates. These successes provided important validation that carefully engineered amino acid systems could influence feeding behavior under real-world conditions.

While these products were developed for recreational fishing, the broader implications quickly became clear. The same chemosensory mechanisms responsible for attracting wild fish also play a critical role in commercial aquaculture, where efficient feed detection and feed acceptance directly influence growth, health, welfare and production economics.

Recognizing this opportunity, **AminoTec Research & Development** was established to focus exclusively on the application of amino acid science within global aquaculture.

Today, AminoTec develops proprietary chemosensory feeding stimulants for commercially important species including salmon, catfish, shrimp and carp. The company's research integrates chemistry, sensory biology and aquaculture nutrition to design formulations that encourage faster feed recognition, improve feed acceptance and support more efficient feed utilization during critical stages of production.

Unlike many feed additives developed through empirical testing alone, AminoTec products are designed from first principles. Every formulation is guided by an understanding of amino acid chemistry, receptor activation, species-specific sensory physiology and published scientific evidence. This mechanistic approach enables the development of targeted feeding stimulants that are both scientifically defensible and commercially relevant.

Although AminoTec is a young company, its scientific foundations have been built over many years of research, experimentation and product refinement. That depth of knowledge forms the cornerstone of our business today.

Looking ahead, AminoTec is committed to collaborating with universities, research institutes, feed manufacturers and aquaculture producers around the world. Through these partnerships, we aim to accelerate the development of next-generation feeding technologies that improve productivity while supporting a more efficient and sustainable aquaculture industry.

Our vision is ambitious but clear: to become the world's leading authority in chemosensory feeding stimulation and to establish amino acid science as a cornerstone of future aquaculture nutrition.