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## Chemical-free krill oil here?

**Ewen Cook**  
Published - November 02, 2009

**A Chile-based consultancy and brokerage firm says it's on the verge of securing a patent for a chemical-free method of producing pharmaceutical-grade krill oil.**



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Tharos Ltd., which specializes in high-end fishery projects, claims to have developed a completely new method of producing the valuable oil, which it says will revolutionize the market.

The new process could cut costs dramatically by reducing the need for shipping and infrastructure expenses, and will better protect the environment, Tharos said.

"After more than 20 years working with Antarctic krill, we have developed a completely new, chemical-free process to produce pharma-grade krill oil," Dimitri Sclabos, general manager, told *Fishing News International*.

"The patenting process is almost finished and should be registered by early to mid-November. We have been working on this for six years. What makes it different from what's out there is that it's solvent- and chemical-free."

Norway's Aker Biomarine and Canadian company Neptune Technologies are the market leaders in developing pharmaceutical-grade krill oil -- but both carry out production onshore using chemicals, said Sclabos.

"Aker and Neptune use a chemical in their process, which can leave residues. It's very risky to work onboard with this kind of method. So we will be the first to reach the market with a high-quality krill oil that is chemical-free," he said.

Tharos plans to sell or license the patent to a partner. "We expect whoever comes forward to make a lot of money," said Sclabos.

The company owns another krill-based patent for a special nutrient-rich krill paste, and is awaiting a partner to come forward to develop the product further.

*Read more about developments within the Antarctic krill fishery in the December issue of Fishing News International.*

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