

## Expo FoodTech 2026 Focuses on Automation for a More Efficient and Productive Food Industry

The leading technology fair for the food and beverage sector returns to Bilbao on May 27 and 28, 2026, held simultaneously with Pick&Pack for the Food Industry

The sixth edition of Expo FoodTech will showcase more than 400 innovations in food processing, automation and robotics, logistics, and food packaging

Madrid, November 7, 2025. <u>F4F – Expo FoodTech 2026</u> returns to Bilbao (Spain) for its sixth edition on May 27 and 28, once again running concurrently with Pick&Pack for Food Industry. This year, under the slogan 'Optimize Everything, Accelerate Success', the food industry technology fair will focus on automation and food processing solutions as key tools for optimizing processes and improving food production and distribution.

"In the current context, process automation is no longer an option. The food industry must commit to advanced technology and machinery to optimize production, reduce costs, improve product quality, and become more efficient and sustainable", says Sergio Fabregat, director of Expo Foodtech 2026.

To this end, more than 8,000 professionals from the food and beverage sector will attend to discover the latest solutions and technologies in food processing, automation and robotics, logistics, and food packaging that will showcase more than 250 exhibiting companies. In total, over 400 innovations in artificial intelligence, big data, IIoT, blockchain, robotics, and other technologies applied to food production plants will be showcased.

## Successful industrial experiences

Once again, Expo Foodtech will host the <u>Food 4 Future World Summit</u>, Europe's largest conference on food innovation, where **more than 300 international experts** will share the latest trends that are changing the way food is produced. Additionally, over **one hundred success stories** from leading food industry companies that are already implementing solutions to produce more efficiently, automatically, and sustainably will be presented.

The conference content program will focus on each segment of the industry—meat, beverages, dairy, seafood, fruit and vegetables, new ingredients, as well as food packaging and logistics—and for each professional profile—CEOs, plant managers, CTOs, CIOs, R&D directors, and operations and logistics managers.

Expo Foodtech will also host several parallel activities such as the Foodtech Innovation Awards 2026—the premier awards for food innovation—the Foodtech Startup Forum, technology tours, and the European Foodtech Nations Summit.

## The most disruptive solutions in food packaging and logistics

For the third consecutive year, F4F – Expo Foodtech will be held simultaneously with <u>Pick&Pack</u> <u>for Food Industry 2026</u>, the only trade fair in Spain dedicated to packaging and logistics for the food industry. This means that food industry professionals will also be able to find the latest



developments in food packaging—packaging systems, more sustainable materials, smart packaging technology, etc.—as well as solutions for food logistics, from smart warehouse technologies, AGVs, and traceability solutions to logistics robotics.

Bilbao will once again become the global epicenter of the foodtech sector, a market expected to reach 324 bilion dollars by 2027. Organized by NEBEXT and AZTI, F4F - Expo Foodtech has the support of the Bilbao City Council, the Provincial Council of Bizkaia, the Basque Government, the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food, and ICEX, as well as other organizations and employers' associations in the sector.

About Expo FoodTech (May 27-28, 2026, BEC-Bilbao): Expo FoodTech is the innovation event for professionals across the entire food and beverage value chain. Over two days, Food 4 Future – Expo FoodTech will gather industry leaders at the Bilbao Exhibition Centre (BEC) to explore the latest solutions in foodtech, robotics and automation, processing and packaging machinery, food safety, and food science. It will also host the Food 4 Future World Summit, Europe's largest congress to discover trends, success stories, and tools to transform the food and beverage industry. F4F - Expo Foodtech, organized by NEBEXT and AZTI, will be held simultaneously with Pick&Pack for Food Industry, the only event in Spain specializing in packaging and logistics solutions for the food industry.

<u>About NEBEXT</u>: Next Business Exhibitions (NEBEXT) is the largest private organizer of professional events in Spain specializing in technology, innovation, and sustainability for different industries.

<u>About AZTI</u>: AZTI is a scientific and technological center that develops high-impact transformation projects and businesses with organizations aligned with the 2030 SDGs. Specializing in the marine environment and food, it provides cutting-edge, value-added products and technologies based on solid science and research.