



## Quantum computing and AI make their way into the food industry at Expo Foodtech 2026

The food industry technology trade fair will bring together experts from **Hijos de Rivera**, **Deoleo**, **Valls Companys**, **Siemens** and **Tecnia**, among others, to discuss the impact of technology on the food supply chain

**On May 27 and 28, more than 250 exhibiting companies will showcase the latest innovations for the food industry at Expo Foodtech 2026**

Madrid, May 19, 2026 – [Expo Foodtech 2026](#) will hold its sixth edition, which will take place on **May 27 and 28** at the BEC (Bilbao Exhibition Centre) alongside with [Pick&Pack for Food Industry](#). This event will once again establish itself as the leading technology fair for the food industry, addressing the key challenges of the food industry's transformation, from innovation in ingredients to operational efficiency, traceability, sustainability and supply chain optimization.

Once again this year, as part of the Food 4 Future World Summit, the **CIO's Summit** will take place, a forum bringing together experts from companies and technology centers to discuss how technologies such as quantum computing, applied AI and digital twins are redefining the future of the foodtech sector and opening up new opportunities across the entire value chain.

One of the major topics of discussion will be the potential of quantum computing in the food supply chain. Yago Campos, Director of R&D and Innovation at **Hijos de Rivera (Estrella Galicia)**, and Eneko Osaba, a quantum technology researcher at **Tecnia**, will discuss how this technology is opening new frontiers for accelerating innovation in ingredients through algorithms capable of driving molecular simulation, functional prediction and sensory modeling. They will also delve into its application in logistics optimization, with solutions aimed at improving routes, forecasting and cold chain management, thereby contributing to smarter, more efficient and more resilient supply chains.

Applied AI is also redefining efficiency in the food industry. Experts such as Enrique Pérez, Head of IT at **Deoleo**; Jarne Bogaert, COO and co-founder at **Polysense AI**; and Lluís Castarlenas, Head of Digital Strategy at **Valls Companys**, will discuss applications designed to optimize production processes, improving traceability and reducing waste through predictive analytics and intelligent automation. In addition, real-world case studies and emerging technologies will be presented, demonstrating how AI can become a strategic advantage for improving the sector's sustainability, quality and competitiveness.

In addition, the congress will also address the impact of digital twins on the food industry, a technology that enables the creation of virtual replicas of processes, plants and supply chains to improve planning, optimize production, reduce costs and anticipate potential issues through real-time simulations. This technology is emerging as a key pillar for the industry's digital transformation, as it facilitates more strategic decision-making focused on efficiency and



sustainability, as will be explained by Fernando Torres, Manufacturing & IIoT Portfolio Developer, and Alberto Gamero, Portfolio Development Executive, at **Siemens Iberia**.

### **250 exhibiting companies showcasing the latest technological solutions**

In addition to the CIO's Summit, Expo Foodtech 2026 will also feature an exhibition area where more than 250 exhibiting companies will showcase over 400 innovations and technologies, including Artificial Intelligence, Big Data, IIoT, blockchain and robotics, applied to food production facilities. Furthermore, solutions for food processing, logistics and food packaging will be showcased as key tools for optimizing processes and improving food production and distribution.

**Request your press pass for Expo FoodTech and Pick&Pack [here](#).**

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**[About Expo FoodTech](#) (May 27 and 28, 2026, BEC-Bilbao)**: this is the leading innovation event for professionals across the entire value chain of the food and beverage sector. Over two days, F4F – Expo Foodtech will bring together food industry professionals at the Bilbao Exhibition Centre (BEC) to learn about the latest solutions in foodtech, robotics and automation, processing and packaging machinery for different segments of the food industry, as well as food safety and science. It will also host the Food 4 Future World Summit, the largest European congress where you can discover the latest 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.

**[About NEBEXT](#)**: Next Business Exhibitions (NEBEXT) is Spain's largest private organizer of professional events specializing in technology, innovation, and sustainability for various industries.

**[About AZTI](#)**: AZTI is a science and technology 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.