Food recycling specialist, SugaRich is overhauling the shredding technology it uses at its sophisticated Brackley plant to transform high calorific surplus food into energy-rich animal feed.

SugaRich will now feed pallet loads of starch-rich biscuits, bread, crisps and more, straight from their haulage vehicles into a new organic waste shredder from UNTHA. The single shaft technology will then remove the packaging and process the material down to a pre-specified maximum 100mm particle size, before it is fed into a trommel for further separation.

The packaging waste will then be streamed for recycling, whilst the organic matter will be further processed and converted into a nutritious animal feed. This pioneering concept – for which SugaRich has become internationally renowned – is closing the loop within the food manufacturing sector and preserving the value of these resources from factory to fork.

Commenting on the investment, SugaRich's operations manager Graeme Cook said: "Pre-procurement trials proved the shredders capabilities, with the machine handling up to a pallet of retail packed surplus food per minute, with ease. This – coupled with the technology's uptime statistics and after sales support – is particularly important for a fast-paced business like ours."

SugaRich's group director, Paul Featherstone added: "It is crucial that we continue to invest in robust, proven equipment that will support our ongoing market consolidation. We have kept a keen eye on UNTHA's performance in this niche sector for many years, therefore it made sense to integrate the technology into our own facility when the time came to upgrade our systems. I hope this is the start of a long and progressive relationship."

The organic waste shredder will be fully commissioned and operational by the end of August.