OPX Biotechnologies Appoints New Chief Technology Officer

OPX Biotechnologies Inc.

David Hogsett will lead R&D to accelerate commercialization of bio-based chemicals and fuels.

Boulder, CO– OPX Biotechnologies Inc. (OPXBIO) [1] has appointed David Hogsett as vice president of research and development and chief technology officer. Hogsett, who has extensive early-stage and commercial biotech company experience, will lead OPXBIO's R&D team in using its proprietary EDGE (Efficiency Directed Genome Engineering) technology to make bio-based chemicals and fuels that provide more sustainable value to customers.

EDGE allows OPXBIO to quickly and efficiently develop advanced, economic bioprocesses using a wide-range of feedstocks. OPXBIO's sustainable chemicals and fuels can directly replace current petroleum-based products.

"With EDGE, we have great potential to truly transform the business of chemistry by delivering economic bio-based products to market faster," Hogsett said. "It's an exciting time to join OPXBIO because this company is poised for great growth, has a first-of-its kind technology, and is committed to commercializing products that accelerate the transformation of the chemicals and fuels industries to a more sustainable future."

Hogsett most recently was a vice president of R&D at Mascoma Corp. At Mascoma, he led a diverse research team that included metabolic engineering, enzyme engineering and biochemistry, microbial physiology, analytical chemistry, and process technology experts. He also was responsible for more than a dozen international R&D partnerships with industrial companies, academic institutions and national laboratories.

Prior to Mascoma, Hogsett was founder and president of Advanced Bioconversion Technologies, which was acquired by Mascoma in 2006. In 1995, he joined Bioenergy Inc. as a senior scientist, and later served as its vice president of R&D and manufacturing from 1999-2005. He holds a Ph.D. in biochemical engineering from Dartmouth College in New Hampshire, and a B.S. in engineering science from Trinity University in Texas.

"David's experience leading science and engineering teams, as well as managing strategic partnerships for successful biotech companies makes him a perfect fit for OPXBIO," said Charles R. (Chas) Eggert, president and chief executive officer of OPXBIO. "David also has a proven track record for commercializing new biotech products, something we are anticipating soon at OPXBIO."

OPXBIO, for example, is partnering with The Dow Chemical Co. to bring BioAcrylic – a direct and more-sustainable replacement for petro-based acrylic acid – into the $10-billion acrylic acid market for use in consumer products such as diapers, detergents, paints and adhesives. OPXBIO has also demonstrated lab-scale production of its second product – fatty acid from syngas for chemical and fuel applications – in a project that is supported by an award from the U.S. Department of Energy.

For more information, visit www.opxbio.com [1].

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