



Dr. Patrick Gruber Awarded the Millson Award for Invention by the AATCC

April 12, 2019

ENGLEWOOD, Colo., April 12, 2019 (GLOBE NEWSWIRE) -- Gevo, Inc. (NASDAQ: GEVO) announced that Patrick Gruber has been named the recipient of the AATCC (American Association of Textile Chemists and Colorists) Henry E. Millson award for invention for the development of a green chemistry-based continuous process for producing polylactic acid fibers known as PLA. A fiber that is derived from renewable crops, is compostable and has a life cycle that potentially reduces the Earth's carbon dioxide level. The Millson award recognizes inventions that are outstanding contributions to textile technology.

Gruber is CEO and board member at Gevo, specializing in converting carbohydrates into low carbon chemicals and fuels, lessening reliance on petrochemical sources. He began his career at Cargill in 1988 as technology manager in search of new business opportunities involving renewable resource-based products as raw materials. He served as technical director of Cargill's bioscience division from 1998 to 1999. In 1997, he co-founded NatureWorks and served as vice president of technology and operations and chief technology officer until 2005.

Chemical giants had spent decades trying to find a renewable and environmentally safe raw material to make into plastic. Until Gruber's discovery in 1989, no one had discovered out how to make PLA from plant starches with the right properties and inexpensively enough for large scale production. A new fermentation and distillation process enabled cheaper purification, better optical composition control, and significant yield increases over existing practice. The patented process enabled a single plant, using a flexible manufacturing system, to produce different PLA grades for multiple markets at low cost while adhering to environmentally sound practices.

Dr. Gruber stated, "I am extremely privileged, and grateful receiving this award from the AATCC. I thank Cargill who sponsored the development, and all of the excellent people with whom I worked. I didn't do it alone. Cargill taught us to strive for 'making the world a better place for every inhabitant on earth.' I'm lucky to have been able to have a career where we try to do just that, through sustainable products that reduce fossil carbon emissions and reduce pollution. Thank you."

Dr. Gruber received a Ph.D. in chemistry from the University of Minnesota. He also earned an M.S. in business administration from the Carlson School of Management at the University of Minnesota.

AATCC named the Millson award for invention for Henry E. Millson, a noted inventor who was head of dyes research for American Cyanamid. Millson, the 1958 recipient of AATCC's Olney Medal for outstanding achievement in textile chemistry, endowed the award in 1979 with the stipulation that he never be considered a candidate.

About Gevo

Gevo is a next generation "low-carbon" fuel company focused on the development and commercialization of renewable alternatives to petroleum-based products. Low-carbon fuels reduce the carbon intensity, or the level of greenhouse gas emissions, compared to standard fossil-based fuels across their lifecycle. The most common low-carbon fuels are renewable fuels. Gevo is focused on the development and production of mainstream fuels like gasoline and jet fuel using renewable feedstocks that have the potential to lower greenhouse gas emissions at a meaningful scale and enhance agricultural production, including food and other related products. In addition to serving the low-carbon fuel markets, through Gevo's technology, Gevo can also serve markets to produce chemical intermediate products for solvents, plastics, and building block chemicals. Learn more at our website: www.gevo.com

Forward-Looking Statements

Certain statements in this press release may constitute "forward-looking statements" within the meaning of the Private Securities Litigation Reform Act of 1995. These forward-looking statements relate to a variety of matters, including, without limitation, statements related to Gevo's partnership with the City of Seattle as described in this press release, the attributes of Gevo's products, and other statements that are not purely statements of historical fact. These forward-looking statements are made on the basis of the current beliefs, expectations and assumptions of the management of Gevo and are subject to significant risks and uncertainty. Investors are cautioned not to place undue reliance on any such forward-looking statements. All such forward-looking statements speak only as of the date they are made, and Gevo undertakes no obligation to update or revise these statements, whether as a result of new information, future events or otherwise. Although Gevo believes that the expectations reflected in these forward-looking statements are reasonable, these statements involve many risks and uncertainties that may cause actual results to differ materially from what may be expressed or implied in these forward-looking statements. For a further discussion of risks and uncertainties that could cause actual results to differ from those expressed in these forward-looking statements, as well as risks relating to the business of Gevo in general, see the risk disclosures in the Annual Report on Form 10-K of Gevo for the year ended December 31, 2017, as amended, and in subsequent reports on Forms 10-Q and 8-K and other filings made with the U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission by Gevo.

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