

About EcoSynthetix

ECOSYNTHETIX INC., established in 1996, is a biomaterials company that provides innovative adhesive solutions based on renewable resources, which yield superior economic performance to market leading customers in the Packaging Industry. The company produces, markets and sells adhesives derived from its two biobased materials technologies:

- 1) **ECOSPHERE[®] biopolymer nanoparticle emulsions.** By redesigning biopolymers on a molecular level, ECOSYNTHETIX has created nanospheres that form ultra-high solids dispersions in water with superior shelf-life stability. ECOSPHERE[®] dispersions behave like polyvinyl acetate (PVA) latex dispersions and exhibit properties not previously achievable with industrial starch products, including rapid drying at much reduced operating temperatures. ECOSPHERE[®] provides the corrugating and laminating industries a biobased “Cold Glue” with improved performance in an environmentally preferable product.
- 2) **ECOSTIX[®] sugar-based pressure sensitive adhesives.** ECOSTIX[®] is a family of sugar-acrylic pressure sensitive adhesive (PSA) polymers that incorporate patented sugar-based macromers. The ECOSTIX[®] family of PSAs currently includes a variety of products with differing physical properties to serve the specific needs of customers. ECOSTIX[®] PSAs are "smart adhesives" whose adhesive properties are designed to switch off under controlled conditions, by triggers in the external operating environment. This feature is the key that unlocks customer benefits from ECOSTIX[®] Wash-off Label and Repulpable Adhesives. Introducing a sugar macromer with an ionic chemical functionality results in wash-off adhesives with intrinsic wash-off performance compared to competitive PSA products that lose their effectiveness upon ageing.

The two technology platforms are protected by a number of global patents. Using these patented technological advances, ECOSYNTHETIX creates and develops innovative biobased products using renewable resources. These adhesives provide environmentally friendly alternatives to petroleum-based adhesives. ECOSYNTHETIX' products comply with the U.S. Government's Executive Orders for biobased products.

Research & Development

ECOSYNTHETIX collaborates with universities, research institutes and international government granting agencies to leverage additional resources that facilitate the development of new technologies.

The Company received two U.S. Department of Agriculture Small Business Innovation Research grants to support the development of its biobased technologies, as well as a National Institutes of Health grant.

ECOSYNTHETIX continues to advance its biotechnologies while exploring new applications. In developing new biobased materials, ECOSYNTHETIX combines the strengths and advantages of natural materials with innovative chemistry to meet strict performance requirements and solve current industry problems.

Strategic Investment

Recently, H.B. Fuller Ventures invested in ECOSYNTHETIX along with a group of investors to commercialize production of the ECOSPHERE[®] and ECOSTIX[®] adhesive technologies. The investment included Cargill Ventures, a division of Cargill, Inc., which is an international marketer, processor and distributor of agricultural, food, financial and industrial products and services. Additional capital was contributed by a number of venture capital groups including 401 Capital Partners, Northern Rivers Innovation Fund, Nadal Investments, Ltd., Tera Capital, L.P. Delta Northern Rivers Fund, H.J.G. Partnership and CI Fund Management Inc.

“We are pleased that companies with the stature of Cargill and H.B. Fuller, both leaders in their respective businesses, have shown significant interest in seeing our biobased products brought to commercialization,” states John van Leeuwen, Chairman and CEO of ECOSYNTHETIX.