

NANOLLOSE SECURES GLOBAL RESEARCH PARTNERS TO EXPLORE NEW APPLICATIONS OF MICROBIAL CELLULOSE

Highlights;

- Collaborative project to explore new methods to produce microbial cellulose.
- The project will also explore the potential applications of microbial cellulose in the cellulose acetate and paper industries.
- Nanollose to collaborate with leading Swedish organisations with expertise in cellulose, wood pulp and paper production.
- Nanollose to access Intellectual Property from the project to broaden its applications and accelerate commercial opportunities in high value spaces that challenge current plastic concerns and dynamics.

Nanollose Limited (ASX:NC6) (“Nanollose” or the “Company”) is pleased to announce that it has entered into a collaborative research agreement (“Agreement”) to undertake a six-month project entitled “Bacterial nanocellulose, production and application testing” with Umeå University (www.umu.se), MoRe Research (www.more.se) and RISE Processum (www.processum.se).

The aims of the project are to i) further develop the production of microbial cellulose by up-scaling in stirred-tank reactors, ii) compare the properties of this type of microbial cellulose with other cellulose materials in various applications, such as paper manufacture and iii) produce and evaluate cellulose acetate from microbial cellulose.

This agreement allows Nanollose to access specialised expertise and equipment in the field of biorefining, cellulose acetate and paper production. Learnings from the project’s biorefining methodologies also have the potential to be applied to other waste streams for increased production of microbial cellulose.

While Nanollose is currently focussed on commercialising its revolutionary Tree-Free Nullarbor™ fibre, its microbial cellulose technologies also have potential applications in a wide range of other markets including paper and packaging, medical and agricultural.

Cellulose acetate, often referred to simply as acetate, is a derivative made from cellulose which finds commercial applications as high-end plastics, films and fibres. The global market for cellulose acetate was estimated to be US\$3.8b in 2017 and is predicted to grow to about US\$7.9b in 2026.

Under the terms of the Agreement Nanollose will contribute SEK 375,000 (~\$58k) in cash and another SEK 75,000 (~\$12k) in-kind technical support. Processum will provide SEK 572,000 (~\$89k) with MoRe contributing SEK 120,000 (~\$19k) in-kind. The total project budget is SEK 1,142,000 (~\$178k) and all parties will share in any intellectual property resulting from the project.

Nanollose Executive Chairman Dr Wayne Best said, “We are delighted to partner with such world-class organisations which bring valuable expertise and equipment to the project. Collaborating in this way enables Nanollose to continue generating intellectual property and opportunities in related fields without having to divert internal resources from its main focus of developing the Company’s revolutionary Tree-Free Nullarbor fibre.”

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ABOUT NANOLLOSE

Nanollose Limited (ASX: NC6) is an innovative Australian company that uses a low cost and eco-friendly fermentation process to grow fibres that could become a sustainable alternative to conventional plant-derived cellulose fibres. The Company’s process, which uses streams from various large-scale industries like food and beverages, has the ability to produce ‘Plant-Free’ Cellulose. Cellulose is the hidden polymer most consumers know nothing about, but forms a huge part of items used in their everyday life such as clothing, paper and hygiene products.

ABOUT UMEÅ UNIVERSITY

Umeå University is located in the mid-northern region of Sweden. The university was founded in 1965 and is the flagship university of northern Sweden. As of 2015, Umeå University has nearly 31,000 registered students and is internationally known for research relating to the genome of the Populus tree and is a highly ranked Institute of Industrial Design.

ABOUT MORE RESEARCH ÖRNSKÖLDSVIK AB

MoRe Research Örnsköldsvik AB is an independent research and development company in the field of products and processes for the forest industry. The company used to be a part of the MoDo group, which was founded more than one hundred years ago. The company offers a wide range of instruments, pilot equipment and researchers to develop new eco-friendly products. Their focus areas include wood raw material and pulp development for both biorefinery development, nanocellulose and cellulose derivatives of various kinds.

ABOUT PROCESSUM AB

Processum AB is 60% owned by the Research institutes of Sweden (RISE). The company was founded in 2003 and supports research and development within biorefinery. Together with other biorefinery initiatives, their partners from industry and academia help develop new products, processes and energy solutions from forest raw materials and the residual flows of the process industry.