



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Virent Hires Edgar Steenwinkel to Lead Technology Development Efforts

Senior Executive with Strong Experience Joins Virent as VP of R&D

Madison, Wisconsin – September 30, 2014 – Virent announced today the appointment of Edgar Steenwinkel as the company's Vice President of Research and Development. Steenwinkel will lead technology development efforts of Virent's BioForming® platform in preparation of commercialization of its biofuel and biobased chemicals.

"Virent is the perfect match for my experience and I am thrilled to join their leadership team," said Steenwinkel. "The company's novel technology and world-class collaborations will make for a bright future, and I am excited to contribute to bringing their products to market."

"We are pleased to welcome Edgar to our team," said Lee Edwards, Virent's CEO and President. "His technical expertise and industry experience in commercializing new technologies, combined with strong strategic planning and marketing capabilities, are remarkable and will prove to be very valuable to Virent."

"I look forward to working closely with Edgar to achieve our goals," said Dr. Randy Cortright, Virent's Founder and CTO. "His background and experience are ideal to take our current capabilities to commercial scale. With Edgar's arrival, I will be focusing on longer term technology strategy, external technical resources, new collaborations and development of next generation platforms."

Steenwinkel joins Virent from Albemarle, where he served as Global Business Director for Alternative Fuels Technologies. At Albemarle, he led multiple global development and commercialization efforts for catalysts and other new, innovative products for biobased transportation fuels. Steenwinkel has 20+ years of demonstrated success in R&D, manufacturing and building new global business groups. He received a M.S. in Chemical Engineering from the University of Amsterdam.

About Virent

Virent is replacing crude oil by creating the chemicals and fuels the world demands using a wide range of naturally-occurring, renewable resources. Its patented technology features catalytic chemistry to convert plant-based materials into a full range of products identical to those made from petroleum, including gasoline, diesel, jet fuel, and chemicals for plastics and fibers. The products are drop-in replacements that enable full utilization of existing logistics infrastructure without blending limitations. The development of Virent's BioForming® technology platform is supported through strategic partners including Cargill, Coca-Cola, Honda and Shell, as well as 80 employees based in Madison, Wisconsin. The company has received several grants from the U.S. Departments of Commerce, Energy and Agriculture and has been recognized with many honors, including the World Economic Forum Technology Pioneer award and the EPA's Presidential Green Chemistry Challenge Award.

Please learn more about us at Virent.com.

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