



Virent Takes Top Spot for Hottest Small Company in the Advanced Bioeconomy

Madison, WI, November 4, 2015 – BioFuels Digest announced this morning, as part of the Advanced Bioeconomy Leadership Conference (ABLC) in San Francisco, that Virent was the number one company in the 2015-16 “40 Hottest Small Companies” rankings. The annual rankings recognize innovation and achievement in biobased fuels, chemicals and materials by emerging companies.

Virent’s strong technological and commercial capabilities were a key part of receiving this award. Virent has advanced a compelling process offering seamless catalytic conversion of renewable feedstocks to drop-in fuels and chemicals. This technology can significantly reduce the carbon footprint of everyday products such as plastics, fibers, packaging and transportation fuels. With the strength of this technology, Virent has forged notable partnerships with a number of impressive external parties, including Coca-Cola, Shell and Cargill.

The annual rankings are based 50 percent on votes from an invited panel of distinguished international selectors, and 50 percent on votes from subscribers of *The Biofuels Digest*. The Miami, FL-based *Digest* serves more than 1,800,000 unique readers and followers via the web, newsletters and social media in every UN-recognized country.

Lee Edwards, Virent CEO, was in attendance in San Francisco and graciously accepted the award on behalf of the Company. “This result is a great honor and tribute to our employees, partners and customers. With so many promising and accomplished companies in this industry, Virent’s top ranking continues to validate the breadth of our unique technology. This outstanding achievement is the result of years of great progress on process performance and a unique product portfolio of drop-in fuels and chemicals,” said Edwards. “I also appreciate Jim Lane and the BioFuels Digest staff for their efforts in promoting and deepening awareness of the many advancements made within the industry.”

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. 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.

To learn more about us, please visit [Virent.com](https://virent.com).

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