

The GC3 Announces 10 Semi-Finalists in GC3 Startup Network's 4th Annual Technology Showcase

Ten Startups to Pitch Their Green Chemistry and Sustainable Material Technologies to Large Strategic Companies; Three Finalists will be Selected

Lowell, MA – April 17, 2019 – The Green Chemistry & Commerce Council (GC3), a business-to-business collaborative that drives the commercial adoption of green chemistry, has announced the 10 semi-finalists for the GC3 Startup Network's 4th Annual Technology Showcase, which will be held May 7, immediately preceding the annual GC3 Innovators Roundtable on May 8-9 in Cincinnati, OH.

Through a competitive application process, the 10 startup companies earned the opportunity to pitch their chemicals, materials, products, and manufacturing technologies at the Technology Showcase. The audience will include chemical manufacturers, formulators, brands, retailers, and investors.

Representing Canada, the United Kingdom, and the United States, the 10 semi-finalist startups offer an array of technologies and chemistries for industries such as cosmetics and personal care products, building products, apparel and textiles, cleaning products, electronics, adhesives and coatings, bioplastics, pharmaceutical, and energy: The semi-finalists are:

- [Akron Ascent Innovations](#)
- [Colorifix Limited](#)
- [Defunkify](#)
- [EmulGreen](#)
- [Genecis Bioindustries Inc.](#)
- [Iron Shell LLC](#)
- [Magnomer](#)
- [Performance BioFilaments Inc.](#)
- [Visolis, Inc.](#)
- [VivaVax Inc.](#)

The event is organized by the GC3 Startup Network, a program that fosters green chemistry entrepreneurship and accelerates the development of and market pull for green chemistry technologies. “GC3 members actively seek to offer products that are not only high-performing and cost-competitive, but also safe for people and the environment,” said Julie Manley, Coordinator of the GC3 Startup Network. Nearly 20 GC3 members– including Lowe’s, HP, Inc., Beiersdorf AG, Sherwin-Williams, and Eastman– have contributed to a [list of sustainable chemistry technology needs](#) to help clarify priority areas.

Visolis, Inc., one of the innovators chosen to present at the Technology Showcase, has created a cutting-edge biotechnology platform to manufacture biointermediates from a variety of biomass feedstocks. These unique biointermediates are then converted into a wide array of renewable chemicals for industries ranging from cosmetics and fragrances to solvents and polymers. “As a startup company with a technology that has broad applications across diverse sectors, we are thrilled to have this valuable opportunity to present our technology to sustainable design experts

in all of our targeted industries at one event,” said Paul Petersen, Vice President, Visolis. “It’s an ideal method of introducing our company to an informed and receptive audience,” said Petersen.

The winners of the Tech Showcase pitch competition will then pitch their solutions to a panel of business and technology experts on the main stage during the GC3 Innovators Roundtable. The panelists include Stephen Crawford, Senior Vice President and Chief Technology Officer at Eastman; Danny Haynes, Common Application Team Leader, Corporate RD&I, Nouryon; Al Iannuzzi, Vice President of Sustainability at Estée Lauder Companies; and Martin Mulvihill, General Partner with Safer Made.

“Eastman’s vision is to become the world’s leading material innovation company for the markets that we serve, thereby enhancing the quality of life globally for generations to come,” said Steve Crawford, Senior Vice President and Chief Technology Officer at Eastman. “The GC3 Annual Innovators Roundtable and Technology Showcase helps us reach our goals by creating an environment that fosters innovation and collaboration throughout the value chain to bring sustainable chemistry solutions to market.”

“At Safer Made we are dedicated to financing innovative solutions that enable sustainable products in a variety of industries,” said Mulvihill. “The GC3 Technology Showcase is an ideal setting to find startups creating sustainable chemistry technologies, and to stimulate conversations about potential partnerships and investments,” added Mulvihill.

About the Green Chemistry & Commerce Council (GC3)

Started in 2005, the Green Chemistry & Commerce Council (GC3) is a business-to-business collaborative that drives the commercial adoption of green chemistry by catalyzing and guiding action across all industries, sectors and supply chains. Over 125 organizations are members of the GC3. For more information, visit www.greenchemistryandcommerce.org.

About Eastman

Eastman is a global specialty materials company that produces a broad range of products found in items people use every day. With the purpose of enhancing the quality of life in a material way, Eastman works with customers to deliver innovative products and solutions while maintaining a commitment to safety and sustainability. The company’s innovation-driven growth model takes advantage of world-class technology platforms, deep customer engagement, and differentiated application development to grow its leading positions in attractive end-markets such as transportation, building and construction, and consumables. As a globally inclusive and diverse company, Eastman employs approximately 14,500 people around the world and serves customers in more than 100 countries. The company had 2018 revenues of approximately \$10 billion and is headquartered in Kingsport, Tennessee, USA. For more information, visit www.eastman.com.

About Safer Made

Safer Made is a venture capital fund that invests in safer products and technologies to enable brands and retailers to address their safer chemistry needs to bring products to market that resonate with consumers. For more information, visit www.safermade.net.

About Visolis, Inc.

Visolis combines advanced bioengineering with chemical processing to provide sustainable, carbon-negative materials. The company integrates innovations in synthetic biology, chemical catalysis and process scale-up to enable new bio-based manufacturing platforms. Its unique bio-



based process enables true carbon negative chemical synthesis. Visolis is located in Hayward, CA with close collaborations with the Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory, National Renewable Energy Laboratory, Pacific Northwest National Laboratory, and the University of California at Berkeley and Davis. It has received funding from the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation, the U.S. Department of Energy, the National Science Foundation, and the U.S. Department of Agriculture. To learn more, visit www.visolisbio.com.

###

GC3 Media Contact:

Joy Reo

Communications Specialist

Green Chemistry & Commerce Council (GC3)

joy@joyreo.com

617-794-8619 (mobile)