

OPX Biotechnologies Selected as Innovation Pioneer at IHS CERAWeek

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Bio-based chemicals and fuels producer (OPXBIO) is being recognized as an Energy Innovation Pioneer at this week's annual IHS CERAWeek conference in Houston – an honor that further signals the increasing role that bio-based producers can play in the global energy and chemical industries.

The annual IHS CERAWeek Energy Innovation Pioneers homepage Energy Innovation Pioneers program recognizes companies for their "potential to transform the energy future," a goal that perfectly mirrors OPXBIO's objective to transform the business of chemistry, according to president and CEO Charles R. (Chas) Eggert. With volatile and escalating petroleum prices, increasing regulatory constraints and growing consumer demands for more-sustainable products, OPXBIO can help existing petroleum-based manufacturers adopt new bio-based technology to successfully meet these challenges.

"Many conference attendees represent well-established, major oil & gas players, but the fact that a bio-based start-up like OPXBIO is also invited shows the industry recognizes the opportunity for new economic bio-processes to make chemicals and fuels," Eggert said. "Today's petroleum-based manufacturers are constantly striving for more-efficient process technology. Our process improvements use the rapid advancements in biotechnology and are accomplished using living cells engineered to perform as efficient, microscopic factories."

The Energy Innovation Pioneers program is held annually in conjunction with IHS CERAWeek, which is being held March 4-8 at the Hilton Americas-Houston. This year's Energy Innovation Pi-oneers were selected based on creativity, plan feasibility, technology scalability and leadership team. The program recognized OPXBIO for developing bio-based processes that can use a variety of feedstocks to create renewable chemicals and fuels used in everything from consumer products to jet fuel.

OPXBIO, for example, is partnering with The Dow Chemical Co. to bring BioAcrylic – a direct and more-sustainable replacement for petro-based acrylic acid – into the \$10-billion acrylic acid market for use in consumer products such as diapers, detergents, paints and adhesives. OPXBIO has also demonstrated lab-scale production of its second product – fatty acid from syngas for chemical and fuel applications – in a project that is supported by an award from the U.S. Department of Energy.

Eggert will present an overview of OPXBIO during an Energy Innovation Pioneers breakfast session on Tuesday, March 5 at 7:30 a.m., and again that same day at the conference's Innovation Pioneer Showcase at 3:30 p.m.

About OPXBIO

OPX Biotechnologies (OPXBIO) is a leader in sustainably transforming the business of chemistry. As the "Good Chemistry" company, OPXBIO provides more sustainable value to customers by applying its proprietary EDGE™ (Efficiency Directed Genome Engineering) technology to produce economic, bio-based chemicals that directly replace existing petroleum-based products. OPXBIO's EDGE is versatile and enables faster, more efficient development of bioprocesses using a variety of feedstocks. Founded in 2007, OPXBIO is financed by leading venture capital investors, and employs 65 people in Boulder, Colo.

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