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## **Butamax™ Advanced Biofuels adds to strong intellectual property portfolio with latest isobutanol patent grant**

WILMINGTON, Delaware, March 22, 2011 -- Butamax™ Advanced Biofuels, LLC today announced that the United States Patent and Trademark Office (USPTO) has granted patent number 7,910,342 entitled "FERMENTATIVE PRODUCTION OF ISOBUTANOL USING HIGHLY ACTIVE KETOL-ACID REDUCTOISOMERASE ENZYMES". The patent covers a key step in the biobutanol production pathway using genetic constructs with highly active enzymes and provides added strength to Butamax's granted patent portfolio. This patent is one of several filed by Butamax and examined under the USPTO Technology Pilot Program.

"We pioneered microbial production of isobutanol as a single fermentative product and we are pleased that the US patent office has recognized our inventive contributions in this field again," said Tim Potter, Butamax CEO. "This patent protected technology is important because it enables commercially viable production rates."

In December, Butamax was granted patent 7,851,188, which covers various recombinant microorganisms, including yeast host cells, expressing classes of enzymes that catalyze the metabolic pathway for producing biobutanol at commercial scale. This foundational patent also includes methods for producing biobutanol and the fermentation medium in which the biobutanol is produced.

"We are the only company to hold issued patents for this technology", explained Butamax Vice President and Chief Counsel Christine Lhulier, adding, "By obtaining and protecting our intellectual property portfolio, we ensure the highest sustainable value for our customers and licensees. Because our technology is not dependent on on-going royalties to multitudes of third party technology providers, Butamax is able to provide higher financial returns for converting ethanol capacity to biobutanol production."

Butamax owns all of its intellectual property and is the only company to offer ethanol producers a technology that is clear of third party rights and obligations. Lhulier adds, "We are uniquely positioned to provide unfettered access to the most advanced technology for producing biobutanol. We will continue to secure for our customers and licensees the ability to modify their production capacity to ensure sustainable growth for the biofuels industry."

### About Butamax™

Butamax™ Advanced Biofuels, LLC was formed to develop and commercialize biobutanol as a next generation renewable biofuel for the transport market. The company benefits from the synergy of DuPont's proven industrial biotechnology experience and BP's global fuels market knowledge. Butamax's proprietary technology offers a cost-advantaged manufacturing process with value from field to pump. Globally focused with operations on four continents, Butamax is poised for commercial launch from 2012/2013. For more information, visit [www.butamax.com](http://www.butamax.com).

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