



## **Metabolix Announces that Pharmafilter will use Mirel™ Bioplastics in Innovative Hospital Waste Management System**

*Pharmafilter System reduces solid waste and produces renewable energy through anaerobic digestion*

**CAMBRIDGE, Mass. October 19, 2009** – Pharmafilter BV, a bioenergy technology company based in Amsterdam, has selected Mirel bioplastics for a suite of disposable products for hospital use. Pharmafilter BV is currently commercializing its patented Pharmafilter system as a cleaner, more efficient way for hospitals and the healthcare industry to reduce contaminated solid waste, food, and wastewater through anaerobic digestion. The Pharmafilter process reduces solid waste first through a grinding station and then through a series of purification steps, including anaerobic digestion. Outputs are biogas for fuel or power generation, biomass for energy conversion, and clean water.

The initial range of single use products to be made from Mirel include: service ware items, bed pans and trash bags. Use of such disposable products made from Mirel can mitigate the need for reusable items, thus reducing human contact with contaminated service ware and its related safety concerns. Mirel products will be disposed of along with the hospital and healthcare wastes, and fed to the Pharmafilter system. The initial pilot project is scheduled to begin operation in March 2010 at Delft Hospital in Amsterdam.

“We selected Mirel because it fits right into our system,” said Eduardo Van Den Berg, CEO of Pharmafilter BV. “Mirel has the performance properties for single-use plastic service applications and it is biobased and biodegradable, so it is the most appropriate solution for the Pharmafilter process.”

“Mirel’s broad range of applications and biodegradation properties make it an ideal product to integrate with anaerobic digestion systems for waste disposal and bioenergy production,” said Bob Engle, General Manager, Telles. “We are excited about our role in this innovative process for the conversion of potentially harmful waste products into bioenergy. In addition to the primary use of Mirel as a biobased plastic for high performance service ware and packaging, Mirel may offer a secondary value as an energy source arising from its disposal through anaerobic digestion.”

### **About Anaerobic Digestion**

The attractiveness of anaerobic digestion (AD) has been increasing as a result of its ability to produce renewable energy, reduce air and water pollution, reduce agricultural wastes, and produce byproducts which can serve as fertilizer. AD technology is well developed worldwide. Traditional, small, farm-based digesters have been used in China, India and elsewhere for centuries. Municipal solid waste treatment represents a new potential application for AD.

### **About Pharmafilter**

Pharmafilter cooperates with its partners to realize its goal: a cleaner hospital and a cleaner environment. Pharmafilter utilizes water experts with skills ranging from pollution to purification and receives important and indispensable support in the Netherlands and in Europe. Partners include the Ministries of Health, Welfare and Sport; VROM; Ministry of Transport, Public Works and Water Management; Waterboard Delfland; STOWA Reinier de Graaf Groep; Municipality of Delft; European environment subsidy Life+; SenterNovem; and BTG.

### **About Mirel Bioplastics**

Mirel is a family of bioplastic materials with the physical properties of petroleum-based resins, yet with a unique combination of being biobased and biodegradable in natural soil and water environments, and in home and industrial composting facilities, in areas where such facilities are available. The rate and extent of Mirel's biodegradability will depend on the size and shape of the articles made from it. However, like nearly all bioplastics and organic matter, Mirel is not designed to biodegrade in conventional landfills.

Mirel bioplastics are available for injection molding, blown and cast film, and cast sheet applications. The first commercial-scale plant to produce Mirel bioplastic resins is being constructed adjacent to ADM's wet corn mill in Clinton, Iowa. For more information please visit [www.mirelplastics.com](http://www.mirelplastics.com).

### **About Metabolix**

Founded in 1992, Metabolix, Inc. is an innovation driven bioscience company focused on providing sustainable solutions for the world's needs for plastics, chemicals and energy. The Company is taking a systems approach, from gene to end product, integrating sophisticated biotechnology with advanced industrial practice. Metabolix is now developing and commercializing Mirel™, a family of high performance bioplastics which are biobased and biodegradable alternatives to many petroleum-based plastics. Metabolix is also developing a proprietary platform technology for co-producing plastics, chemicals and energy, from crops such as switchgrass, oilseeds and sugarcane.

For more information, please visit [www.metabolix.com](http://www.metabolix.com). (MBLX-G)

### **Safe Harbor for Forward-Looking Statements**

This press release contains forward-looking statements which are made pursuant to the safe harbor provisions of Section 27A of the Securities Act of 1933, as amended, and Section 21E of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended. The forward-looking statements in this release do not constitute guarantees of future performance. Investors are cautioned that statements in this press release which are not strictly historical statements, including, without limitation, statements regarding expectations for development and commercialization of Mirel products, constitute forward-looking statements. Such forward-looking statements are subject to a number of risks and uncertainties that could cause actual results to differ materially from those anticipated and are detailed in Metabolix's filings with the Securities and Exchange Commission, including its annual report on Form 10-K and quarterly reports on Form 10-Q. Metabolix assumes no obligation to update any forward-looking information contained in this press release or with respect to the announcements described herein.

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