



PRESS RELEASE – FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Lesaffre acquires the Xylose Isomerase Technology from Butalco

Lesaffre and its business unit Fermentis dedicated to the development and sales of yeast to the fuel ethanol industry are proud to announce their acquisition of the Xylose Isomerase (XI) Technology from Butalco.

“The acquisition of the Xylose Isomerase Technology from Butalco combined with our own intellectual property allows us to finalize the construction of an industrial yeast strain suitable for **second generation ethanol**.” says Didier Masy, General Manager of Fermentis.

“The sale of the Xylose Isomerase technology to Lesaffre is **an important milestone for Butalco**. It enables us to invest more resources in our other internal R&D programs like butanol producing yeasts or xylose transporters” says Butalco’s CEO Gunter Festel.

About Butalco :

The Swiss company Butalco, together with co-operation partners, develops yeasts for the production of second generation biofuels and biochemical based on lignocellulose. The company is wholly privately financed and works together with the Johann Wolfgang Goethe-University Frankfurt. For more information on Butalco, visit www.butalco.com

About Lesaffre:

Founded in 1853, Lesaffre, an independent French family-run group, has become a world leader in yeast and yeast extracts manufacturing. The group employs 7300 people out of which 1600 are in France. Turnover in 2011 was 1.4 billion euros

In 2003, Lesaffre launched its business unit Fermentis to lead the group through innovation in the field of beer, wine, fermented beverages, spirits and fuel ethanol. For more information visit www.fermentis.com

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