



# **Biosafety-guarded Production of Solar Chemicals and Fuels**

***Sustainable Chemistry Powered by the Sun™***

**The National Academies of Sciences -  
Engineering - Medicine  
San Francisco, June 27<sup>th</sup>, 2016**

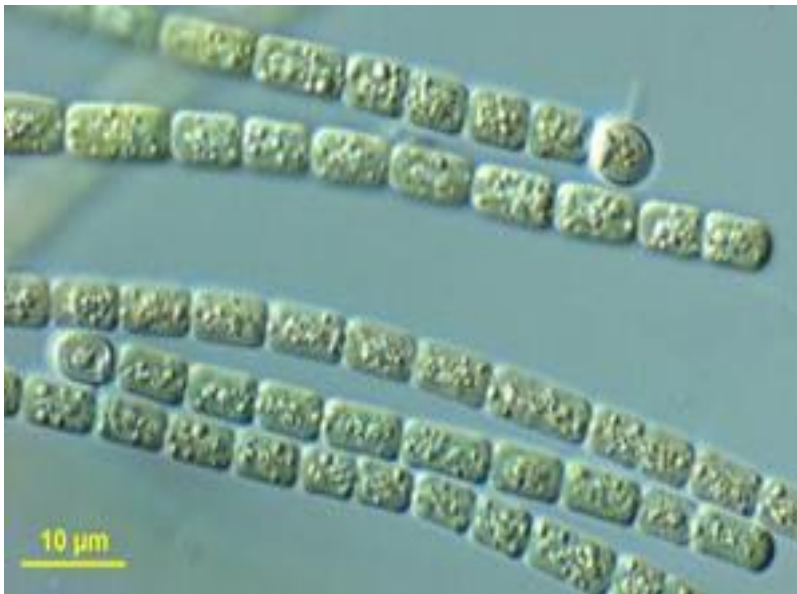
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# Phytonix uses cyanobacteria as microbial butanol factories

**Cyanobacteria are tiny photosynthetic microorganisms abundant in all climates**



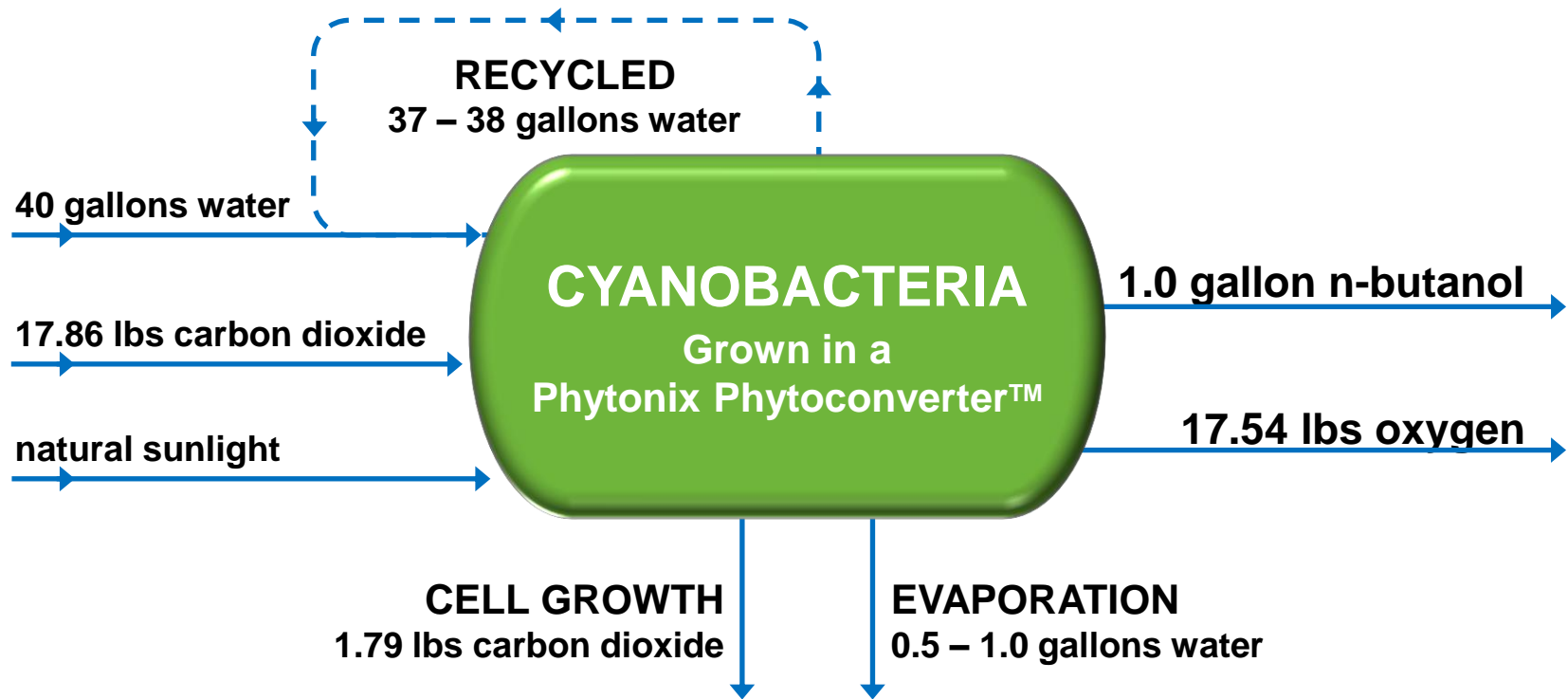
**Blue-green aquatic phytoplankton are a type of cyanobacteria**



Phytonix has developed genetically engineered cyanobacteria that directly secrete 100% n-butanol from CO<sub>2</sub> emissions

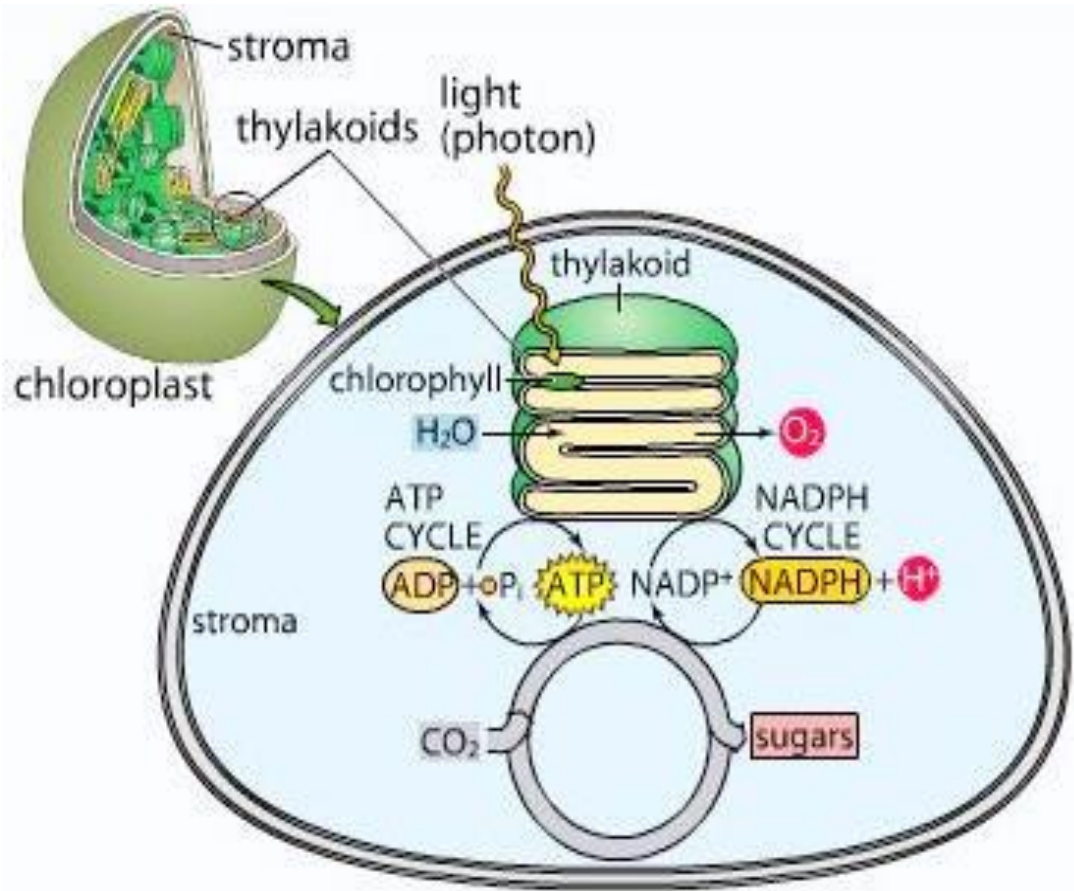
# Microbial Chemical Factories

**For every gallon of n-butanol produced  
16.3 pounds (net) of carbon dioxide is consumed**



**Production generates 1.3 – 1.5 lbs carbon dioxide**

# Photosynthesis and the Calvin Cycle



Photosynthesis in plants, such as algae and cyanobacteria, typically produces sugars from  $CO_2$  using energy from the sun.

Phytonix has globally patented technology for engineering cyanobacteria to **directly produce n-butanol and other chemicals instead of sugars from  $CO_2$** , with oxygen as the co-product.

# Photobioreactors to Grow Cyanobacteria



***Phytonix “Basic” photobioreactors (PBRs) will produce 83,000 gallons of butanol / acre / year.***



# Solar Chemicals and Fuels: 2030

- Driven by ongoing advances in synthetic biology, metabolic engineering, proteomics and bioinformatics
- Elimination of industrial CO<sub>2</sub> emissions thru widespread adoption of photobiological solar chemical production
- Elimination of petroleum-based feedstocks in industrial chemical and fuel production
- Sustainable, bio-based production of carbon negative industrial chemicals (butanol, hexanol, octanol, etc.) and completely carbon-neutral fuels such as butanol, pentanol, and the direct intracellular production of fuel grade biodiesel

# Biosafety: Benefits of Self-regulation Compared to External Regulation

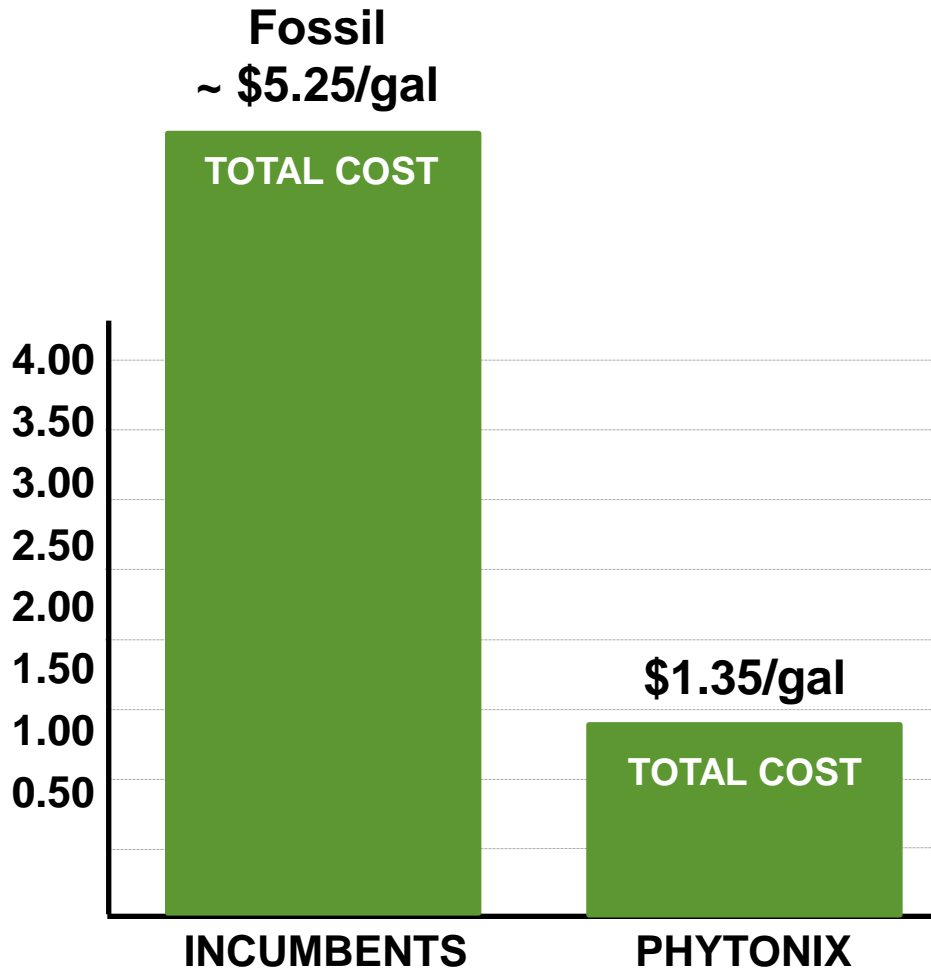
- Internally (company) mandated biosafety strategies and technologies (i.e. “self-regulation”) should reduce the need for and cost of externally mandated regulatory oversight.
- Promotion of biosafety regulation from within will lead to more rapid market adoption and consumer acceptance, shortened time-to-market, and reduced commercialization cost.
- There will be leaders, early adopters, and followers (who “get on-board” once the benefits become clear to them)

# Phytonix: Passive & Active Biosafety Guards and Technology

- Organisms are not inherently dangerous: they are at a competitive disadvantage as they make a target chemical rather than food for themselves.
- Passive biosafety-guard: utilizing a highly thermophilic host organism that if released from enclosed PBR would not be viable in any typical water body such as streams, lakes or oceans.
- Active biosafety-guarded technologies: a) bioengineered technologies to: a) stop cell division/replication; b) create a low CO<sub>2</sub> intolerant organism; c) create a nitrogen intolerant organism, etc.



# Phytonix: Low-Cost Butanol Producer



**Propylene (fossil) feedstock cost = \$3.00/gallon of butanol**

**Phytonix CO<sub>2</sub> feedstock cost = \$0.35/gallon of butanol**  
*(assumes cost of CO<sub>2</sub> = \$40/ton)*

**Fossil variable cost = \$3.66/gal**  
**Phytonix variable cost = \$0.85/gal**

**Competitors using propylene (BASF, DOW, OXEA, etc.) have high energy costs + a large carbon footprint.**

# Technology Partners Contracted by Phytonix



UPPSALA  
UNIVERSITET

## Angstrom Laboratory, Sweden (Uppsala University):

Engineered the Phytonix cyanobacteria prototype which utilizes carbon dioxide feedstock to produce 100% n-butanol.

**(Dr. Peter Lindblad)**



OLD DOMINION  
UNIVERSITY

## Lee Laboratory, Virginia (Old Dominion University):

Phytonix acquired the exclusive global license for the core patent filed by Dr. Lee. Developing follow-on IP.

**(Dr. James Lee)**



South Dakota  
State University

## Anderson Laboratory, South Dakota (SDSU):

Design and bench scale testing of Phytonix photobioreactor with butanol separation system.

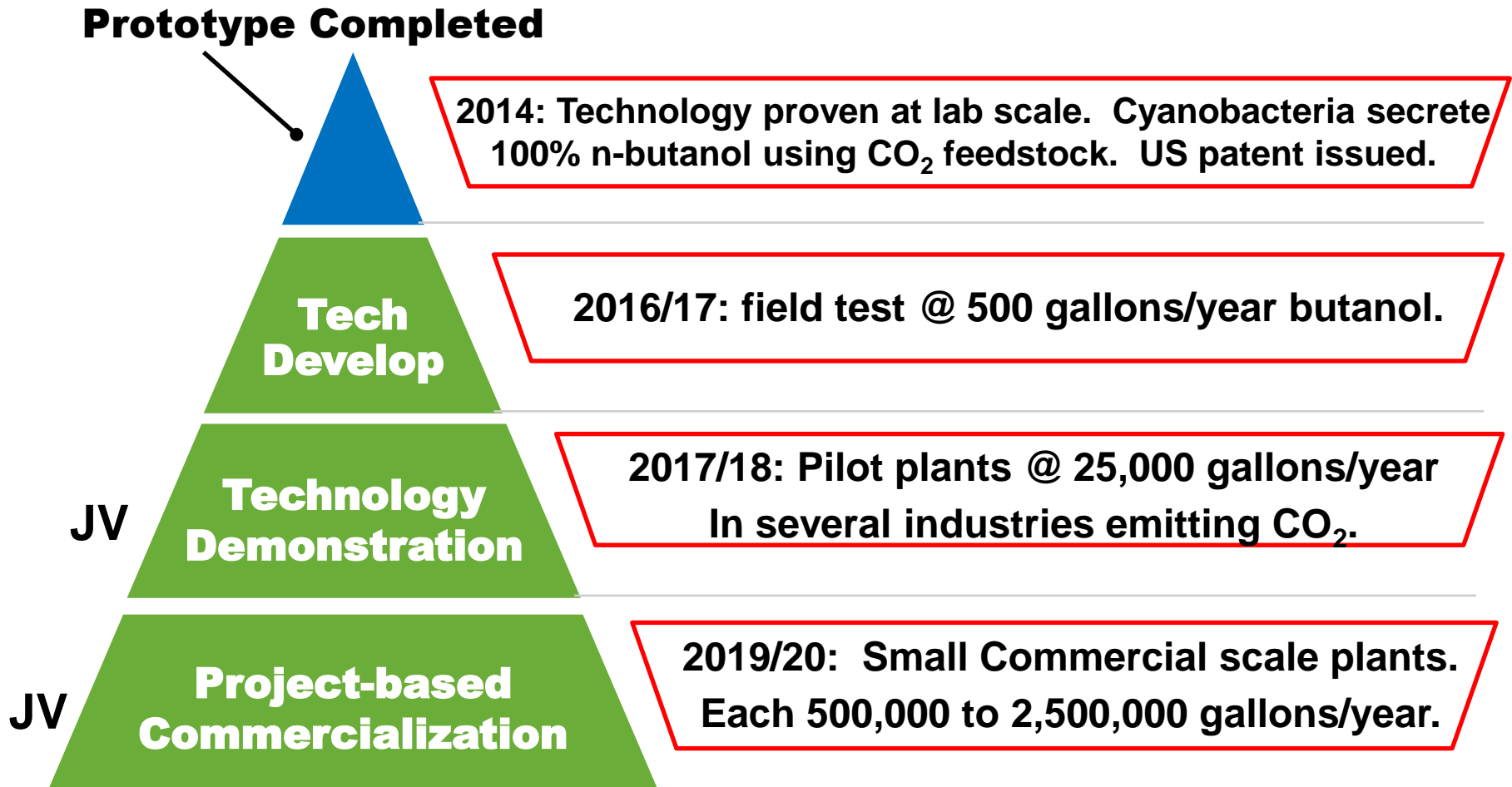
**(Dr. Gary Anderson)**

**“Capital-light” innovation by contracting leading international laboratories.**

**Phytonix investment to date = \$2.5M. Value > \$25M.**



# Development Plan



# Comparative Energy Yield

Process - product	Energy/Acre (per year)	Phytonix Advantage
<b>Phytonix Process</b> - bio-butanol	2.55 GWh	NA
<b>Best Solar Cell Farm</b> - electricity	0.45 GWh	5.7 X
<b>Ethanol from Corn</b> - ethanol	0.021 GWh	121 X

**Phytonix PBRs can be located on non-arable land and use about 1.25% of the water required for corn ethanol.  
Phytonix can use fresh, salt or brackish water.**

# Phytonix Summary

- **Patented process, proven at lab scale.**
  - 100% butanol from industrial CO<sub>2</sub> emissions
- **Scalable, low-cost process. Low CAPEX.**
- **Industrial emitters of CO<sub>2</sub> fund commercialization process.**
- **Carbon-negative process. Huge GHG reduction.**
  - **Can monetize in some jurisdictions.**

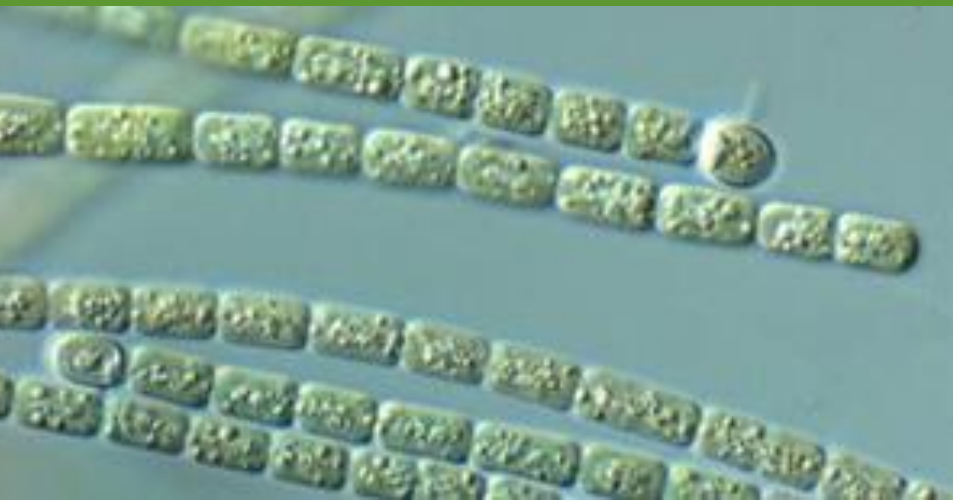
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# Backup Slides





# Land and Water Requirements

- 20,000 sq. miles of fertile land in the USA is used to grow corn to produce 13 billion gallons/year of ethanol.
- 245 sq. miles of non-arable land would be required by Phytonix to produce 13 billion gallons/year of butanol (a far superior biofuel).

## Water

- Cyanobacteria thrive in salt, brackish, or fresh water
- H<sub>2</sub>O used/gallon of biofuel:
  - Phytonix butanol = 2.5 gallons
  - Corn ethanol = 200 gallons

## Land

- Non-arable land. (Saves arable land for food production)
- Phytonix butanol yield / acre:
  - = 75X yield of corn ethanol
  - = 5.7X energy yield of solar

# Cyanobacterial Chemical Production Platform

Besides butanol, the Phytonix technology platform enables it to genetically engineer patentable species of cyanobacteria that can each directly secrete valuable biochemicals and biofuels such as:

- Pentanol
- Hexanol
- Octanol
- Direct intracellular fuel grade biodiesel
- Medium & long chain fatty acids

# Butanol Competition

- **Incumbent fossil-based producers:** BASF, DOW, Eastman, OXEA, etc.
  - Expensive, carbon intensive and energy intensive.
- **Fermentation/bio-based producers:** Gevo, Butamax (BP/DuPont JV), Cobalt Technologies, Green Biologics
  - Biomass feedstock = expensive, generates CO<sub>2</sub> as a waste product.
- **Phytonix solar-based production:**
  - CO<sub>2</sub> feedstock = very low-cost process, with low energy cost.
  - Highly carbon-negative process.

# Phytonix Energy & Value from PBRs vs Solar Cells on One Acre (per year)

	Solar Cells	Phytonix PBRs	Ratio
Energy created (GWh/year)	≈ 0.45	≈ 2.55	5.7X
Liquid Fuel / Storable Energy (gallons/year)	N/A	83,000	
Amount of Electricity (MWh/year) <i>(note 1)</i>	450	N/A	
Value of Electricity @ \$60.00/MWh	\$27,000	N/A	
Value of Electricity vs. Butanol Biofuel @ \$2.00/gal.	\$27,000	\$166,000	6X
Value of Electricity vs. Butanol Chem. @ \$6.25/gal.	\$27,000	\$519,000	19X

***Note 1: Bio-butanol could be used in Co-Gen engines to produce 1,147 MWh/year of electricity (45% efficiency). Value = \$69,000/year at \$60/MWh. (CO<sub>2</sub> from Co-Gen used to make more butanol.)***

# Butanol vs. Ethanol as a Biofuel

- **HIGH ENERGY DENSITY:**  $\approx$  50% higher than ethanol.
- **SAFER:** 7x less evaporative than ethanol.
- **GASOLINE ENGINES CAN RUN ON 100% BUTANOL** (with a minor fuel-air injection ratio adjustment): Not possible with ethanol.
- **ETHANOL IS HIGHLY CORROSIVE:** Except in low concentrations, ethanol cannot be used in existing tanks, pipelines & fuelling stations.
- **BUTANOL HAS MANY INDUSTRIAL USES:** Ethanol does not. (Solvents, plastics, paints, adhesives, cleaning products, etc.).
- **LOW EMISSIONS (both butanol & ethanol):** No sulfur dioxides, carbon monoxide or particulates.

# Potential Industrial Partners Emitting CO<sub>2</sub> as feedstock for Phytonix Biobutanol

Industry	CO <sub>2</sub> Produced (tons/year)	Production of Butanol from CO <sub>2</sub> (gallons/year)	Plant Revenue \$6.25/gal Butanol (\$/year)
Large fuel ethanol facility	200,000	25,000,000	\$156 million
Large natural gas wells	2,000,000	250,000,000	\$1.56 billion
Large steel mill	4,000,000	500,000,000	\$3.12 billion
Oil Sands	Very high	Very high	Very high

**Phytonix plants are **scalable** and cost-effective:**

500,000 gal/year plant. CAPEX ≈ \$4M. Sales ≈ \$3M/year

500,000,000 gal/year plant. CAPEX ≈ \$1.3B. Sales ≈ \$3.1B/year.

**Broad market opportunity.**



# Management Team

## SENIOR MANAGEMENT + BOARD OF DIRECTORS

**Mr. Bruce Dannenberg: Founder, President & CEO. Director.** Expertise in innovation and commercialization, genetics, microbiology, financial management and industrial management. Degrees in Zoology, industrial management (M.S.) & M.B.A.

**Mr. Gordon Skene: Executive Vice President & Director.** Former CEO of several technology companies and of a VC technology fund. BSc. (Physics & Economics). MSc. Business Administration (Finance). Former Director of Finance for an industrial corporation with sales of \$3 billion, listed NYSE.

**Mr. Michael Weedon: Independent Director.** Executive Director of the British Columbia Bioenergy Network with 25 years of experience in finance, clean technology and senior management, including a large chemical company.

## TECHNOLOGY TEAM

**Dr. Peter Lindblad: Phytonix Technology Director, Organism Development.** Director of the Angstrom Laboratory and Professor of Microbial Chemistry and Molecular Biology at Uppsala University in Sweden.

**Dr. Gary Anderson: Phytonix Technology Director, Photobioreactor Development.** Professor of Agricultural & Biosystems Engineering at South Dakota State University.

**Dr. James Lee: Phytonix Inventor & Scientist:** Expertise and degrees in photosynthesis, plant physiology, biochemistry, and synthetic biology (Cornell). 15 years at Oak Ridge National Lab.

# Board of Advisors

**Mr. Scott Hickman:** 30 years of management experience ranging from startups to Fortune 500 firms; 13 years with Sun Microsystems. MBA (Harvard). BS Industrial Engineering (Stanford).

**Mr. William Tate:** Senior executive with companies ranging in size from \$20M to over \$2B. Former CEO of a Fortune 500 company. Expertise in strategy and performance improvement.

**Dr. Robert Stewart:** Former Biotechnology Manager at Lanxess, Iogen Biofuels and InBev and an expert on renewable routes for biobutanol production.

**Mr. Michael Macdonald:** Former Senior Vice President, Global Operations, Methanex Corporation, responsible for all manufacturing activities including eight methanol plants.

**Mr. Peter Hoyle:** Product Manager of Quadra Chemicals, a leading North American distributor of industrial chemicals including butanol. Consultant on renewable resources in industrial applications as replacements to hydrocarbon-based materials.

**Mr. John Robertshaw:** Industrialist and commercial real estate developer with a substantial real estate and private equity portfolio. An active investor in emerging technology companies.

**Dr. Victor Der:** Executive Adviser, Global Carbon Capture and Storage Institute. Former Assistant Secretary, US Department of Energy, leading initiatives in clean coal, carbon capture, and oil & gas R&D. Former Chair of the Carbon Sequestration Leadership Forum Policy Group.

# Phytonix Summary

- ❑ Phytonix process reduces GHG emissions
  - 1 ton CO<sub>2</sub> per 125 gallons of bio-butanol
- ❑ Low-cost producer of butanol at \$1.35/gallon
- ❑ Large industrial chemical market
- ❑ Huge gasoline additive/replacement markets
- ❑ Patented and patent-pending technology
- ❑ Scalable, high-margin process
  - Fast payback for small and large plants

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