



## **Prairie Gold and KATZEN create technology for high-value coproducts**

Prairie Gold, Inc., a Bloomington, IL company, has formed collaboration with KATZEN International, Inc. of Cincinnati, OH. Prairie Gold, a technology development company that is commercializing technology licensed from the University of Illinois, is creating high-value coproducts and innovative processes for the ethanol industry. KATZEN is the premier ethanol plant technology and design company, with more than 100 completed and on-going projects worldwide. KATZEN is designing the process to integrate the newly patented corn oil and protein extraction (COPE) technology into dry grind ethanol plants.

Philip Shane, President of Prairie Gold, said, “KATZEN’s expertise has been invaluable to our company’s future success. Their vast knowledge of ethanol technology in general, and distillation in particular, has enabled us to successfully integrate our technology into a typical ethanol plant while effecting a substantial savings in cost. The energy savings and environmental benefits shared by the two processes are considerable.”

Prairie Gold’s technology enables dry-grind ethanol plants to produce three new products (corn oil, zein protein, and xanthophylls). “These coproducts are of extremely high value with excellent existing markets. Ethanol plants that incorporate our technology will increase their revenue and expand their markets,” said Shane.

The potential coproducts targeted by Prairie Gold are currently lost in lower-valued ethanol by-products such as DDGS, which is used in animal feed. By removing excess oil and water-insoluble proteins, the quality of the animal feed actually improves for swine and poultry. Another benefit is reduced emissions from the dryers due to removal of oil.

Philip Madson, president of KATZEN International, said, “This is the first group of synergistic technologies to be developed in quite some time that actually delivers what the innovators of the dry grind ethanol industry have been trying to achieve for a long time, that is, improving the economics of ethanol production by providing new and specific high-value products to broader markets.”

Prairie Gold, a start-up company, is developing alliances with ethanol companies and product users to cultivate new technology and uses from corn coproducts produced by ethanol plants.

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