

OXIS International Files Patent Application for Methods and Compositions Using Ergothioneine

BEVERLY HILLS, Calif., Dec. 20, 2010 -- OXIS International, Inc., (OTC Bulletin Board: OXIS; Euronext Paris: OXI) today announced that it has filed a patent application titled "Methods and Compositions Using Ergothioneine to Treat a Variety of Health Related Factors" with the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office (USPTO).

"This patent application filing is an important step toward expanding our already strong intellectual property portfolio for Ergothioneine," said Bernie Landes, president of OXIS International. "The application also supports the recent launch of **ErgoFlex™** for joint pain relief. **ErgoFlex** is the first in a series of ERGO-based commercial products we plan to introduce in coming months."

Specifically, the application relates to the use of Ergothioneine compositions containing one or more additional nutraceutical compounds to improve a variety of health related factors, including, but not limited to, brain health, joint health, eye health, mitochondrial optimization/improvement and to reduce inflammation and pain.

The application also includes information and data from several clinical and animal studies examining Ergothioneine's safety profile and benefits relating to health issues associated with oxidative stress.

About OXIS International, Inc.

OXIS International, Inc. develops technologies and products to research, diagnose, treat and prevent diseases of oxidative stress/inflammation associated with damage from free radical and reactive oxygen species (ROS). The company holds the rights to several therapeutic classes of compounds in the area of oxidative stress, and has focused commercialization programs that include SOD (superoxide dismutase), MPO (myeloperoxidase), GPx (glutathione peroxidase), as well as a highly potent antioxidant, Ergothioneine, that may be sold over-the-counter (OTC) as a dietary supplement. Ergothioneine can also be sold to the cosmetics markets as well as the functional food and beverage markets. For more information, please visit www.oxis.com

Forward-Looking Statements

Any statements in this press release that are not historical facts are forward-looking statements made under the provisions of the Private Securities Litigation Reform Act of 1995. Forward-looking statements involve risks and uncertainties that could cause actual results to be materially different from historical results or from any future results expressed or implied by such forward-looking statements. You are urged to consider statements that include the words "project," "believe," "anticipate," "plan," "expect," "estimate," "intend," "should," "would," "could," "will," "may," "potential" or the negative of those words or other similar expressions words to be uncertain and forward-looking. Factors that may cause actual results to differ materially from any future results expressed or implied by any forward-looking statements include the risks and uncertainties inherent in our business, including, without limitation the risks of obtaining possibly required regulatory approvals, the timing of product introductions, the level of market acceptance of and continuing demand for the Company's products, the impact of competitive products and pricing and the Company's ability to obtain additional financing to support its operations. We refer you to the risks and factors detailed from time to time in the Company's Annual Reports on Form 10-K and its Quarterly Reports on Form 10-Q. Any forward-looking

statements in this press release represent the Company's views only as of the date of this release and should not be relied upon as representing its views as of any subsequent date. The Company anticipates that subsequent events and developments may cause its views to change, and the Company specifically disclaims any obligation to update this information, as a result of future events or otherwise, except as required by applicable law.

SOURCE OXIS International, Inc.

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