

NUTRILEADS ANNOUNCES SUCCESSFUL SEED FINANCING ROUND

November 18th 2015, Wageningen, The Netherlands, Dutch nutritional health ingredients startup NUTRILEADS B.V. today announces the successful closure of a seed financing round with an investment syndicate comprising DSM VENTURING, PPM OOST, SHIFT INVEST and THUJA CAPITAL.

NUTRILEADS develops nutritional ingredients for application in health-promoting food products. The company was founded in December 2011 based on an invention initially made at Unilever. In 2013, NutriLeads, together with NIZO Food Research, obtained a grant from the topsector Agri & Food to start the preclinical development of its lead ingredient.

“This seed investment enables us to accelerate development and to move our lead ingredient to clinical testing. This is a major step in achieving our ambition to partner with ingredient suppliers and food companies to bring the benefits of our health ingredients to patients and consumers” indicates Ruud Albers, PhD, former Nutrition and Health R&D director at Unilever and CEO of NutriLeads,

NutriLeads' lead ingredient is derived from a traditional herbal remedy, which was shown in clinical trials to support immune function and to improve resistance to infections. It was discovered that the active component can be sustainably sourced from food crops. NutriLeads develops this proprietary ingredient as dietary supplement and for application in specialized functional and medical food products.

Erik Dam, former VP at Danone Advanced Medical Nutrition and CBO of NutriLeads emphasizes: *“The consortium of investors is carefully composed to support NutriLeads through its next development stages and it provides highly relevant and complementary expertise and networks”*.

Michel Briejer, PhD, from THUJA CAPITAL, lead investor of the syndicate, indicates that *“NutriLeads combines experienced management and deep knowledge with interesting assets initially identified at Unilever. We have recognized this as an exciting opportunity to create value for both patients/consumers as well as investors”*.

Marius Prins, CEO of PPM Oost, who is also very pleased with the investment in NutriLeads, states: *“Significant value creation by bringing the benefits of health ingredients to patients and consumers is highly relevant to our fund Innovatie- en Energiefonds Gelderland (IEG). In addition, this strategic investment further strengthens the ecosystem of Wageningen UR and the Campus Development”*.

NutriLeads

catalyzing nutrition & health innovations

NUTRILEADS is a startup that develops nutritional ingredients with demonstrated health effects. NutriLeads aims to catalyze nutritional health innovation in the food industry by partnering with relevant companies to identify promising lead ingredients, develop sustainable and commercially viable production processes, and initiate scientific & clinical programs to substantiate the health effects of these ingredients. Together we will bring the benefits of the proprietary ingredients to patients and consumers.

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THUJA CAPITAL

healthcare **investors**

THUJA CAPITAL is an independent venture capital firm specialized in investing in early-stage medical product companies in the Netherlands and Belgium. We leverage good science with entrepreneurship and capital, in order to accelerate innovative, affordable medical products to patients, thus pairing societal return to attractive financial reward for our shareholders. The team of Thuja Capital has a long-standing and successful track record in investments in, and management of, medical product companies.

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DSM

BRIGHT SCIENCE. BRIGHTER LIVING.

DSM VENTURING is the corporate venture capital unit of Royal DSM N.V., undertaking minority investments in innovative start-up companies, in-line with DSM's Open Innovation Strategy.

DSM – Bright Science. Brighter Living.™ Royal DSM is a global science-based company active in health, nutrition and materials. By connecting its unique competences in Life Sciences and Materials Sciences DSM is driving economic prosperity, environmental progress and social advances to create sustainable value for all stakeholders simultaneously. DSM delivers innovative solutions that nourish, protect and improve performance in global markets such as food and dietary supplements, personal care, feed,

medical devices, automotive, paints, electrical and electronics, life protection, alternative energy and bio-based materials. DSM and its associated companies deliver annual net sales of about €10 billion with approximately 25,000 employees. The company is listed on Euronext Amsterdam.

For more information about DSM: www.dsm.com



PPM OOST (Participatiemaatschappij Oost Nederland NV) is a government backed venture capital firm and one of the leading providers of venture capital and early stage finance to SMEs in the Netherlands with over € 300 million under management. PPM Oost invests in promising companies that contribute to a flourishing economy in the East Netherlands.

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SHIFT INVEST is a Dutch venture capital fund that invests in innovations related to the food & agriculture value chain, healthy nutrition and clean (bio-based) technologies. Through our investments, we strive to create environmental sustainability or health impact alongside financial return. Within our food&health theme, SHIFT focus is on innovations related to cure to care with high quality, healthy food, consumption and lifestyle. SHIFT's team, together with the fund partners Wageningen UR, Menzis, TU Delft, Rabobank and WNF, offer entrepreneurs a broad network and knowledge of the sector.

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