

## **Pivotal Evolve stevia sweetener patent receives US Notice of Allowance**

**Covers production of the best-tasting steviol glycosides by fermentation and bioconversion**

19 December 2016 – **Evolve** (SIX: EVE) announces that it has received a Notice of Allowance for a pivotal patent application (US 2013/0171328) from the US Patent & Trademark Office covering the most commercially viable production method for manufacturing the best-tasting steviol glycosides. This grant is expected to occur early 2017.

Of particular commercial importance, this patent protects key steps in the production of rebaudioside A (Reb A), rebaudioside D (Reb D), and rebaudioside M (Reb M) by a number of production methods including fermentation, bioconversion or other approaches. Evolve was the first company to identify and characterise the enzymes for key steps in the Reb A, Reb D and Reb M biosynthesis pathways.

Including this most recent patent, Evolve now has 6 granted and 69 pending applications around the world (including 10 in the US and 5 in Europe) related to production of steviol glycosides by various methods including fermentation, bioconversion or in plants. In May, Evolve was granted a European patent (EP2742142) that enables organisms to express highly attractive pathways for producing steviol glycosides.

Evolve and Cargill have an exclusive collaboration on the production and commercialisation of stevia sweeteners by fermentation, and are co-developing the next-generation stevia sweetener, EverSweet™, which is a combination of Reb D and Reb M.

Evolve will be providing a more general update on the status of its stevia program and collaboration in the first half of January 2017.

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### **About Evolve**

Evolve solves the supply chain issues of nature through a 21<sup>st</sup> century mix of biotechnology and brewing. We develop, make and sell natural ingredients that provide significant benefits to people in daily life, but whose supply chain issues have limited their use until now. Our flagship ingredients are stevia, nootkatone

and resveratrol, but we work on many more, both on our own behalf and with others. To make our world sustainable requires nature and technology to work together as one, and our aim is to play a (small) part in achieving this transformation. We operate internationally. For more information see [www.evolva.com](http://www.evolva.com). Questions about our approach? Have a look at our [video](#).

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