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Metabolix Appoints Johan van Walsem as Vice President of Commercial Development

CAMBRIDGE, Mass., Aug 03, 2009 (BUSINESS WIRE) -- Metabolix, Inc. (NASDAQ: MBLX), a bioscience company focused on developing clean, sustainable solutions for plastics, chemicals and energy, today announced that Johan van Walsem has joined the company as Vice President of Commercial Development. Mr. van Walsem will be responsible for the development of Metabolix business strategies and commercial development activities for its non-Telles activities, primarily crop and microbial fermentation technology programs.

Mr. van Walsem has extensive experience in nearly every aspect of bulk and specialty biochemical product commercialization. He returns to Metabolix following a 16 month period as Senior Vice President, R&D and Bioprocessing at Joule Biotechnologies, a clean technology start-up in Cambridge.

In his earlier role as Vice President Manufacturing, Development and Operations at Metabolix, Mr. van Walsem was integral in the technical development and business model design for Mirel, a bio-based, biodegradable polymer now being commercialized through Telles, a 50/50 joint venture between Metabolix and Archer Daniels Midland.

Richard P. Eno, President and CEO, Metabolix, said, "We are very excited to welcome Johan back to Metabolix. He was a key member of the team responsible for bringing our first platform to market and we look forward to his leadership as we do the same with our emerging crop and microbial platforms."

Mr. van Walsem received a Masters in Chemical Engineering from the University of Pretoria in 1986 and a MBA from the University of South Africa in 1995. He is a registered professional engineer with the Engineering Council of South Africa and a member of AIChE (American Institute of Chemical Engineers).

About Metabolix

Founded in 1992, Metabolix, Inc. is an innovation driven bioscience company focused on providing sustainable solutions for the world's needs for plastics, chemicals and energy. The Company is taking a systems approach, from gene to end product, integrating sophisticated biotechnology with advanced industrial practice. Metabolix is now developing and commercializing Mirel(TM), a family of high performance bioplastics which are biobased and biodegradable alternatives to many petroleum based plastics. Metabolix is also developing a proprietary platform technology for co-producing plastics, chemicals and energy, from crops such as switchgrass, oilseeds and sugarcane.

For more information, please visit www.metabolix.com. (MBLX-G)

SOURCE: Metabolix, Inc.

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