

US OFFICE PRODUCTS

Tuesday, October 24, 9:29 am Eastern Time

Press Release

Star Scientific, Inc. Announces New Patent for Products Containing Very Low Levels of Cancer-Causing Tobacco Specific Nitrosamines

CHESTER, Va.--(BUSINESS WIRE)--Oct. 24, 2000--Star Scientific, Inc. (NASDAQ: STSI) announced today the issuance of what it believes is the first U.S. patent issued for tobacco products made from tobacco having very low levels of tobacco specific nitrosamines ("TSNAs").

TSNAs are believed by many knowledgeable scientists and medical researchers to be among the most potent cancer-causing substances in tobacco and tobacco smoke. The new patent, which is licensed exclusively to Star Scientific, covers tobacco products containing cured tobacco with very low levels of TSNAs, and in particular NNKs and NNNs (acknowledged to be the most potent cancer-causing TSNAs).

Paul L. Perito, Chairman, President and COO of Star Scientific, stated: "The expansion of Star's intellectual property portfolio with the issuance of this new patent demonstrates our continuing commitment to the development of tobacco products delivering very low levels of carcinogenic TSNAs. Star's proprietary technology permits the Company to cure tobacco in a manner that results in very low levels of TSNAs. This reinforces our belief that Star is the world leader in producing very low TSNA tobacco. We are using a blend of our flue-cured StarCure(TM)tobacco, as well as other tobaccos, in our new Advance(TM)cigarette, currently being test-marketed in the Richmond, Virginia and Lexington, Kentucky areas. Further, we expect to use StarCure (TM)tobacco in smokeless products, one of which we anticipate will be introduced later this year or early next year."

Mr. Perito further stated that: "is in total agreement with the recent (29th) Surgeon General' Report which stated, in essence, that tobacco products need to be manufactured in the least hazardous fashion possible, given available technologies. As a responsible corporate citizen, we underscore our belief that there is no such thing as a safe cigarette. However, in a world where 1.2 billion people smoke every day and approximately 4 million will die prematurely each year from smoking related diseases, there is an urgent need to manufacture tobacco products in the least hazardous fashion possible. It is this goal to which Star is committed."

Mr. Perito also noted: "far this growing season, we have processed approximately 19 million pounds of flue-cured StarCure(TM) tobacco, a substantial portion of which has been sold to Brown & Williamson Tobacco Corporation (the third largest tobacco company in the U.S. and the largest affiliate of British American Tobacco, PLC, the second largest tobacco company in the world) under its existing contracts with Star. We hope that, in the future, other tobacco companies will also recognize the value of securing tobacco containing the very lowest levels of TSNAs for their products and will consider licensing Star's proprietary technology for this purpose."

This press release contains certain forward-looking statements within the

meaning of the Private Securities Litigation Reform Act of 1995. The Company has tried, whenever possible, to identify these forward-looking statements using words such as "anticipates", "believes", "estimates", "expects", "plans", "intends" and similar expressions. These statements reflect the Company's current beliefs and are based upon information currently available to it. Accordingly, such forward-looking statements involve known and unknown risks, uncertainties and other factors which could cause the Company's actual results, performance or achievements to differ materially from those expressed in, or implied by, such statements.

These risks, uncertainties and contingencies include, without limitation, the continued development and commercialization of the Company's proprietary patented process for reducing and/or virtually eliminating TSNAs in the processing of tobacco leaf, potential disputes concerning the Company's intellectual property, potential delays in obtaining any necessary government approvals of the Company's proposed reduced risk tobacco products, market acceptance of the Company's products, competition from companies with greater resources than Star, the Company's decision not to join the Master Settlement Agreement ("MSA"), the adoption of required state statutes and any subsequent modification of the MSA.

The impact of potential litigation, if initiated against or by individual states that have adopted the MSA, could be materially adverse to the Company. See additional discussion under "Factors That May Affect Future Results" in the Company's Annual Report on Form 10-K/A for the year ended December 31, 1999, and other factors detailed from time to time in the Company's other filings with the Securities and Exchange Commission. The Company undertakes no obligation to update or advise upon any such forward-looking statements.

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