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RYAM and GranBio sign MOU to explore Cellulosic SAF project at Jesup facility

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Rayonier Advanced Materials Inc., the global leader in cellulose specialty products, announced the signing of a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with GranBio LLC, a pioneer in biochemicals and biofuels, to jointly explore the development of a small-scale commercial cellulosic Sustainable Aviation Fuel (SAF) facility co-located at RYAMâ??s Jesup, Georgia site.

Under the agreement, GranBio will lead the proposed project to deploy its proprietary AVAPÂ® technology to convert lignocellulosic biomass into second-generation ethanol, which will be upgraded into SAF for sale to an offtaker. The new facility would leverage RYAMâ??s infrastructure at the Jesup plant, including feedstock, utilities, and logistics. The project will be partially financed through GranBioâ??s $100 million grant from the U.S. Department of Energy.

In addition to advancing its strategic goal of maximizing value from existing assets, should the project proceed, RYAM would receive a license to GranBioâ??s latest-generation Celer2Lâ?¢ yeast and AVAPÂ® technologies for ethanol and sugar production at its own facility, in partnership with GranBio - a meaningful step in diversifying into high-growth biofuel and biochemical markets.

â??This MoU aligns with our strategy to unlock new value from our core assets and expand into renewable markets where our infrastructure and technical capabilities create a competitive advantage,â? said De Lyle Bloomquist, President and CEO of

RYAM. â??GranBio brings world-class technology to this partnership, and together weâ??re exploring practical, scalable solutions to help decarbonize global aviation fuel markets.â•

â??We are strengthening our collaboration with RYAM and work toward our joint goal of developing clean energy solutions, while improving the communities in which we work,â• said Luiz Oliveira, CEO of GranBio. â??At Jesup, we will leverage our complementary capabilities in the development of a cost-effective, scalable solution for the production of Sustainable Aviation Fuels.â•

This first-of-its-kind project marks a major milestone in GranBioâ??s strategic goal of systematically scaling up SAF production, with strong potential for replication. The due diligence is expected to conclude later this year, at which point both parties will determine next steps. The MoU underscores both companiesâ?? commitment to sustainability, innovation, and the development of next-generation biomaterials and fuels.