

## Press Release Archives: 10/02/2001

### **Itronics Named Finalist for Prestigious Chemical Engineering Award**

RENO, Nev.--(BUSINESS WIRE)--Oct. 2, 2001 - Itronics Inc. (OTCBB:ITRO) today announced that it was named one of the five finalists for the 2001 Kirkpatrick Chemical Engineering Achievement Award, the most prestigious award in the chemical process industries. The award is issued every two years by the publication Chemical Engineering to the most noteworthy chemical engineering technology to have been commercialized anywhere in the world during the preceding two years.

"While we did not win the award, we are very honored to have been included among the finalists, all major well-known companies," said Dr. John Whitney, Itronics President. "We are especially pleased to have been considered for an award that has been given in the past to such major chemical process innovations as the establishment of the petrochemical industry, the Manhattan Project in World War II, Kellogg's ammonia technology and Union Carbide's low-pressure polyethylene."

The other four finalists were the BOC Group, New Jersey, for its low-temperature oxidation process to control oxides of nitrogen emissions; DSM, Netherlands, for a direct-fermentation route to an antibiotics precursor; Mitsubishi Chemical America, Virginia, for a method of recovering and recycling tetrahydrofuran and various other hazardous solvents, and TNO and Cirmac International, Netherlands, for jointly developing a membrane-based absorption system that recovers ammonia from gas streams.

Itronics, through its subsidiary, Itronics Metallurgical, Inc., is the only company in the world with the technology to extract more than 99 percent of the silver and virtually all the other toxic heavy metals from photowaste and to convert the resulting liquid into environmentally beneficial, chelated, multinutrient liquid fertilizer products sold under the trademark GOLD'n GRO. Photowastes represent approximately 40 percent of all liquid toxic waste produced by U.S. industry, according to U.S. Environmental Protection Agency studies in the early 1990's.

Itronics produces the fertilizers at its factory in Stead, Nevada, and it is sold by Western Farm Services, Inc., one of the largest fertilizer retailers in the West, to large horticultural growers, golf courses, and growers of crops including wine grapes and citrus products. In field trials, it has been proven effective in use for crops as diverse as tomatoes, sunflowers, and watermelons.

Itronics Metallurgical sells its high performance GOLD'n GRO liquid fertilizer, which also can be used for lawns and plants, and its popular Silver Nevada Miner bars, a souvenir of the Silver State, through its shopping cart catalog at the Company's Web site <http://www.itronics.com>.

Itronics Inc. is one of Nevada's leading process technology development companies and a world leader in photochemical recycling. Headquartered in Reno, Nevada, it specializes in recycling technology development, photobyproduct recycling, silver refining, and technical services for the mining and recycling industries. Dr. John Whitney, Itronics President, was selected as Nevada's Inventor of the Year for 2000 and is a member of the Inventor's Hall of Fame at the University of Nevada, Reno.

VISIT OUR WEB SITE: <http://www.itronics.com>

(The statements in this news release that are not historical facts or statements of current status are forward-looking statements as defined in the Private Securities Litigation Reform Act of 1995 that involve risk and uncertainties. Actual results may differ materially.