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Press contact:

Creo_PR@High10Media.com



CREO, A CANNABINOID INGREDIENT COMPANY, SET TO DISRUPT INDUSTRY AMID LAUNCH WITH PROPRIETARY PROCESS & TECHNOLOGY

Co-founder Roy Lipski leads California-based Creo in collaboration with Genomatica

San Diego, CA – September 29, 2020 – **Creo**, an ingredient company with a platform for producing rare cannabinoids, such as CBG, announces its official launch today. Creo, who is partnered with biotech industry-leader Genomatica, has been developing fermentation-based cannabinoid production technologies since 2016. Creo was co-founded by science entrepreneur and CEO, Roy Lipski, and leading professor of bioengineering, Dr. Ramon Gonzalez.

Creo has the technology to deliver a reliable, high-quality and consistent supply of rare and novel cannabinoid ingredients at commercial scale. With its launch, Creo's customers will gain access to new ingredients that support their development of innovative products for people everywhere. Samples are now available.

"As early as 2015, we recognized the untapped potential of biotechnology to make cannabinoids better," said Lipski. "Now working alongside our technology partner Genomatica, we've built a strong IP position, developed our core technology, and are ready to move to commercial scale."

Creo's brand is built on three core pillars: sustainable innovation, access to abundance and being a trusted partner to customers. Creo's promise of greater sustainability is why it makes its cannabinoid ingredients using one of the world's oldest natural processes – fermentation. Fermentation requires less water, energy and land than the plant-based approaches typically used to extract cannabinoid ingredients.

"We are fully committed to Creo in the field of cannabinoids and have strong confidence in their team and the market opportunity," said Christophe Schilling, co-founder & CEO, Genomatica. "We believe in positive disruptors and are proud to stand by Creo at its launch, and to bring the power of our proven technology innovation engine."

Creo is backed by both institutional and private capital, with Genomatica being one of the largest shareholders in the business. To date, Creo has received close to \$50M in equity investment. Creo has built a strong portfolio of patent applications related to its technology and process and has high confidence in its freedom-to-operate.

Creo's first product, CBG, is sometimes called the "mother cannabinoid" or "skin cannabinoid," and is the parent molecule from which other cannabinoids are made. Because CBG is mostly converted into other cannabinoids, such as THC and CBD, very little of it remains intact in the plant (typically <0.5% by weight). Due to its scarcity, up until now, customers have struggled to access the benefits of this important non-intoxicating cannabinoid.

"As the cannabinoid industry continues to grow, Creo is entering the marketplace as a true innovator, with a focus on our customers and their needs," said Shuchi Sarkar, CMO, Creo. "Creo will be known for its reliability, with our products independently tested by Eurofins, one of the most respected third-party labs."



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About Creo

Creo is an ingredient company that produces rare and novel cannabinoids using the age-old natural process of fermentation, coupled with cutting-edge technological innovation. Founded in 2016 and based in California, Creo's mission is to enable the creation of cannabinoid products that help people everywhere while doing less harm to the planet. Creo's technology partner and major shareholder is industry-leading biotech firm Genomatica. To learn more, visit www.creoingredients.com.

About Genomatica

Genomatica is harnessing synthetic biology to remake the world of everyday products and materials through the power of clean manufacturing. The company is developing more sustainable, higher-performance key ingredients for everyday products, using plants and waste rather than fossil fuels or other non-sustainable sources like palm oil. Genomatica has already commercialized ingredients to make better plastics, spandex and personal care products, and is working on nylon, household cleaners and more. To learn more, visit www.genomatica.com.

Press contact

High10 Media:

Creo_PR@high10media.com

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Creo leadership bios

Roy Lipski, CEO & Co-founder

Roy is an entrepreneur with a background in, and deep passion for, biotech. He has led growing technology companies based on cutting-edge science for more than 20 years. Prior to founding Creo with leading professor of bioengineering, Ramon Gonzalez, Roy successfully founded several other pioneering technology companies, including Infonic, which became Europe's leading internet research agency, helping clients measure and manage corporate reputations online using proprietary AI software. He also ran a public company for close to 10 years (valued at some \$500 million), leading it out of the chemistry laboratory at the University of Oxford to an IPO and through a transformative acquisition. Roy holds a science degree from Cambridge University.

Alastair James, Executive Director

Alastair brings a breadth of experience ranging from building start-up ventures to holding senior positions at some of the world's largest financial institutions. He understands what it takes to build a winning team and how to successfully steer a business through a complex and rapidly changing regulatory environment. Prior to his role at Creo, Alastair was a Managing Director at UniCredit in London and New York, most recently in the role of business manager of the global Rates business, a \$500 million-plus trading operation. Alastair was involved with start-up venture Netrisk, which was successfully sold to Fitch Risk Management. He started his career at Citibank where he traded currency options. He holds a degree in Architecture from Cambridge University and an MBA from Columbia University.

Shuchi Sarkar, Chief Marketing Officer

Shuchi is an accomplished marketer with more than 25 years of broad experience at world-leading technology companies including HP, Compaq, Motorola and Ogilvy Advertising. Prior to joining Creo, she was the Global Head of Marketing for HP's digital printing business and the recipient of many industry awards including EFFIE's, Cannes Lions, "Innovative Marketer by Economic Times," and "WIM Digital Marketer of the Year 2017." Shuchi is a transformational marketer who has created numerous "firsts," reinvented brands and teams, and led the data, content and digital transformation in many of her roles on HP. She received her MBA from the Institute of Management Technology in Ghaziabad, India.

David Brinkmann, VP Manufacturing

David is a chemical engineer with 40 years of experience in process development, technology transfer, engineering design, operations management, techno-economic modeling and technical leadership in the bio-process industry. He has successfully developed, scaled up and managed fermentation and downstream processes for a wide variety of bio-based products and organisms.



Q&A

What does Creo do?

Creo is an ingredient company that produces rare and novel cannabinoids using the age-old natural process of fermentation, coupled with cutting-edge technological innovation. Creo has a platform for producing cannabinoids as ingredients developed exclusively with its joint venture partner, biotech industry leader Genomatica. Creo's partner has successfully commercialized fermentation-based processes for plastics, cosmetics and apparel. Creo has the technology to deliver a reliable, high-quality and consistent supply of cannabinoid ingredients at commercial scale.

Where is Creo based?

Creo was formed and continues to be based in the US, with headquarters in Southern California.

What is Creo's mission?

Creo's mission is to enable the creation of cannabinoid products that help people everywhere while doing less harm to the planet.

What role does sustainability have at Creo?

Creo's brand is built on three core pillars: sustainable innovation, access to abundance and being a trusted partner to customers. Creo makes its cannabinoid ingredients using one of the world's oldest natural processes – fermentation. Fermentation requires less water, energy and land than the plant-based approaches typically used to extract cannabinoid ingredients. This gives Creo the ability to support the development of innovative new products without causing unnecessary harm to the planet. Creo's ingredients are of the very highest quality, containing none of the contaminants often associated with plant-derived ingredients.

What are cannabinoids?

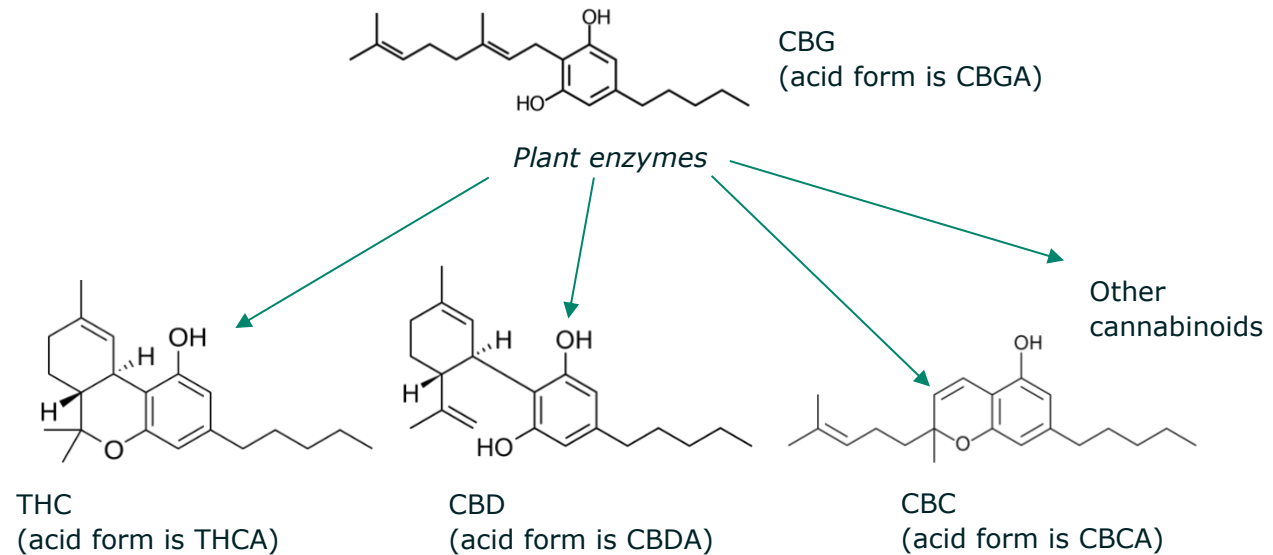
Cannabinoids are molecules that interact with the body's endocannabinoid system (ECS). Phytocannabinoids are those cannabinoids that occur naturally in plants, most commonly the cannabis plant. THC and CBD are the most common phytocannabinoids but there are over 100 additional phytocannabinoids that have been identified. The body also produces its own cannabinoids known as endocannabinoid.

What is the endocannabinoid system?

The endocannabinoid system (ECS) within the human body is made up of cannabinoid receptors and endocannabinoid. The receptors are located throughout the body including in the brain, nervous system, skin, immune cells, bone, fat tissue, blood vessels and various organs. The ECS is involved in the regulation of pain, stress, inflammation, appetite, energy, cardiovascular function, reward, sleep and other processes.

What is CBG?

CBG, sometimes called the “**mother cannabinoid**” or “**skin cannabinoid**,” is the parent molecule from which other cannabinoids are made in the cannabis plant. But since it’s mostly converted into other cannabinoids, such as THC and CBD, very little of it remains intact in the plant (typically <0.5% by weight). Due to its scarcity, up until now, customers and patients have struggled to access the benefits of this important non-intoxicating cannabinoid.



Plant cannabinoids are naturally produced in the acid form. Prior to consumption, they are typically converted into their better-known non-acid form by heating. In this way, CBG is made from CBGA.

Scientific research

There is a growing body of exciting scientific research into CBG, both on its own as well as in combination with other cannabinoids. Areas of research include:

- Antibacterial (e.g. MRSA, dental plaque);
- Dry skin;
- Skin inflammation;
- GI inflammation;
- Neuroinflammation and neurodegeneration;
- Insulin resistance;
- Ocular tension;
- Loss of appetite;
- Mood disorders;
- Neuropathic pain.

Why fermentation?

Plant extraction presents a number of challenges and uses large amounts of land, water and often electricity. Additionally:

- Plant extracts have variable consistency;
- Cultivated plants are prone to contamination and impurities;
- Presence of THC creates regulatory complications;



- Plant extraction is impractical and expensive for rarer cannabinoids;
- Only seasonal availability.

The process Creo has developed provides pure, consistent, single molecules that it can produce at scale, contaminant free, with a smaller environmental footprint all year round.

Does Creo derive cannabinoids from the actual plant?

No. Through Creo's fermentation process it produces natural CBG without the use of the cannabis plant.

Are there other cannabinoids apart from CBD and CBG?

Yes, there are more than 100 cannabinoids known in the plant but only two are currently being actively exploited (THC & CBD). Creo specializes in producing a wide variety of rare and novel cannabinoids, beginning with CBG (Cannabigerol).

Is Creo's process proprietary?

Creo's technology and process are patented and proprietary with freedom-to-operate, so customers can rely on Creo to be a trusted supplier.

Where do you produce your cannabinoids?

Creo's products are manufactured in an FDA registered food grade facility in the US.

Leadership headshots

Headshots can be downloaded [here](#).



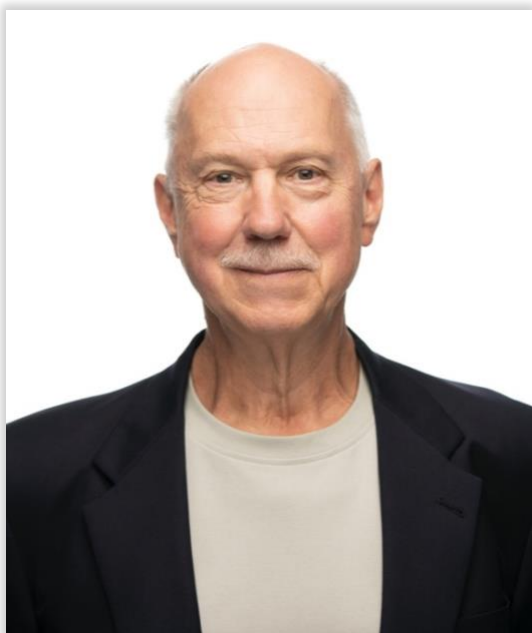
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Product image

CBG image can be downloaded [here](#).



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