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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

Tritan Renew™ from Eastman Receives “Innovation Award” at AURP’s 2022 Annual Awards of Excellence

Tritan Renew, located on Centennial Campus at NC State University, honored at AURP’s 2022 International Conference (Sept. 19-22) at the MaRS Discovery District in Toronto

Tucson, AZ, October 3, 2022 – [Tritan Renew™ from Eastman](#) – a product of a Polyester Recycling Technology that uses recycled plastic as a raw material for use in a range of products – has been selected to receive the 2022 “Innovation Award” at the Association of University Research Parks’ (AURP) [2022 International Conference](#) (Sept. 19-22) held at the MaRS Discovery District in Toronto.

AURP, the leading nonprofit organization representing research parks and innovation districts, presents its Innovation Award each year to the business or nonprofit institution located in a research park that has brought forward one or more proprietary products, processes or services which represent a substantial technology breakthrough or have potential for a significant positive impact on the economic, health or welfare status of a broad spectrum of humanity.

Tritan Renew™ from Eastman, located on Centennial Campus at North Carolina State University, is a highly durable, BPA-free material made with 50% certified recycled content sourced from a process that breaks down waste plastic back into its chemical building blocks, allowing plastics to be recycled again and again. With Tritan Renew™, consumer products retain the performance and safety of virgin materials while meeting corporate sustainability goals. It reduces, ultimately, the amount of plastic going into the waste stream without compromising function or aesthetics, which helps offset the use of fossil fuels and lowers greenhouse gas emissions.

“Eastman is one of the most dynamic companies at Centennial Campus at NC State,” said Leah Burton, AURP President, and Director, Centennial Campus Partnership Office at NC State. “It’s no surprise they’re receiving AURP’s Innovation Award, which is all about the power of research and innovation to drive practical solutions for sustainability of our environment.”

“Solving society’s biggest challenges will require collaboration between industry, academia and government,” said Chris Killian, Senior VP and Chief Technology Officer at Eastman. “By reimagining advanced materials, Eastman is working to address climate change, to mainstream circularity as an economic model and to help build a more inclusive and equitable world. We are proud to receive the Innovation Award as we celebrate this achievement with our university partners at NC State. Together we are exploring new ways to apply sustainable materials such as Tritan Renew™ to create long-term impact – working alongside students and faculty to optimize product design while reducing our carbon footprint.”



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AURP's International Conference annually brings together more than 200 research park and innovation district leaders from around the world for high-impact knowledge exchange and networking with the industry's premier experts and leaders. This year's AURP conference was co-hosted by Greater Toronto's MaRS Discovery District, David Johnston Research + Technology Park and McMaster Innovation Park.

The AURP Awards Co-Chairs were Harry Brislin IV, Executive Director with the University of South Alabama's USA Technology & Research Park, and Keisha Demps, Partnership Developer, Office of Partnerships and Economic Development, with Centennial Campus at North Carolina State University.

Also as part of AURP's 2022 Awards of Excellence, the [University of South Florida \(USF\) Research Park](#) received the AURP Outstanding Research Park/ Innovation District Award. The University of South Florida Research Park covers more than 112 acres in the heart of the Tampa community. The research park's focus on biotechnology, life science research and entrepreneurship represent the centerpiece of USF's innovation enterprise, which sustains over 4,000 public and private sector jobs.

About AURP:

AURP, a non-profit international organization with offices in the Washington, DC area at the University of Maryland Discovery District and in Tucson, AZ at the University of Arizona Tech Park, focuses on creating communities of innovation and education for research parks both operating and planned, plus innovation districts, incubators, accelerators and the businesses that support the research park industry. AURP and its global membership promote research, institute-industry relations and innovation districts to foster innovation and to facilitate the transfer of technology from such institutions to the private sector. Learn more: www.aurp.net

Media Contacts:

Ken Berlack

AURP

kenberlack@aurp.net