

## Tantech-led Research Recognized by Zhejiang Science and Technology Department

LISHUI, China , Jan. 9, 2017 /PRNewswire/ -- Recently, Tantech Holdings Ltd. (NASDAQ:TANH) ("Tantech" or the "Company"), a leading manufacturer of bamboo-based charcoal products, announced the research program led by its R&D center that focused on techniques converting agricultural residues into charcoal fuels has been included by the Science and Technology Department of Zhejiang Province into its key agricultural projects for the period from 2016 to 2018, and obtained 1.4 million yuan worth of subsidies from the provincial department. The recognition marks another breakthrough the company has achieved in agricultural technology research development, especially bamboo charcoal-related researches.

The program was initiated by Zhejiang Tantech Energy Technology Co., Ltd, a wholly-owned subsidiary of Tantech, and has received technical assistance from Zhejiang Forestry Academy and Zhejiang University of Technology. In the program, researchers converted agricultural residues, such as straw, beanpole, rice husk, fruit shell and bamboo sawdust, into high-value-added, low-flash-point charcoal fuels, through a series of independently developed technologies, such as physical property analysis, spontaneous combustion carbonization technology and solidification forming process. Once the program is been put into operation, it can utilize 15,000 tons of agricultural wastes a year, creating an annual output of 22.5 million yuan, raising efficiency by 20% to 30% and reducing labor costs by at least a third.

Due to the extensively casual disposal of agricultural residues for years, we have long been low efficient in recycling resources, while inappropriate waste incineration has been a source of smog-forming air pollution. Tantech and its experts have spent years to address the problem.

According to the leader of the program, with the policy support from the government, the research will continue to be focused on solutions for spontaneous combustion in agricultural waste and exhaust emission disposal. The program aims to make breakthroughs in three key areas, including smoke-free charcoal production techniques, high efficient solidification forming techniques and environmentally friendly compound ignition agent techniques. Inorganic chemicals, which usually act as ignition agents in low-flash-point charcoal fuels, have the defects such as potential safety hazards, low automation and low production efficiency. Tantech's researchers are endeavoring to address these problems and work out solutions for the fuel industry's sustained and healthy development.

### ***About Tantech Holdings Ltd.***

Established in 2001 and headquartered in Lishui City, Zhejiang Province, China, Tantech Holdings Ltd. ("Tantech" or the "Company"), together with its subsidiaries, develops and manufactures bamboo-based charcoal products, including a variety of branded consumer products and electric double-layer capacitor ("EDLC") carbon products for industrial energy applications. The Company is in the process of acquiring 100% interest in Suzhou E Motors Co., Ltd., a specialty electric vehicles and power batteries manufacturer based in Zhangjiagang City, Jiangsu Province, and aims to transform itself from a bamboo-based charcoal products producer to a vertically integrated company along the EDLC Carbon -power battery -specialty new energy vehicle value chain. For more information about Tantech, please visit: <http://www.tantech.cn/en/index.asp>.

### ***Forward-Looking Statements***

This news release contains forward-looking statements as defined by the Private Securities Litigation Reform Act of 1995. Forward-looking statements include statements concerning plans, objectives, goals, strategies, future events or performance, and underlying assumptions and other statements that are other than statements of historical facts. These statements are subject to uncertainties and risks including, but not limited to, product and service demand and acceptance, changes in technology, economic conditions, the impact of competition and pricing, government regulations, and other risks contained in reports filed by the company with the Securities and Exchange Commission. All such forward-looking statements, whether written or oral, and whether made by or on behalf of the Company, are expressly qualified by this cautionary statement and any other cautionary statements which may accompany the forward-looking statements. In addition, the Company disclaims any obligation to update any forward-looking statements to reflect events or circumstances after the date hereof.

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