

San Antonio biotech firm takes big step toward global expansion

[StemBioSys](#) Inc. has crossed another critical threshold in its evolution. The San Antonio-based biotech company has secured patent approval for three pending applications, including one in China and two in Australia.

The newly-issued patents include technology aimed at the isolation of blood-derived mesenchymal stem cells from the human umbilical cord and methods for producing cell-derived extracellular matrices that mimic various extracellular matrices in the body.

“People will start to see that we really are looking to create a global footprint. You’ve got to have patents to back that up,” StemBioSys CEO Bob Hutchens told me.

The patents represent an expansion of StemBioSys’ intellectual property portfolio originally licensed from the University of Texas Health Science Center at San Antonio. They also extend the coverage of the company’s technology outside the U.S. — particularly to countries that are rapidly expanding stem-cell technologies.

“What this will allow us to do is to go into these markets and know we are operating in a good patent environment,” Hutchens said.

Such patents are critical for a young company like StemBioSys, which need to retain control of their intellectual property in foreign lands.

“For our particular product, we are certainly a couple of years ahead of what anybody else would be able to do,” Hutchens said. “But it’s always important to have the patent protection.”

The international patents StemBioSys has secured represent an extension of the company’s core technology — the High Performance Micro Environment, or HPME — which is directed at enhancing the capture, growth and delivery of various types of stem cells.

StemBioSys has now been issued six patents internationally. The company still has multiple pending patent applications in the U.S. and abroad.

Source: <http://www.bizjournals.com/sanantonio/news/2016/05/25/san-antonio-biotech-firm-takes-big-step-toward.html>

January 6th 2015