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## US Patent, Conference Presentations Herald Further Progress for Hatchtech

- **US Patent Office grants key DeOvo™ patent**
- **Dr Vern Bowles presenting DeOvo clinical data at major US pediatric conferences**

**Melbourne, Australia:** Specialty pharmaceutical company Hatchtech Pty Ltd has been advised the United States Patent and Trademark Office has granted a patent covering a key element of the Company's novel head lice treatment product, DeOvo™.

The granted US patent, number 8,212,038, describes the inhibition of egg hatching (ie ovicidal effect) of the active ingredient of DeOvo and additionally encompasses related compounds. Further patent applications on other aspects of DeOvo are pending in the US and key commercial jurisdictions throughout the world.

In further progress, the Company's Chief Scientific Officer Dr Vern Bowles has presented data from Hatchtech's highly successful Phase 2b clinical trial at the recent 38<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting of the Society for Pediatric Dermatology in the United States. This conference heard that head lice infestation remains a significant therapeutic challenge. It was attended by over 300 physicians.

Further clinical efficacy and safety data on DeOvo has also been accepted for presentation at the prestigious American Academy of Pediatrics annual conference later this year.

"The granting of a further US patent for DeOvo is a very important commercial milestone for Hatchtech and it adds to the existing base of granted Hatchtech patents in the US and other markets," said Dr Ross Macdonald, Hatchtech's CEO.

"Of equal importance is the opportunity for the Company to showcase the outstanding efficacy and safety data from our recently completed DeOvo Phase 2 studies at two key physician conferences in the US."

Having completed the Phase 2 program with DeOvo Hatchtech is progressing to its pivotal Phase 3 trials, expected to commence in the US in 2013.

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### **About Hatchtech**

Hatchtech Pty Ltd is a venture-backed specialty pharmaceutical product company that is developing technology for the control of invertebrate pests. The Company's investors include GBS Venture Partners, Queensland Biotechnology Fund, Uniseed, University of Melbourne Endowment Trust, Australian Super and OneVentures Innovation Fund. The OneVentures Innovation Fund is supported by the Australian Government through the IIF program.

The company's lead product is DeOvo™, a class-leading head lice control agent that aims to overcome the frustrating, costly and inconvenient cycles of re-treatment experienced currently by children and their parents.

### **Hatchtech Pty Ltd**

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### **About DeOvo™**

Despite its prevalence and high cost to the community, there have been few major advances in controlling head lice infestation in recent years. Most pediculicide products have little ovicidal activity and require two treatments (approximately 7-10 days apart), with the second application designed to treat those lice which have hatched from eggs that survived the first treatment. Non-compliance with this regimen and the difficulty in choosing the optimal time for the second application, are major difficulties in using these products. Hatchtech's DeOvo™, a topical formulation of an inhibitor of metalloproteases, has shown both ovicidal and lousicidal activity and offers the potential for a more effective treatment following a single application.

### **About Pediculosis**

It is estimated that 6-12 million people in the United States, mainly children aged 3-12, are infested each year with head lice (*Pediculus humanus capitis*). The direct cost of treatment is estimated at several hundreds of millions of dollars. Added to this direct economic burden are the indirect costs including missed days from school, lost work productivity by parents who stay home to treat their children and costs borne by the school itself in trying to control or prevent this problem. The total costs have been estimated to be 1 billion USD in the US alone.