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## NEWS RELEASE

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# Landmark Court Decision Protects Patent Eligibility for Natural Products

## *Natural Alternatives Int'l. Inc. Wins Appeal vs. Creative Compounds*

**WASHINGTON, D.C.** – The U.S. Court of Appeals for the Federal Circuit ruled in a landmark decision on Friday to protect patent eligibility for natural products. Natural Alternatives Int'l, Inc. successfully appealed a district court's decision to dismiss eligibility for six of its product and method patents for a muscle building supplement called beta-alanine. The case sets important precedent for "law of nature exceptions" that otherwise could have invalidated patents for natural products.

"I am gratified to see the circuit court of appeals reverse the decision and indicate that there are appropriate subjects that are patent eligible within our industry," stated NPA Chairman Mark LeDoux. "This bodes well for future research and investment benefiting consumers of natural products."

Daniel Fabricant, Ph.D., President and CEO of the Natural Products Association (NPA), added "Protecting patents for natural products companies will lead to more innovation and more choices for consumers. This is one of the biggest issues we are facing, and we look forward to protecting patents for natural products not only in the courts but also in Congress."

The Court's decision can be viewed [here](#).

### **Natural Products Association**

The **Natural Products Association (NPA)** is *the* trade association representing the entire natural products industry. We advocate for our members who supply, manufacture and sell natural ingredients or products for consumers. The Natural Products Association promotes good manufacturing practices as part of the growth and success of the industry. Founded in 1936, NPA represents approximately 1,000 members accounting for more than 10,000 locations of retailers, manufacturers, wholesalers and distributors of natural products, including foods, dietary supplements and health/beauty aids. Visit [www.npanational.org](http://www.npanational.org).