**Organization: Malaysian Palm Oil Board** Location: Kuala Lampur, Malaysia

Sambanthamurthi, Sundram, Tan (Individuals) Laureate/Contact:

2002 Laureate: **Intel Environment Award** 

**Organization** The Malaysian Palm Oil Board was established in May, **Overview:** 2000 with the objective of promoting, developing, and advancing the Malaysian Palm industry. As part of its charter, the Board must produce at least five new technologies, research findings, or products each year to expand the palm industry. Producing RM21.3 B or \$5.6B, Malaysia is the largest producer and exporter of palm oil in the world. The research team of Sambanthamurthi, Sundram, and Tan have forged new ground in environmental waste management and health byproducts.



**Problem** The palm oil industry is a major source of income **Addressed:** for third world nations. Palm oil is the second most important edible oil in the world. While there is increasing awareness among the more advanced nations on the fragility of the environment, the poorer nations often cannot afford the luxury of environmental protection. The palm oil industry's large amounts of waste is highly polluting and is a potential environmental hazard.



**Technology** Research Scientists at the Malaysian Palm Oil **Solution:** Board have developed technology that transforms palm oil mill waste into useful nutraceuticals. As the largest producer of palm oil in the world, the Malaysian Palm Oil Board has solved a serious waste disposal problem to preserve their environment while producing health products with antioxidant and anti-cancer properties. Beyond environmental and health benefits, the technology has social and economic benefits as well.

## Media Coverage:

MPOB produces a number of publications on the palm oil industry from new developments to economics; MTC (Malaysian publication); National Biotechnology and Bioinformatics Network; New Straits Times

Previous Awards: Expo Science & Technology, 2001; International Invention, Innovation, Industrial Design and Technology Exhibition, 2002; Asian Innovation Awards

**Supporters &** The MPOB is funded by the Malaysian government and **Partners:** receives a tax as revenue on every ton of palm oil that

is exported; the World Health Organization

Website: www.MPOB.Gov.my





