

Co-production of butanol and iso-propanol using engineered *Clostridium acetobutylicum*

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A primary/secondary alcohol dehydrogenase (SADH, encoded by *adh1*) from *Clostridium beijerinckii* NRRL B-593 was introduced into *C. acetobutylicum* ATCC 824 under the control of *adc* promoter. The resulting strain was able to produce isopropanol with trace amount of acetone. An unwanted phenotype of the strain was lower titer of butanol than wild-type strain, possibly due to additional consumption of reducing equivalents during isopropanol production. In order to increase isopropanol and butanol production, a synthetic acetone operon (*act* operon) consisting of three homologous genes (*adc*, *ctfA*, and *ctfB*) was constructed using the *adc* promoter. Simultaneous expression of *act* operon and *adh1* resulted in increased isopropanol production, and the butanol titer was comparable with wild-type. Finally, the fate of acetoin in engineered strains was investigated by gas chromatography and quantitative reverse transcription polymerase chain reaction. [This work was supported by the Ministry of Knowledge Economy grant funded by the Korea government (#10030795). Further supports by the GS-Caltex and the BioFuelChem].