

First car driving with Global Bioenergies' renewable gasoline

First Audi car to drive at the Montlhéry circuit using over 34% renewable gasoline

One-cylinder engine testing results confirm renewable gasoline has very high performances

Start of the on-road testing phase

Evry (France) - 05 April, 2018 – Today, for the first time, Global Bioenergies will use an EN228-compliant gasoline blend containing over 34% of renewable, isobutene-derived, compounds to fuel a car on a circuit. Global Bioenergies will also present the results of preliminary engine testing conducted these past months by FEV, a European leader in engine-testing.

In preparation of commercial uses, Global Bioenergies developed several gasoline blends with two isobutene-derived compounds:

- Isooctane, obtained by the condensation of two molecules of isobutene followed by hydrogenation,
- ETBE, obtained by the condensation of isobutene and ethanol.

Both compounds are high-performance additives (high octane rating equal or higher than 100) that have been in the past produced from fossil oil. Global Bioenergies' unique process allows to produce the very same compounds from renewable feedstocks such as industrial-grade sugars, straw, residual wood and potentially syngas.

The blends prepared by incorporating both ETBE and isooctane were designed for compliance with the EN228 norm, and are thus already authorized for sale to any gasoline car owner without any specific labeling requirement.

FEV, a German corporation leader in the field of engine-testing, analyzed the characteristics of these high octane fuel blends using a single cylinder engine, a reliable model of four-stroke engines.

Dr. Johannes Scharf, Vice President Gasoline Powertrains at FEV Europe GmbH, states: « ETBE and isooctane are known to be very high-performance additives, and the results were generally in line with expectations. Furthermore, the properties of the added fuel components may suggest some reduction of particle emissions. We are eager to contribute to the development of high-renewable-content fuels leading to reduced carbon footprint and improved air quality. »

An Audi A4 2.0 TFSI provided by the carmaker, Global Bioenergies' long-term partner, will drive around the historical and prestigious Montlhéry speed ring. This event marks the launch of the next phase of commercial preparation: on-road testing using regular vehicles.

Reiner Mangold, Head of sustainable product development at Audi, adds: « The objective of the partnership with Global Bioenergies is to develop sustainable e-benzin to our customers, as a contribution of Audi to reduce the automotive carbon footprint. The potential CO2-savings and emission reduction effects associated to drop-in synthetic fuels are important assets in our e-fuels strategy. »

Marc Delcourt, CEO of Global Bioenergies, concludes: « Today represents a huge milestone for the Company. Only a few years after our process moved into scale-up phase, we now see the concrete translation of all our efforts. The gasoline blend developed by the Company and used here today in Montlhéry has an exceptionally high content in renewable compounds. The market trend for cleaner, less polluting energy sources is likely to be favorable for such blends that match the European regulatory environment. In our next phases, we will focus on the remaining technology and business challenges and prepare the commercial deployment of the technology. »

About GLOBAL BIOENERGIES

Global Bioenergies is one of the few companies worldwide, and the only one in Europe, that is developing a process to convert renewable resources into hydrocarbons through fermentation. The Company initially focused its efforts on the production of isobutene, one of the most important petrochemical building blocks that can be converted into fuels, plastics, organic glass and elastomers. Global Bioenergies continues to improve the performance of its process, to operate its demo plant in Germany, and to prepare the first full-scale plant through a joint venture with Cristal Union, named IBN-One. Global Bioenergies is listed on Euronext Growth Paris (FR0011052257 – ALGBE).

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