

Global Bioenergies successfully moves its C3 process to Demo scale

Evry (France), 26 June 2018 – Global Bioenergies (Euronext Growth: ALGBE) announces having reached a new milestone in scaling up its C3 process converting renewable resources into isopropanol and acetone. These two biobased compounds target large markets in the cosmetics and solvent segments. They can also be converted into polypropylene, a key component in the plastics industry, with market value exceeding 70 billion dollars. A first pilot run was successfully conducted in December 2017. A demonstration run of several cubic meters, representing a further 20 fold increase in scale has now been successfully carried out, and paves the way towards a first commercial plant.

The C3 process, which enables the production of renewable isopropanol and acetone, is the second process reaching Demo plant scale in Global Bioenergies' portfolio. This process is based on a breakthrough innovation: bacteria with a core metabolism rewired in order to increase the production yields from sugars, and thus reduce the production costs of biobased products.

The two compounds, isopropanol and acetone, are used by many industries (solvents, materials, cosmetics) and can be converted into propylene and eventually polypropylene, a key component in the plastics industry with a market value exceeding 70 billion dollars.

The trend and market pull on these biobased molecules, including green polypropylene, is driven by commitments to sustainability from large corporations in the food, cosmetic, toys and furniture industries.

At the end of 2017, ARD, who operates Global Bioenergies' industrial pilot for the Isobutene process, carried out the first step in scaling-up the C3 process. The next phase, at Demo plant scale, was subcontracted to Bioprocess Pilot Facility (BPF) located in Delft in the Netherlands. ARD and BPF are both members of the Smartpilots consortium, which gathers the main European institutions focused at scaling up innovative processes.

The first test was successfully carried out: the fermentation profile obtained in the 4 m³ fermenter reproduced those obtained at laboratory and pilot scale.

Frédéric Pâques, COO of Global Bioenergies, stated: "The close collaboration between the teams at Global Bioenergies and BPF was key to reach success. BPF has shown reactivity and a thorough industrial experience. The results not only validate this scale-up step, but also demonstrate the robustness of our process."

Marc Delcourt, CEO of Global Bioenergies, added: "This is the final scale of fermentation before commercial operations. A number of validations remain to be done and engineering studies have only recently begun, but we are already engaged in concrete discussions with major international industrialists to partner on the commercial deployment of the process. The C3 process is now the second pillar upon which value is being created at Global Bioenergies, after the Isobutene process."

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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